

SCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT Updated: 23 March 2012

School number: 0810

School name: Thebarton Senior College

1. General information

Part A

School name : Thebarton Senior College
 School No. : 0810 Courier : Western Adelaide Region
 Principal : Mr Kim Hebenstreit
 Postal Address : 40 Ashley Street, Torrensville, 5031
 Location Address : 40 Ashley Street, Torrensville, 5031
 District : South West Metro
 Distance from GPO : 5 km Phone No. : 8352 5811
 Index of Disadvantage : 2 Fax No. : 8234 2467

February FTE Enrolment		2009	2010	2011	2012
Primary	Special, N.A.P. Ungraded etc.	0.0			
	Reception	0.0			
	Year 1	0.0			
Year	2	0.0			
Year	3	0.0			
Year	4	0.0			
Year	5	0.0			
Year	6	0.0			
Year	7	0.0			
Secondary	FLO, N.A.P. Ungraded etc.	314.6	302	265	365
	Year 8	0.0			
	Year 9	0.0			
	Year 10	0.0			
	Year 11	498.3	570	530	451
	Year 12	148.1	151	182	229
TOTAL		961.0	1023	977	1045
School Card		67.3%	60%	75%	65%
NESB Enrolment (persons)		713	890	844	889
Aboriginal Enrolment (FTE)		3.8	3	4.8	4.6

Part B

- Registered Training Organisation
 - : The College is a Registered Training Organisation. The title of the RTO is The Minister for Education and Child Development Trading as The Thebarton Senior College (40117). The Principal is the Chief Executive Officer of the RTO.
- Assistant Principals
 - Kay Astles – New Arrivals Program
 - Gaye Becis – RTO Manager
 - Louis Elliott – Student Services
 - Keri Fisher – Curriculum
 - Eva Kannis-Torry - Development
 - Nick Vallance – Information Systems and Infrastructure
- School website address
 - : www.tsc.sa.edu.au
- School e-mail address
 - : info@tsc.sa.edu.au
- Staffing numbers
 - : 105 teachers, 20 SSOs and 13 BSSOs staff the College
- Enrolment trends
 - : Enrolments increased from 2003 and reached an optimum level in 2009. This has been maintained for the past three years with a slight increase due to an expansion in off campus classes. This has been due to an increase in New Arrivals Program (NAP) numbers as well as a stronger marketing plan. An increasing number of youth (16-25 year olds) are enrolling in programs at the College.
- Special arrangements
 - : The school operates on an extended day with four lessons of 1.75 hours (each followed by a half hour break) starting at 8.30 and finishing at 5.10. Three-hour lessons are offered on two nights per week. Time in lieu is given for teachers taking night classes. Staff are expected to work flexible hours.
- Year of opening
 - : A school was established on the site in 1924. It became a specialist senior secondary site in 1990.

- Public transport access
 - : Good bus transport with frequent buses along Ashley Street, South Road, Henley Beach Road and Holbrooks Road – all within an easy 10 minute walk of the College.

2. Students (and their welfare)

- General characteristics
 - : Our students are over 16 years of age and are working to complete their SA Certificate of Education (SACE) or undertaking bridging or vocational programs or learning English in the New Arrivals Program. Many are part-time and over 1200 students may access courses in each academic year. The College draws its students from all parts of the greater metropolitan area but particularly from the central and north western side.
 - The students come from diverse backgrounds. Countries of birth include Australia (from a range of cultural groups). Afghanistan, Albania, Austria, Argentina, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Brazil, Burundi, Cambodia, Canada, Chile, China, Congo, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Egypt, El Salvador, England, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, France, Germany, Greece, Hong Kong, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Korea (South), Kosovo, Kurdistan, Laos, Lebanon, Liberia, Malaysia, Morocco, Myanmar, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Pakistan, Palestine, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russia, Rwanda, Samoa, Serbia, ierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, Sudan, Syria, Thailand, Timor, Ukraine, United Kingdom, Uzbekistan, Vietnam.

A number of students have come to Australia under the humanitarian/refugee program. Thebarton Senior College is the site of the DECD secondary adult New Arrivals Program. These students complete an intensive English as a Second Language (ESL) course full-time for twelve-eighteen months or more before moving into bridging, Stage 1 and 2 SACE courses or vocational certificate courses.

Students also enter at both Stage 1 and 2 SACE to complete their secondary education and gain entry to TAFE or university or widen their employment options through industry accredited vocational training packages. Thebarton is a Registered Training Organisation for Certificates 1-4 in Information Technology, Certificate 2 Business, Certificate 3 Business Administration, Certificate 1 Resources and Infrastructure Operations, Certificates 1 and 2 English Language Proficiency, Certificates 1 and 2 Community Services and is a certified CISCO training provider. In addition, there are vocational courses auspiced by TafeSA and the Master Builders Association in Certificate 2 Multimedia and Certificate 1 General Building respectively.

Thebarton also delivers a university bridging course, the Certificate IV in Adult Tertiary Preparation which is recognised for entry by all Australian universities.

