SCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

School Profile:

Vision: Pasadena High School is committed to learning that enables achievement and excellence through personalised and engaging programs.

Through personalised learning programs, a rich learning environment and innovative strategies, learners (students, staff and the community) at Pasadena High School are able to reach their full potential and excel.

Learners develop critical thinking, problem solving, creative and self-directed learning skills to prepare them for effective local and global citizenship.

Our school values are:
Respect, relationships, excellence, creativity and citizenship

Pasadena High School priorities for 2017 are:
1. Improving Numeracy and Literacy by tracking, monitoring and responding to every learner’s growth
2. Improving SACE achievement
3. STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics) development and implementation across years 8-10 through interdisciplinary planning and collaboration with ASMS personnel.

The school has a partnership with the Australian Science and Mathematics School and Flinders University.
Student enrolment trends

Pasadena High School has a very small yet diverse student population from Years 8 -12. The school is involved in a number of strategies with its partner schools and Flinders University to create a small by design school with a STEAM focus. Interdisciplinary, inquiry based learning will support individual learner achievement. Throughout the year the school attracts additional enrolments from families looking for a smaller, more personalised setting for their child.

Students living in the area bounded by the Glenelg tramline, South Road, Shepherds Hill Road, Mill Terrace (and its extension eastward), the western boundary of the hills face zone, and the hills railway line will be enrolled if they apply for Pasadena High School.
Staffing numbers (as at February 2017 census):
21.2 FTE teaching staff
419.5 hours SSO staffing
26 hours GSE

In 2017 the leadership of the school include:
Principal
Senior Leader (Band B3) Unit and Students with Disabilities
Senior Leader (Band B2) SACE, Student Pathways and Daily Operations
Student Wellbeing Coordinator (Band B1) 0.6FTE

Pasadena High School was opened in 1965 as Daws Road High School and operated under this name until 2001. The PHS Unit was established in 2006 and caters for the individual needs of students with intellectual disabilities. The school develops individual learning plans for students as a strategy to continually meet student needs.

The school is working in partnership with the Australian Science and Mathematics School (ASMS) and Flinders University. The partnership has been created to benefit students and teachers from all cohorts through sharing resources and information amongst each other and will benefit learning outcomes of students in southern Adelaide.

The redesigned Pasadena High School will commence in 2018 and will see:
- The school work with ASMS to evolve into a specialist Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics (STEAM) school
- Flinders University conduct research on schooling redesign and its own students will also benefit through receiving practical pre-service experience and mentoring at Pasadena High School
- Flinders University provide tailored professional learning and development to Pasadena High School staff
- A basketball academy which will be incorporated into the school’s long running Special Interest Basketball program.
- Pathways for students to both ASMS and Flinders University from Pasadena High School.

A broad curriculum in the senior school includes a range of vocational options, with senior students able to access these courses delivered on-site through Doorways 2 Construction, and other VET options offered through the Inner South Curriculum Alliance. Students enrolled in the Basketball Program can complete Certificate 2 in Sport Coaching, gaining industry accreditation that could lead to a number of post school pathways as well as Stage 1 and Stage 2 SACE accreditation.

1. Students (and their welfare)

Pasadena High School is a Safe Schools Coalition member school and Sexual Health Information Networking & Education (SHine SA) focus school.

Students within the school environment come from diverse cultural backgrounds. In 2017, many countries are represented in the student population, with EALD support for students to develop their English language skills and to succeed in their other studies.
Teachers support the development of the student as a whole person: the intellectual, physical, social and emotional aspects of development are addressed. Of high importance is the development of respectful, positive student-teacher relationships that seek to understand the learning and cater specifically to individual learning styles.

Student Wellbeing

The Wellbeing team at Pasadena provides student wellbeing support through a Student Wellbeing Coordinator, a Pastoral Care Worker, structured care group and case management, INSPIRE mentors, and the Rock and Water program. In 2017 Pasadena has a Child Wellbeing Practitioner (0.2) and a social worker (0.8) on site.

The Student Wellbeing Coordinator (Counsellor) at Pasadena High School supports students and carers throughout their time as part of the school community. Student wellbeing is a significant priority and the school is committed to nurturing effective partnerships between students, staff and carers.

The Wellbeing Coordinator provides an ongoing counselling service by:

- managing the enrolment and leaving process
- following up issues of concern that are raised by students, parents, carers, staff and other members of the school community
- working with the leadership team to develop a supportive and inclusive school environment where students feel safe and free from bullying and harassment
- providing information and facilitating access to available support services
- coordinating the Pathways to Success curriculum to ensure that there is developmental progression and a balance of appropriate topics such as personal development, goal setting, time management, study skills and relationships
- establishing community partnerships with organisations that provide community based education to support individuals and groups
- coordinating the Student Representative Council (SRC)
- coordinating alternative programs such as Flexible Learning Options (FLO).

