



SCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

Updated: July 2021

School number: 1859

School name: Murputja Anangu School

School Profile:

Murputja Anangu School and Murputja Child and Family Centre provides a safe and supportive education from Birth to Year 12 that develops students as strong leaders in Western and Anangu cultures. Located on the Anangu Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara Lands, Murputja provides education to students and families living in the communities of Nyapari and Kappi. Murputja is a member of the Anangu Lands Partnership which includes schools from the Maralinga Tjarutja Lands as well as the Anangu Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara Lands.

Murputja Anangu School Values:

Kunpu (Strong), Ninti (Smart), Rapa (Brave), and Rikina (Awesome)

Murputja Anangu School Vision:

At Murputja Anangu School, we are proud of who we are, where we have come from and where we are going. We lead each other to learning and always try our best. We make strong choices for ourselves and each other.

As a community we believe our collective purpose is to provide enriching pathways through high quality teaching of literacy and numeracy, with reading the priority.

1. General information

School Principal:

Mat Charleston

Year of opening:

1993

Postal Address:

PMB 150 via Alice Springs, Murputja, SA 0872

Location Address:

Murputja 0872

DECD Region: Anangu Lands Partnership

Geographical location:

Approximately 1850km from Adelaide GPO

Telephone number: 08 8956 7357

Fax Number: 08 8956 7565

School website address:

<http://www.murputja.sa.edu.au>

School e-mail address:

dl.1859.info@schools.sa.edu.au

Child Parent Centre (CPC) attached:

Yes

Out of School Hours Care (OSHC) service:

No

Child Parent Centre:

Murputja offers a playgroup program for children aged from 0-5 years, staffed by AEWs, which is guided by the Early Years Learning Framework and Families as First Teachers pedagogies.

Playgroup:

Birth – 3 years

February FTE student enrolment:

Index of Educational Disadvantage: 1

| CALENDAR YEAR | INDEX OF COMMUNITY SOCIO-ECONOMIC ADVANTAGE (ICSEA) | Enrolments | Percentage ATSI | Percentage SWD | Percentage NESB |
|---------------|---|------------|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| 2021 | NA | 21 | 80.95% | 9.52% | 0.00% |
| 2020 | NA | 24 | 91.67% | 4.17% | 0.00% |
| 2019 | NA | 30 | 96.67% | 6.67% | 0.00% |
| 2018 | NA | 26 | 100.00% | 3.85% | 0.00% |
| 2017 | NA | 29 | 100.00% | 6.90% | 0.00% |

ICSEA - Distribution of Students for 2016

| Bottom Quarter | Middle Quarters | | Top Quarter |
|----------------|-----------------|-----|-------------|
| 52% | 22% | 16% | 10% |

Staffing numbers (as at February census):

1 x Principal
3 x Teachers
1 x SSO2
4 x AEs

Public transport access:

The School operates a daily bus run and a preschool bus run to bring families to school.

2. Students (and their welfare)

General characteristics:

The majority of students at Murputja are Anangu. Most students speak Pitjantjatjara at home and their only exposure to English is at school. Many students begin school or preschool without speaking any English.

There is a high level of transience among families in Kanpi and Nyapari. Students may move between communities in Western Australia and the Northern Territory regularly for cultural and family reasons. Inconsistency of attendance at school is invariably a factor for students.

Teachers and AEs regularly connect with families to discuss student learning, well-being and behaviour. Families are always welcome in the school.

Murputja Anangu School has a strong focus on student well-being. The school understands that students learn best when their basic needs have been met. All students are provided with a daily breakfast program provided by the Food Bank. All students are provided with a daily hot lunch by the school. All students are provided with fruit in the afternoon provided by Mai Wiru.

Murputja Anangu School receives support through the Anangu Lands partnership. This support includes the Support Services Team (behaviour support, hearing and speech pathology) who visit regularly to assist students. The school has a key AE identified to support the delivery of Pitjantjatjara in both classes. This is supported by the First Language Maintenance and Development Coordinator located at Ernabella. The school has strong

relationships with Nganampa Health, Children and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) and NPY Women's Council in order to coordinate other support for families. An Anangu Coordinator and AEs support teachers to understand, plan and respond to each child's individual needs.

Murputja School has a clear behaviour management policy, which is guided and informed by trauma informed practices and positive education strategies. The school has individual behaviour support plans in place for identified students.

Two students from the Senior Class sit as members of the School Governing Council alongside community members from the families from Kanpi, Nyapari and Watarru.

Special programmes

All classes are involved in learning on country (bush trips) at least once a term. The teacher and AE co-plan this learning to ensure that students continue to have exposure to traditional knowledge and stories. These trips may also link with employers such as Land Management.

