

SCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT



Government of South Australia

Department for Education

School number: 0982

School name: Dernancourt School

School Profile:

Dernancourt School, is an R-6 school and is located approximately 12 km North East of Adelaide CBD in South Australia. There is a very strong community expectation that our school will provide a quality education and environment that maximises the potential of all students. The school's logo and mission: "Learning Together" represents the supportive environment and positive relationships fostered in our community. The core values of the school are cooperation, confidence, commitment and respect.

We are proud of the high-quality programs offered and we support students to achieve success through our site improvement plan. Our 2022-2024 focus areas are Reading, Writing and Mathematics. Performing Arts, Japanese, and Health and PE are specialist subjects at Dernancourt School. We value highly the diversity of our students and their families and we celebrate through learning in class and by participating in special events including Reconciliation Week, NAIDOC Week and Harmony Day.

Dernancourt School has two District Special Classes on site, Reception-Year 2 and Years 3-6.

More information can be found on the schools website: www.dernancts.sa.edu.au

1. General information

- School Principal: Julie Raggett
- Deputy Principal: Kym Dinedios
- Year of opening: 1966, with the official opening ceremony occurring in 1967
- Postal Address: 29 Parsons Road, Dernancourt, 5075
- Location Address: As Above
- Deptment for Education Region: Modbury Partnership
- Geographical location: 12km distance from Adealide GPO
- Telephone number: 08 82612677
- Fax Number: 08 8261 0534
- School website address: dernancts.sa.edu.au
- School e-mail address: dl0982.info@schools.sa.edu.au
- Child Parent Centre (CPC) attached: NO
- Out of School Hours Care (OSHC) service: YES
- February FTE student enrolment:

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Rec	44	54	57	42	55	41
Year 1	56	39	54	57	40	53
Year 2	38	58	41	50	53	37
Year 3	43	38	56	41	43	50
Year 4	35	42	40	51	36	40
Year 5	43	32	46	39	46	36
Year 6	31	40	31	44	26	44
Year 7	27	33	23	26		
District Special Class	20	18	16	15	18	18
TOTAL	337	354	364	365	317	319
NESB	42%	25%	37%	37%	38%	37%
School Card Percentage	28%	24%	30%	23%	17%	16%

Aboriginal FTE Enrolment	3%	3%	5%	5%	3%	4%
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- Student enrolment trends:
- Staffing numbers (as at February census):

14 classes, supported by 20.7 full time equivalent teachers

Specialist staff includes 1.0 Health and PE; 0.6 Performing Arts; 1.0 Japanese; 0.6 EALD; 0.6 Student Wellbeing Leader; 0.2 Autism Inclusion Teacher

Administration and Ancillary staff (including IT Technitian, resource centre, students support, administration and finance) comprises of 23 part and fulltime staff. In addition, hours are provided for intervention and support programs for students with learning difficulties and language maintenance/development (SSOs and BSSOs are engaged to meet these needs).

Public transport access: Public transport available.

Special site arrangements: Two District Special classes with access to diabled toilet and shower.

2. Students (and their welfare)

- **General characteristics:** Dernancourt School is a Category 5 school, with the school population reflecting the cultural and social diversity of the community. Approximately 36% of our students come from Non-English speaking backgrounds. 16% of our students are School Card holders.
- **Student well-being programs:** In 2023, a Student Wellbeing Leader was appointed in a 0.6 position. A Pastoral Care Worker is on site 8 hours per week.
- **Student management:** The student behaviour management policy is supported by students, staff and families. The policy has a focus on encouraging positive behaviour, social skills development and providing opportunities for success. Parents are supportive of the school structures. School uniform is a requirement.
- **Student voice:** Regular class and SRC meetings are held. Two representatives from each class attend SRC. SRC members are trained in meeting procedures and group skills and participate in the school decision making process. There are 8 student house captains that provide support for sports day and at other events throughout the year.
- **Specialist programmes:** Health and PE, Performing Arts and Japanese. Students also have the opportunity to be involved in Festival Choir and we have two District Special Classes on site.

3. Key School Policies

- **Site Improvement Plan and other key statements or policies:** Site Improvement Plan, with a focus on increased and improved achievement in Literacy and Numeracy, specifically reading, writing and mathematics. In 2022, a significant increase in the Phonics Screening results in Year 1 was noted.

4. Curriculum

- **Subject offerings:** All teachers plan, program, assess and report using the Australian Curriculum in all learning areas. LOTE (Japanese), The Arts, Digital and Design Technologies, Physical Education and some HASS subjects are non-instruction subjects.
- **Special needs:** Students with special needs are supported through individual learning plans with a range of interventions including Literacy, Numeracy and social skills. Bilingual SSOs support students as required across the school. SSOs are also used to support students with additional needs across the school.
Dernancourt school also has 2 District Special Classes on site – R-2, and 3-6.
- **Student assessment procedures and reporting:** Our school is aligned with DfE requirements to track student achievement throughout the year and follows an assessment schedule. Parent teacher interviews occur in term 1 and provide an opportunity for a face-to-face conversation about student learning. Written reports on student learning are provided to families twice per year. Work samples are also shared via SeeSaw, our online communication platform.