The Student Wellbeing Coordinator (Counsellor) addresses the social and emotional wellbeing of students by implementing proactive strategies to inform, educate and empower young people to take responsibility for their emotional, social and physical health.

The school community is also supported by a Pastoral Care Worker whose four main tasks are pastoral duties; being a resource person; having a referral role and being a good role model. A diverse range of supportive events are hosted including, key speakers and extra curricula activities.

An important aspect of student support is mentoring by Flinders University INSPIRE mentors who seek to engage, connect and prepare young people for life beyond and outside of school. Mentoring at Pasadena seeks to develop personal wellbeing, learning and develop relationship building.

Care group teachers support a group of students with whom they meet daily, get to know well as individuals, and assist in promoting self-esteem, respect, confidence and social relationships. They also manage daily administration tasks such as attendance data and plan and provide Pathways to Success the personal development course. Care Group presents the opportunity for students to interact, network and develop relationships with fellow learners. This creates a deeper sense of community across the school environment, encouraging interaction and peer support.
The Student Development Program ‘Pathways to Success’ aims to provide students with information and activities which enhance the formal curriculum. The course includes the Child Protection Curriculum, SHINE Sexual Health & Relationships, MindMatters, values and personal development for years 8-12. The Pathways to Success program includes the opportunity for students to engage in a variety of learning activities offsite including community group and university visits. This allows students to experience a range of activities based on interest and skill level to further enhance personal development.

A student achievement monitoring process known as the Traffic Light process is implemented across the school each term. All staff participate in the data collection process and strategies for supporting improvement discussed. The outcomes are shared with students and parent/carers to support improved learner achievement by the care group case manager.

Student Led Conferences
This process occurs twice per year and enables students to reflect on and articulate their own learning to their parent, carer or family. Students prepare a folio of evidence of their learning to present and discuss at their conference. Supported by care group teachers or case managers, students reflect on their achievements and set goals for the immediate future.

Student Voice
The Student Representative Council (SRC) is a formal group of students, elected by their peers to represent them and their views. Pasadena High School benefits when students are involved in their own learning and the school’s operation. The SRC facilitates leadership and decision making by all students in the school. It is an important way in which our school can provide meaningful leadership opportunities for students.

The Student Representative Council actively canvasses a wide range of issues which affect young people within a framework which ensures that the advice presented to students is balanced and relates to school activities.

The student government (SRC) deal with matters specifically related to the needs of students and provides representatives to Governing Council. The active SRC raises their own funds for school purchases through events such as casual days and barbeques, with proceeds going to the purchase of items decided by the committee. The SRC also supports a child through World Vision.

Disability Unit
The Pasadena High School Unit provides a personalised learning program based upon Australian Curriculum and modified SACE (depending upon their year level). Each student has a learning program designed to meet his or her specific needs (Negotiated Education Plan – NEP). The NEP is a plan that documents curriculum access, participation and achievement for learners. The plan is used for students with disabilities and students with learning difficulties needing specific provisions. Learners will generally be working at significantly different levels from their age peers. The NEP provides a summary of ability, performance and ongoing provision. The plan is negotiated and updated at least once a year or more regularly if the student’s needs dictate. Parents play an active role in the negotiation process.
Students in the Pasadena Unit benefit from an educational model and curriculum with the support of a strongly committed school. This is achieved by providing appropriate resources, special education staff and opportunities to learn and grow. The model provides flexibility, enabling students to develop the necessary skills to become productive, integrated members of our community.

The process for enrolment is by referral through the DECD Special Option placement procedure.

2. **Curriculum**

Subject offerings
The learning programs at Pasadena High are developed within Australian Curriculum and SACE requirements and are integrated across curriculum areas where appropriate.

Pasadena High School is developing interdisciplinary inquiry based learning within STEAM pedagogy in partnership with the Australian Science and Mathematics School.

Features of our learning programs include:
- Small classes and interdisciplinary curriculum in the middle school.
- Programs to meet individual needs including extension programs as well as initiatives and intensive support for students with learning difficulties.
- Teaching and learning collaboration with the Australian Science and Mathematics School.
- Special Interest Basketball Program that forms the foundation for the Pasadena Sports Academy to commence in 2018. This program enables students to undertake a Certificate 11 in Sports Coaching, and supports students from a range of abilities to develop fitness and skills in the sport, providing opportunities to build relationships as players and explore pathways within the sport.
- The state of the art Trade Training Centre supports the delivery of the Doorways 2 Construction program at Pasadena. The Trade Training Centre boasts the latest equipment for students to enhance their learning in a variety of trades including carpentry, paving, brick laying and concreting. Two programs are run Certificate 1 in Doorways 2 Construction in Year 11 and partial Certificate 3 in Year 12 through Doorways 2 Construction Plus.
- Extensive Vocational Education and Training (VET) curriculum offerings by networking with Inner South Curriculum Alliance, Construction Industry Training Board and Daws Road Centre.
- The provision of English as an Alternative Language learning programs.
- An inclusive Arts performance event - ‘MAD Night’ (Music/Media, Arts and Drama/Dance)

3. **Sporting Activities**

The school participates in SASSSA sporting and other ‘special’ events. Teams are nominated for *Knockout* competitions across a wide range of sports for both boys and girls including badminton, basketball, cricket, soccer, netball, and volleyball.