Murputja Anangu School has a 22 year relationship with Port Elliot Primary School. Port Elliott students visit Murputja Anangu School every two years and Murputja returns the visit the following year. This program is highly valued by the school community. This programme was impacted by COVID-19 in 2020.

In Term 1 and Term 4, students travel to Amata Community in order to attend weekly swimming lessons.

Senior students have the opportunity to attend the Trade Training Centre from 14 years old. The Trade Training Centre provides access to Certificate I and II in Construction, Horticulture, Hospitality and Automotive.

Senior students also have the opportunity to undertake work experience at Ayers Rock Resort. This training potentially leads to employment as a trainee.

3. Key School Policies

Site Improvement Plan and other key statements or policies:

- Anangu Lands Partnership Plan
- Murputja Site Improvement Plan 2018-20
- Oral Language Agreement (Anangu Lands)
- Literacy Agreement (Anangu Lands)
- Numeracy Agreement (Anangu Lands)
- Assessment Agreement (Anangu Lands)
- Performance and Development Agreement (Anangu Lands)

Recent key outcomes:

Murputja led the inaugural Western Hub Tjitji-ku Inma – a day celebrating cultural learning with Amata and Pipalyatjara Anangu Schools.

Three students represented APY Lands in SAPSASA football and softball.

4. Curriculum

Subject offerings:

Murputja Anangu School follows a Partnership-agreed curriculum that is aligned to the Australian Curriculum.

Each class has core time allocated to:

- English
- Mathematics
- Integrated Programs (aligned to AC)
- Pitjantjatjara
- Keeping Safe

While the Wiltja program remains the key point of access to SACE, students in Year 10, 11 and 12 also have the opportunity to undertake SACE and VET programs with a particular focus on the compulsory subjects and PLP.

Special needs:

All classrooms and learning spaces have Soundfield systems installed to support students' hearing. Students are tested regularly for hearing loss, trachoma and other health issues. Each student has an identified learning plan to support individual needs.

Special curriculum features:

There is a strong emphasis on the teaching of reading R-12, with a focus on the explicit teaching oral language, phonics and phonological awareness as part of the Big Six of Reading.

All teaching staff have undertaken Berry Street training to support the implementation of trauma informed practices throughout the school.

Teaching methodology:

Curriculum content is planned using integrated approaches to increase opportunities to build relevance in learning and increase engagement.

There is a strong emphasis on implementation of teaching strategies for EAL/D learners and trauma informed teaching practices.

Upon entry to the school, students undertake entry assessments to identify their numeracy and literacy abilities with this assessment data used to inform teaching and intervention strategies. AEs and teachers have time allocated to provide intervention and support both in class and 1:1 or small group intervention.

Student assessment procedures and reporting

Formal reports, along with learning folders are provided to families twice a year. Teaching staff report informally to families regularly.

Joint programmes:

Port Elliot Primary School participate in a biennial visit to Murputja. This relationship has continued for over 22 years.

5. Sporting Activities

Primary students have the opportunity to represent the APY Lands at SAPSASA football and softball throughout the year.

All students participate in an inter-school sports day in Term 3.

Occasional swimming carnivals occur between Amata, Murputja and Pipalyatjara in Term 1 or Term 4.

6. Other Co-Curricular Activities

All students participate in the Ernabella Dance in Term 3. (COVID-19 permitting).

7. Staff (and their welfare)

Leadership structure

Principal and Anangu Coordinators have shared leadership within the school. They are supported in this by a B1 coordinator. The Governing Council meets termly and PAC regularly meet.

There is a strong network of staff support in the Anangu Lands Partnership. Staff have access to a teacher support officer, curriculum leads (secondary, primary and Early Years). The Western hub (Pipalyatjara, Amata and Murputja) collaborate to offer relevant Professional Development annually.

All staff have Performance and Development Plans in place and meet termly to discuss key goals, supports and improvement.

Staff support systems

A formal Professional Learning Community (Murputja) meets weekly throughout each term. Teaching staff also meet regularly in Anangu Lands PLCs.

A Teacher Support officer is employed by the Anangu Lands Partnership to provide support for staff well-being. All teachers have access to EAP.

Performance Management

All staff have identified and agreed PDPs. Staff meet termly to discuss their performance and development goals.

- **Access to special staff**

The Anangu Lands Partnership supports the employment of one instrumental music teacher. Murputja accesses this teacher once a year for an agreed period of time.

The Behaviour Support team (hearing, behaviour and speech pathology) visit Murputja on a regular basis.

8. Incentives, support and award conditions for Staff

Travelling time

There are two travel days at the start and end of each term to a total of 16 in a year.