Thebarton Senior College has a large number of students receiving some financial support from Centrelink.

- Support offered

: Counselling services recognise the complexity of student needs. Some of these services include student enrolment, personal counselling, interagency liaison, career and training information and interpreting services (bilingual SSOs). Maternity, health, psychological and financial support services are provided by external providers at the College.

As well, learning support programs are provided through teacher support in the Study Centre, ESL and targeted tutorial/mentoring support in classes and literacy support for both NESB and English speaking background students. There are a significant number of students on Negotiated Curriculum Plans.

All teaching staff are encouraged to complete the TESMC (or equivalent) course as the opportunity arises. This is because ESL and Literacy teaching are fundamental to our work.

- Student management

: Students are encouraged to take responsibility for their own actions as adults and are expected to show respect to other students and staff at all times. Fair and consistent application of a minimum of explicit rules and regulations are applied to students. Restorative justice practices guide interactions between all people on the site.

- Student government

: A balanced representation of students is encouraged and welcomed on the Governing Council. The College also hosts a Rotaract club which provides another avenue for student voice.

- Special programmes

: The College is the only adult New Arrivals Program provider in South Australia. The **New Arrivals Program** is an intensive English language acquisition course for newly arrived adult migrant and refugee students. While the focus of the program is to provide non English speaking students with the level of language proficiency needed to undertake future SACE studies, mathematics, science and computing are integral to the curriculum and also have a language emphasis. Students also experience technology, home economics and art courses in NAP. The NAP course is SACE accredited (4 units) under the non-compulsory section of the SACE. Graduates from the program are encouraged to continue their College enrolment in subsequent programs such as the Preparation for Senior Studies, other foundation and bridging programs, vocational certificates or Stage 1 or Stage 2 SACE studies.

Certificates in English Language Proficiency were introduced in 2008 and a large number of students are now enrolled to study at either Certificate 1 or 2 levels.

3. Key School Policies

- Strategic Directions 2012 - 2014

: The College continues to strive for excellence, innovation, respect and sustainability in all its actions. These four elements are key values of the College.

In the next three years, the emphasis will be on:

1. Delivering excellence in teaching and learning
2. Developing strategic, innovative partnerships to support curriculum delivery, staff development and growth of the College
3. Ensuring sustainability is embedded in everything we do.

- Recent key outcomes

: In 2008, the College won the SA Training Awards for VET in SACE Excellence for the programs offered under The Skills Centre (RTO) courses. They were also runners-up in the Australian Training Awards VET in SACE Excellence category.

To meet the needs of the increasing numbers of youth in the College, physical education programs have been expanded and included in the New Arrivals Program. In addition, extra –curricula activities for students in sports such as volleyball are being introduced for groups of students such as the Year 12s.

In 2007, the College was recognised as a United Nations Global Peace School. Annual events like Harmony Day and Multicultural Focus Week are great successes and an integral part of the ethos of the College. Embedded in curriculum are studies based around peace and justice.

The College has appointed an employment officer to help connect students with full- and part-time work opportunities and to ensure that they are “job ready”.

Student well-being is enhanced by a range of services provided on the campus by external agencies such as financial counsellors, Centrelink, midwifery, psychological health, Service to Youth Council.

The College has actively engaged in Flexible Learning Options (FLO) and has employed 3 youth workers to support younger students who might be at risk of withdrawing from education.

4. Curriculum

- Subject offerings

: The College offers a wide range of SACE Stage 1 and 2 subjects as well as Certificate courses in Business, Business Administration, Community Services, Multimedia, Metal Trades, Information Technology, Building and Construction, English Language Proficiency, Resources and Infrastructure Operations and CISCO networking.

The Certificate IV in Adult Tertiary Preparation provides successful students immediate access to a wide range of Australian university courses.

Stage 1- Arts, Humanities, Social and Cultural

Art, Australian Studies, Business Studies, Design, Economics, English, ESL, English Literacy Skills, Food and Catering, Food and Nutrition, Legal Studies, Performing Arts, Studies in Religion, Studies of Societies, Textile Studies, Tourism, Work Education.

Stage 1 – Mathematics, Science and Technology

2D Animation, Accounting, Applied Electronics (Robotics), Biology, Chemistry, CNC, Database Systems, Energy and Automotive Systems, Health and Lifestyle, Home Maintenance, Integrated Science, Mathematical Applications, Mathematics (Vocational), Maths Studies, Photography, Programming Systems, Physics, Psychology, Recreation and Fitness, Textile Studies, Woodwork, Word Processing (Personal and Business).

Stage 2 – Arts, Humanities, Social and Cultural

Art (Life Drawing), Art Practical, Business Studies, Classical Studies, Design Practical, Economics, ESL, ESL Studies, English Communications, English Studies, Food and Hospitality Studies, Legal Studies, Modern History, Studies of Societies, Tourism, Visual Art Studies, Work Studies.