5. Sporting Activities

- Students at Dernancourt have opportunities to participate in SAPSASA sports, supported by the Health and PE teacher. The school also has sports teams in basketball, netball and football.

6. Other Co-Curricular Activities

- Students have the opportunity to participate in our Annual Sports Day, our Year 5 and 6 students have the opportunity to go on a school camp this year and many educational excursion and incursions are planned across the year in all year levels.

7. Staff (and their welfare)

- **Staff profile:** Teachers are a mixture of permanent and contract employees and are supported by tenured site leaders and numerous ancillary staff.
- **Leadership structure:** Currently consists of a 1.0 Principal, a 1.0 Deputy Principal and a 0.6 Wellbeing Leader.
- **Staff support system:** Staff work in collaborative teams (PLCs) that focus on analysis of student achievement, curriculum planning and planning for intervention. There is a weekly staff meeting and staff are provided with time to work and plan together.
- **Performance Management:** Staff are involved in formal performance and development with two meetings per year. Classroom observations and walkthroughs form part of the feedback process.
- **Staff utilisation policies:** SSOs are used for intervention programs and individual student support. Teachers have a shared responsibility for the successful progress of students, in line with the Site Improvement Plan.
- **Access to special staff:** EALD Teacher works across the site. We have a 0.4 teacher who works with literacy intervention in the Junior Primary, with a focus on the Read Write Inc. program. Special Education is supported by departmental support services and external agencies where appropriate.

8. Incentives, support and award conditions for Staff

Complexity placement points: NIL

Isolation placement points: NIL

Travelling time: 25 minutes from CBD

Staff access Department for Education policies in regard to working conditions.

9. School Facilities

- **Buildings and grounds:** The school buildings across the school are of solid brick construction with a single story for the Junior School, the main double storey building, which houses the office and primary classes and an open space unit that houses the Resource Centre, Art Room, and Computer Suite. The OSHC facility shares some of this building. The grounds are expansive.
- **Heating and cooling:** All buildings have adequate heating and cooling.
- **Student facilities:** Canteen, Resource Centre, Gymnasium and Performing Arts Room.
- **Staff facilities:** There is a modern, well-equipped staffroom, teacher preparation areas and additional meeting rooms available.
- **Access for students and staff with disabilities:** There is access to disabled parking, toilets and shower, as well as access ramps to all learning areas. A lift provides access to the second storey of the main building.
- **Access to bus transport:** The school has access to nearby public transport and engages bus companies to support transport of students on excursions where necessary.

10. School Operations

- **Decision making structures:** All staff in the school have a shared participatory decision-making policy. Management is collaborative. Staff structures include staff meetings, Personnel Advisory Committee, Team Meetings and PLCs. Governing Council also play a part in the decision-making process.
- **Regular publications:** The school newsletter is sent out to families on a fortnightly basis, via our parent app. Class communication is sent to families via SeeSaw, our class communication app.
- **School financial position:** The school is supported by parents through school fees and donations for fundraising. Finances have been audited and found correct, and the school is in a sound financial position. We have committed funds to continue upgrading of technology and school facilities.
- **Special funding:** The school is successful in applying for special grants to undertake projects on site.

11. Local Community

- **General characteristics:** Dernancourt School is surrounded by residential houses situated between North East and Lower North East Roads.
- **Parent and community involvement:** The school enjoys excellent support from the community in a wide range of school related activities. Special functions are held regularly in which parents and caregivers can participate including Matsuri Festival and Harmony Day. Our major fundraiser each year – an “Athon” is well attended and supported by

parents. Parents are keen to volunteer in classrooms and help on excursions. An informed and active Governing Council contributes to school management and oversees the OSHC and Canteen.

- **Feeder or destination schools:** Dernancourt School is a feeder school to Avenues College. Students also attend Charles Campbell Secondary School and Kildare College. Reception students come from Holden Hill Kindergarten and Dernancourt Kindergarten as well as various private centres.
- **Commercial/industrial and shopping facilities:** The school is within 5 km of the Tea Tree Plaza Shopping Centre. There is a wide range of commercial and light industrial facilities in close proximity to the school. The Torrens Valley linear park runs within 500 metres of the school.
- **Other local facilities:** There are many local centres and services within 10 minutes of the school.
- **Accessibility:** Public transport is readily available.
- **Local Government body:** Dernancourt School is part of the Tea Tree Gully Council area.

12. Further Comments