Housing assistance

All staff are housed in 100% subsidised single or shared Government Employee Housing.

Additional increment allowance

All classroom teachers receive a Special Class Allowance.

All teaching staff receive a Zone 5 Country Incentives Allowance for the first five years at a site.

All staff receive a locality allowance.

Aboriginal/Anangu schools

Yes, Anangu School

Medical and dental treatment expenses

Staff are able to access Nganampa Health Services for basic medical requirements. Regular medical requirements should be prepared by staff prior to returning to Murputja. Emergency situations

Locality allowances

Yes.

Relocation assistance

Yes.

Principal's telephone costs

The Principal's line rental may be reimbursed by the department.

9. School Facilities

Buildings and grounds

Learning Facilities include:

- 3 x classroom spaces
- 1 x CPC
- 1 x library
- 1 x kitchen
- 1 x music room (sheds)
- 1 x outdoor cultural centre
- 1 x half-court basketball
- 1 x playground
- 1 x early years yard
- Staff planning room; office and admin; toilet block;
- 3 x storage sheds

Heating and cooling

All classrooms are air conditioned by evaporative or split systems. Heating is available incolumn heaters.

Specialist facilities and equipment

Cultural centre, music room, school library, activpanel touchscreens

Student facilities

Laptops, iPads

Staff facilities

Staffroom for planning and preparation of learning; laptops

Access for students and staff with disabilities

Ramp access to classrooms and toilet/shower block. Disabled toilet

Access to bus transport

A school bus provides pick up and drop off for all students each day.

10. School Operations

Decision making structures

The school works under the joint management of DECD and the Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara Education Committee (PYEC).

The Murputja Governing Council meets termly as guided by the Governing Council Constitution.

The Personnel Advisory Committee meets regularly to inform decisions relating to staffing.

Regular publications

Staff receive communication through a weekly bulletin. The school self-produces a yearbook.

Other communication

11. Local Community

General characteristics

Nyapari Community is located approximately 6km east from Murputja. Nganampa Health Clinic operate here twice a week. The art centre, Tjungu Palya, is also based in Nyapari.

Kanpi Community is located approximately 10km west of Murputja. The Kanpi Store is open daily and provides fresh food and groceries to Nyapari, Kanpi and Murputja. The Kanpi Office is open 3 days a week and provides access to financial services, Australia Post and other general community needs.

The main sources of employment in the communities are Tjungu Palya, Murputja School, Kanpi Store and Regional Anangu Services (RASAC).

Parent and community involvement

Murputja has a strong history of parent involvement which encompasses all areas of school involvement from just visiting and helping with local cultural activities to active membership of the governing council.

Feeder or destination schools

Secondary students have the opportunity to attend Wiltja Anangu Secondary School located at Woodville High and Avenues College.

Other local care and educational facilities

Nil

Commercial/industrial and shopping facilities

The Kanpi store provides access to goods and services including fuel. There is a local airstrip (unsealed) at Nyapari.

Other local facilities

The Nyapari Health Clinic (Nganampa Health) provides access to medical services for the residents of Nyapari and Kanpi. It is open two days a week. Staff can access for non-regular health needs. Amata and Pipalyatjara communities have clinics available 5 days a week. Emergency situations require the RFDS.

SAPOL are based at Murputja and service Nyapari, Kanpi and Pipalyatjara.

Availability of staff housing

All staff are allocated housing in single or shared accommodation on site. Murputja currently has access to 3 x 2 bedroom houses and 1 x 3 bedroom house. All houses have satellite digital television (TVs not provided) and access points for Satellite NBN.

Accessibility

Murputja is located 1800kms from Adelaide. Entry to the Pitjantjatjara/Yankunytjatjara Lands, when travelling from Adelaide is usually made near Indulkana, which is approximately 1,200 kms north of Adelaide on the main road to Alice Springs.

All roads on the Pitjantjatjara/Yankunytjatjara Lands are unsealed. Murputja is a further 400kms into the Lands by road via Indulkana, Mimili, Fregon and Amata.

Public transport access is available from Alice Springs through the Central Bush Bus or through Chart Air. Bookings are essential.

The nearest airport is located at Yulara (Ayers Rock). Flights to Alice Springs and then Adelaide operate daily.

Local Government body

Each community has its own governing council with elected members.

12. Further Comments

Employment on the APY Lands is an experience of a life time. Teachers and other employees have the opportunity to experience living with the world's oldest continuing culture, to discover and learn Pitjantjatjara language and culture and to develop strong personal connections to country and people.

It provides the opportunity to work and develop skills in a diverse environment.

Teachers also report a strong personal commitment to and reward from improving the outcomes for Aboriginal children and communities.