Stage 2 – Mathematics, Science and Technology

Accounting Studies, Biology, Business Documents, Chemistry, Computer Assisted Production Systems, Computer Networking, Desktop Publishing, Digital Photography, Digital Video and Sound, Furniture Construction, Mathematical Applications, Mathematical Studies, Mathematics Specialist, Nutrition, Personal Documents, Photography, Physical Education, Physics, Psychology, Robotics and Automation Systems.

- **Registered Training Organisation**

: Thebarton Senior College is a Registered Training Organisation for the following certificates:

- Information Technology Certificates 1 – 4 (ICA 10111, ICA 20111, ICA 30111, ICA 40111)
- Certificate 2 in Business (BSB 20107) and Certificate 3 in Business Administration (BSB 30407)
- Certificate 1 and 2 in Resources and Infrastructure Operations (RII 10109, RII20109)
- Certificates 1 and 2 in English Language Proficiency (40492SA, 40493SA)
- Certificate 4 Adult Tertiary Preparation – (39260QLD)
- Certificate 2 Creative Industries (Media) – (CUF20107)
- Certificate 1 Community Services (Work Preparation) – (CHC10108)

The Principal is responsible for ensuring the RTO meets the AQTF standards and is assisted in this task by an RTO Manager.

In addition, the College offers further accredited vocational certificates in General Building, Plumbing, Community Services (Certificate 2) under auspicing arrangements with the Master Builders Association and TafeSA.

- **Open Access**

:N/A

- **Special needs**

: There are a number of students in the College who have Negotiated Education Plans which have been developed with the assistance of District guidance staff. SSO support is provided for identified students.

- **Special curriculum features**

: Intensive support is provided for recent arrivals and students learning English. Learning support is provided at all levels and preparatory programs are in place in all curriculum areas to facilitate students' transitions into further study or the workplace.

Assessment procedures and reporting

: Formal feedback is provided in most courses each semester.

- Joint programmes
Close liaison with external industry bodies and employer groups ensures the vocational certificates continue to meet industry needs and standards.

5. Sporting Activities

- : Students are involved in sporting teams and athletics in several non-school based competitions. Occasional carnivals against other senior secondary schools occur.

6. Other Co-Curricular Activities

- General
: The College celebrates a number of significant days during the year including Harmony Day, Youth Week and Multicultural Focus Week. These activities are now embedded in the culture of the College as a UN Global Peace School.
- Special
: A student Orientation Day is held at the beginning of the year and a formal celebration of student success is held at the conclusion of the year. Students are also able to access activities such as the Fringe Festival Opening Parade, choir, singing and drama activities through our Performing Arts courses.

7. Staff (and their welfare)

- Staff profile
: Staff turnover is extremely low. The number of teaching staff and SSO hours has increased with enrolments.

Staff numbers in the table below are individuals, not FTEs.

Band	Position	Female	Male
1	Teacher	51	30
2	Coordinator	8	8
2	Assistant Principal	4	2
3	Principal		1
Support	SSOs	22	10
	Groundsperson		2

- Staff support systems
 - Personnel Advisory Committee
 - A comprehensive induction program is conducted.
 - All staff are supported in completing TESMC (or equivalent). The College provides a generous budget for staff to undertake professional development programs.
 - Staff well-being is a high priority
- Performance Development
 - : A Performance Development structure is in place involving all teaching staff. The development of supervision and leadership skills in leaders is also encouraged.

8. Incentives, support and award conditions for Staff

- Complexity placement points
 - :

9. School Facilities

- Buildings and grounds
 - : The College has excellent grounds and facilities. There is a gymnasium, cafeteria, well-equipped library, study centre and up-to-date technology for use by staff and students. The College also has a commonwealth funded Language Centre and Trade Training Centre. The College is also a lead school in the Inner South Metro Trade School for the Future.
- Cooling
 - : All areas are air conditioned.
- Specialist facilities
 - :N/A
- Student facilities
 - : Students have a cafeteria and common room with microwave ovens, chilled drinking water and tea/coffee making facilities.
- Staff facilities
 - : The staff room is well equipped with microwaveovens, coffee machine, refrigerators and appropriate furniture.
- Access for students and staff with disabilities
 - : An elevator services the upper floors of the multi-storey building and ramps have been provided at other entrances for easy access.

- Access to bus transport
: Bus transport is available at the front of the College and there is a service every 10-15 minutes into the city.

10. School Operations

- Decision making structures
: The Curriculum Leadership Team (CLT) and Governing Council are the key decision making groups in the College.
- Regular publications
: The College student newsletter, "In Touch", is produced at least once a term.
- Other communication
: A daily bulletin published electronically for quick communication to all members of the College community. Email is used extensively.
- School financial position
: Sound
- Special funding
: The New Arrivals Program receives additional resourcing. The College has a category 2 index of disadvantage.

11. Local Community

- General characteristics
: The local community is generally an older population and there is interest in the College as a community facility. Areas of the College are hired for various community activities out of hours.
- Accessibility
: The College is located 4 kms from the city and is on bus routes along Ashley Street, Henley Beach Road, South Road and Holbrooks Road.
- Local Government body
: West Torrens City Council

12. Further Comments

- :N/A.