



SCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

Updated: May 2017

School number: 1014

School name: South Australian School for Vision Impaired

School Profile:

South Australian School for Vision Impaired (SASVI) is a unique learning centre offering educational expertise to students living with significant vision impairment.

The site has 3 targeted and essential services:

SASVI School: A specialist R-7 primary school for the legally blind. The SASVI school is the only government funded one of its kind in Australia. Students access the Australian Curriculum at age appropriate levels. Students also access the Expanded Core Curriculum (ECC) for students with Vision Impairment.

- Concept and literacy development using alternative formats (braille and tactile graphics, large print, and/or electronic)
- Sensory efficiency (including visual perceptual skills and maximising use of remaining vision)
- Assistive technology
- Orientation and Mobility
- Independent living
- Social interaction
- Recreation and leisure
- Career education
- Self-determination

Statewide Support Service: Advisory Teachers provide support for children with vision impairment (6/18 in their better eye corrected) in various educational settings. SSS support helps students participate in learning experiences and opportunities enabling them to access the curriculum.

Secondary Vision Support Programs (VI Programs): The vision support programs assist students with an H level of support in two VI programs

- Seaview High School
- Charles Campbell College

Students participate in all aspects of the school curriculum whilst they are also explicitly taught the ECC via specialist SASVI teachers

The SA School for Vision Impaired (SASVI) community is currently reviewing our vision and mission statements moving forward. The 2016 mission and vision read:

Our Mission: To demonstrate leadership and best practice in the delivery of education programs for students with vision impairment.

Our Vision: To provide a service where highly trained staff, parents and relevant agencies collaborate to provide access to the Australian Curriculum and Expanded Core Curriculum for students with vision impairment enabling them to achieve to their full potential.

1. General information

- School Principal name: Mr Peter Haskell
- Deputy Principal's name: Mrs Sharon Rattray
- Year of opening: 2004
- Postal Address: 1B Duncan Avenue, PARK HOLME 5043
- Location Address: 1B Duncan Avenue, PARK HOLME 5043
- DECD Region: Noarlunga
- Geographical location – 8km south of GPO
- Telephone number: 82775255
- Fax Number: 82775051
- School website address: www.sasvi.sa.edu.au
- School e-mail address: dl.1014.admin@schools.sa.edu.au
- Child Parent Centre (CPC) attached: No
- Out of School Hours Care (OSHC) service: No
- February FTE student enrolment:

		2014	2015	2016	2017
Primary	Special, N.A.P. Ungraded etc.	26.4	27.6	20.6	24
	Reception				
	Year 1				
	Year 2				
	Year 3				
	Year 4				
	Year 5				
	Year 6				
Secondary	Special, N.A.P. Ungraded etc.	0	0	0	0
	Year 8				
	Year 9				
	Year 10				
	Year 11				
	Year 12				
	Year 12 plus				
TOTAL		26.4	27.6	20.6	24
School Card Percentage				29%	

- Student enrolment trends: Decline in FTE junior intake, decline in Support Program intake, Increase in Statewide Support Service numbers
- Staffing numbers (as at February census):

School Component:

Class teachers: 5.0

Specialist teachers:

- ICT
- Orientation & Mobility
- Physical Education
- The Arts
- Braille Music
- Italian
- Assistive Technology

Statewide Support Service

Advisory Teachers VI 7.1

Orientation & Mobility 0.8

Charles Campbell College – Support Program for Students with Vision Impairment

Support Teachers 1.0

Seaview High School Vision Support Program

Support Teachers 0.6

Statewide Service

Teacher / Librarian 1.0 (0.6 school, 0.4 statewide service)

Leadership Positions

Principal 1.0

B2 Deputy Principal 1.0
(0.5 teaching; 0.5 administration school component)

B2 Manager of Statewide Support Service, Alternative Print Production & Short Courses 1.0

B1 Coordinator (Seaview High Vision Support Program) 1.0

School Services Officers

405.5 hours / week (Classroom Support, Administrative Support, Alternative Format Production)

Public transport access:

Ascot Park Train Station on Seaford Line is 500 m from SASVI. Bus Stop 19 on Marion Road is approximately 100 m from SASVI providing access to numerous bus lines

2. Students (and their welfare)

- General characteristics

SASVI School

All students have a vision impairment and meet the criteria – students are legally blind (6/60 vision or less in the better eye after correction or severe filed restriction). Students attract an H level of support (0.25 Tier 1 teacher allocation) to access the Expanded Core Curriculum for Students with Vision Impairment.