The school also provides an opportunity to take part in a zone inter-school sports program.
Teams are determined by student interest and competitions available within the southern zone.

Pasadena High School offers ice hockey through its participation in the Ice Factor re-engagement program.

4. **Staff (and their welfare)**

**Staff profile**

The school staff base presents a diverse range of skills, expertise and experience. Within the environment these skills add depth and body to the learning environment, with students able to supplement their education with augmented learning from staff. Teachers employed in the mainstream may be required to teach classes in the Disability Unit.

5. **School Facilities**

The school offers high quality learning facilities including the Trade Training Centre (Building and Construction), a refurbished learning centre and a media studio provides the facility for engagement with multimedia learning.

Pasadena High School is home to the Tower Arts Centre, a fully functioning performance arts theatre catering for drama, music and dance. Students who participate in performing arts have the opportunity to learn a wide range of skills associated with theatre beyond performance itself.

The school also has a purpose built three-court basketball stadium on campus that is shared with Basketball SA and Sturt Sabres Basketball Club. This facility is used for curriculum presentation, sports and recreational purposes and interschool sports competitions. The school has sole access to this facility from 8.00am until 5.00pm on weekdays.

In addition, our facilities, which are widely used by community groups and have access for students and staff with disabilities include:

- Science laboratories
- Arts, Technology and Design facilities
- Home Economics centre
- Canteen (outsourced to Sturt Basketball Club)
- 21-seater Coaster; 14-seater Ford and 12-seater Toyota mini bus

6. **School Operations**

Decision making structures:

Pasadena High School practises participatory decision-making. A motivated and driven leadership team is responsible for the main decision-making for the school although proposals for improvement are also generated from staff, committees and community individuals. All staff, students and Governing Council are consulted on all major changes in policy or direction.

Staff meetings occur on Mondays when students are dismissed early. Middle School/Senior School P2S pastoral care planning, IT committee, Health and Safety committee and staff other groups meeting during each term.
The Student Representative Council meets regularly and has representation in school decision-making including at Governing Council.

Regular publications:
To keep the Pasadena community informed a school newsletter is produced twice each term. This provides the opportunity to share information about the school, and highlight student success, news and school events held over the duration of the term. The newsletter is posted or emailed home to families and available to the community on the school website www.pasadenahs.sa.edu.au
Other communication strategies include the school diary, website, Facebook and SMS messaging (attendance).

7. Local Community

The school draws its community from a diverse local geographical radius across the Adelaide metropolitan area.

Parent and community involvement
The school’s Governing Council is active and has taken the school forward with decisions about school uniform and leadership. Improving community participation and perceptions and capacity building in the new responsibilities of local governance are a major priority.

ECD Partnership schools:
Mitcham Girls High School, Unley High School, Urrbrae Agricultural High School, Clapham Primary School, Colonel Light Gardens Primary School, Edwardstown Primary School, Mitcham Primary School and Westbourne Park Primary School.

Public transport access
Pasadena High is situated on the corner of Daws Road and Goodwood Road. It is well serviced by regular bus routes (300, G10, W90, and W91) and within walking distance of main arterial roads. On Mondays Bus B (School Bus) leaves from Pasadena High School at 1.45pm, Daws Road (facing west) via Daws Road, Marion Road, Sturt Road to the Marion Shopping Centre. On Tuesday to Friday Bus B (School Bus) leaves from Pasadena High School at 3.05pm. Pedestrian crossings adjacent to the school allow safe and easy access across major transport routes.

Books for Lesotho (a not for profit organisation) utilises The Barn at Pasadena High School to collect, sort and prepare the library books for distribution to schools in Africa.

Other local care and educational facilities include the Daws Road Repatriation General Hospital and the Repat Museum are important partners in learning for Pasadena High School.

Local Government body:
Mitcham Council supports the school with a councillor member on Governing Council and through sponsoring a number of youth development programs

Federal Electorate: Boothby
8. Further Comments

We welcome all members of the school community who are looking to be actively involved in the school and its future direction to join our Governing Council. The generation of ideas and support of the school is highly valued and appreciated and if you wish to be part of this please contact us directly.