Seaview High Vision Support Program

Students are enrolled students at Seaview High School and are fully integrated. Students are supported by specialist teachers from SASVI and access Statewide Support Services. Students continue to develop their knowledge of the expanded core curriculum for students with vision impairment. All students meet the criteria; students are legally blind i.e. 6/60 vision or less in the better eye after correction or severe field restriction, and need to access the Expanded Core Curriculum for Students with Vision Impairment (equivalent to H Level of Support), for a Tier 1 .25 teacher allocation.

Charles Campbell College Centre Vision Support Program

Students are enrolled at Charles Campbell College and access the Charles Campbell curriculum. Students/teachers are supported by specialist teachers from South Australian School for Vision Impaired. Students access the Statewide Programs (Alternative Print Production, Resource Centre and Orientation and Mobility). Students continue to develop their knowledge of the expanded core curriculum for students with vision impairment. All students meet the criteria; students are legally blind i.e. 6/60 vision or less in the better eye after correction or severe field restriction, and need to access the Expanded Core Curriculum for Students with Vision Impairment (equivalent to H Level of Support), for Tier 1 .25 teacher allocation.

Support Service

Students have varying degrees of vision impairment and as such requirements are dependent on individual needs. Criteria for support from Statewide Support Service: 6/18 or less corrected in the better eye, and/ or restricted visual field. Students/teachers are supported in Government and non-Government sites in both metropolitan and country areas, pre-school to completion of SACE Stage 2.

- Student well-being programs:
SASVI is a Kids Matter school

- Student support offered:
 - Access to DECD Support Services:
(Hearing Impairment, Guidance, Speech Assistance, Psychological assessments, Behaviour, Disability Services).
 - SASVI Statewide Alternative Print Program (Braille, modified texts, large print/e-text, tactile graphics).
 - SASVI Resource Centre – Statewide lending service of resources for students with a vision impairment.
 - Non-DECD Support Services
(Occupational/Speech/Physiotherapy/Orientation and Mobility and Autism support from various agencies.)
- Student management:
 - Documented School Discipline Policy based on clearly defined expectations and positive supports
- Student government:
 - Student Representative Council, with representatives from each year level.
 - SRC involvement includes:
 - supporting charities
 - organising fundraising activities
 - consultative group for expenditure of some targeted funds.
- Special programmes:
 - SASVI School - ICT, Orientation and Mobility, Independent Living Skills, Social Skills, Literary, Maths and Music Braille, Tactile Graphics, Advocacy and knowledge of vision impairment, Instrumental Music, Low Vision Training, Training in use of Assistive Technology, Leisure and Recreation.

3. Key School Policies

- Site Improvement Plan and other key statements or policies:
 - To provide and demonstrate leadership in best practice for students with vision impairment.

Key Priority 1: Highly Effective Teaching in Numeracy, Literacy and STEM

- Whole School Maths Agreement
- Collaborative Moderation
- Embedding STEM in interdisciplinary units
- Trialing intervention strategies for identified learners
- Maths Braille Code

Key Priority 2: Empowering All Students to Continuously Improve

- Improve learner disposition through intellectual stretch and growth mindsets across AC and ECC
- Effective transition for students with vision impairment

Key Priority 3: Creating Collaborative Cultures and Partnerships

- Consistency in collaborative moderation
- Collaborative programs with community partners

4. Curriculum

- Subject offerings:
Reception to Year 7:
 - (a) 8 Learning Areas of the Australian Curriculum. The Language Other than English is Italian.
 - (b) Expanded Core Curriculum
 - Braille
 - Social Skills
 - Independent Living Skills
 - Orientation and Mobility
 - Technology skills, including Assistive Technology and Touch typing
 - Functional Vision Training
 - Advocacy
 - Recreation & Leisure
 - Self Determination
- Special needs:
All students have a Negotiated Education Plan
- Special curriculum features:
 - Instrumental Music Programs
 - Swimming
- Teaching methodology:
 - Auditory/Tactual
 - Auditory/VisualOr a Multi Sensory Approach
 - Visual/Auditory/Tactual
 - Assistive Technology (e.g. Braille, Braille Note [computerised braille], Screen Magnification, JAWS Speech software, Closed

Circuit Television [CCTV], portable magnification devices, iPads, portable audio devices).

- Use of specialised materials (dark lined stationery, low vision devices, sloping desks, talking calculators, desk lights)

Enhancement of residual vision/adapting the environment and the use of low vision devices.

Development of visual learning abilities and utilisation of low vision.

- Student assessment procedures and reporting:
Student reports are completed mid year and end of year. All curriculum areas are reported to. SeeSaw app is utilised for immediate school to family feedback.
- Joint programmes:
Co-location with Ascot Park Primary School and Kilparrin Teaching and Assessment School and Services. Social interaction activities with Ascot Park Primary School, Australian Science and Mathematics School and Kilparrin Teaching and Assessment School and Services.

5. Sporting Activities

Within Curriculum

- Athletics
- Swimming
- Gymnastics
- Skill Development for Minor Games
- Fitness
- Goalball
- Blind Tennis
- Blind Soccer
- Blind Cricket

Outside Agencies

- Gym Club
- Blind Soccer
- Blind Tennis

6. Other Co-Curricular Activities

- Senior and Junior Choir
- Bike riding
- Gardening
- Rock Band
- Art and Craft Club
- Lego Mindstorms
- Annual Music Presentation
- School Camp
- Interstate Music Camp for Braille Music Students

7. Staff (and their welfare)

- Staff profile:

Female:Male teacher ratio approximately 5:1

There is very little staff mobility.

Teachers appointed to the school may be deployed to any of the South Australian School for Vision Impaired components (School, Secondary VI Programs or Statewide Support Service). Teachers are expected to have a tertiary qualification in vision impairment and a certified Braille qualification.

Most School Services Officers (SSOs) have completed a Braille Competency Course.

- Leadership structure:

Principal (South Australian School for Vision Impaired, Statewide Support Service & Vision Impairment Programs)

Deputy Principal (School Component)

Manager (Statewide Support Service, Alternative Print Production and Short Courses)

Coordinator (Seaview High School Vision Impairment Program)

- Performance Management

All staff annually prepare a Performance Management Plan (Performance Planning and Personal Development)

Teachers participate in Professional Learning Communities

- Staff utilisation policies

Ancillary Staff: (Encouraged and supported to be multi-skilled)

- Classroom support
- Resource Centre
- Alternative Print Production
- Finance Officer
- Clerical

Teaching Staff:

- Deployment to different components of the South Australian School for Vision Impaired, Secondary VI Programs and Statewide Support Service.

- Access to special staff

Autism SA

DECD Integrated Support Services

CanDo4Kids

Novita

Relationships SA

Guide Dogs Association SA & NT

Royal Society for the Blind

Blind Sports SA

South Australian School for Vision Impaired Specialist Teachers and School Service Officers (Orientation and Mobility, ICT, Instrumental Music, The Arts, Italian, Physical Education, Alternative Print producers)

8. Incentives, support and award conditions for Staff

Annual Special Class Allowance (teaching staff)

9. School Facilities

- Buildings and grounds

DECD owned. Some shared spaces with Kilparrin Teaching and Assessment School and Services

- Heating and cooling

All buildings air conditioned

- Specialist facilities and equipment

The school is a purpose built facility for students with vision impairment.

Alternative Print Production (Statewide Support Service)

Statewide Resource Centre (Statewide Support Service)

Support Services Resource Room

Activities / Fitness facility

Gym

Independent Living Skills Room

ICT suite

Assistive Technology Training Lab

Functional Vision Assessment Room

Meeting and Professional Development Facility

Playgroup Room

Music Suite

Bike Track

- Staff facilities:

Staff have access to a staff room and a meeting room

- Access for students and staff with disabilities:

All classes have wheelchair access. All classrooms are optimised for children with vision impairment

- Access to bus transport
School has a Variety Bus with wheelchair access

10. School Operations

- Decision making structures:
Governing Council
Documented Decision Making Policy
Leadership Team (Principal, Deputy, SSS Manager, Coordinator)
Committees:
Personnel Advisory
WHS & First Aid
Camp
South Pacific Educators in Vision Impairment Sub Branch
- Regular publications:
School Newsletter (2 x term)
Staff Handbook
Parent Information Handbook
SASVI Facebook page
Website: www.sasvi.sa.edu.au
- Other communication:
SeeSaw app for families
- School financial position:
Sound
- Special funding:
Goods and Services allocation for SSS Advisory Teachers (accommodation, government vehicles, travel expenses, petrol reimbursement)

11. Local Community

- General characteristics
Student catchment from greater metropolitan Adelaide. The majority of students live a considerable distance from the school.
- Parent and community involvement
Families: Governing Council, Classroom Support, Negotiated Education Planning
Community: Part of Marion Inland Partnership, Guide Dogs SA/NT, Royal Society for the Blind, CanDo4Kids, Blind Sports SA, University of SA
- Commercial/industrial and shopping facilities
Park Holme Shopping Centre – walking distance
Marion Shopping Centre – 4kms
Castle Plaza Shopping Centre – 2kms

- Other local facilities
City of Marion Park Holme Library
Marion Outdoor Swimming Centre
- Accessibility
Approximately 8 km to Adelaide GPO
Public transport close by: bus stop Marion Road, train station walking distance
- Local Government body
Marion Council

12. Further Comments

- The first and only Specialist School in South Australia for students with vision impairment