



This week's stories from the media

- More SA schools welcome Year 7s in 2020
- Ingle Farm East Primary School named best canteen
- Focus on food for Woodville High upgrade
- Back to school costs \$568 per child
- SACE Research Project to remain for now
- SA schools work on ATAR alternative
- Demand forces Mitcham High expansion

Ingle Farm Primary Best Canteen

You won't find many of the traditional snacks like pies and doughnuts in this school canteen.

Ingle Farm East Primary School's canteen overhauled its offering last year and now serves just fresh and homemade goods to students.

Canteen manager Melissa Daralievski says with the canteen losing money it was time for a massive change.

"It's taken off really well, the kids love it and so do the parents."

The canteen also introduced an online ordering system for lunch orders, weekly homemade specials and \$1 daily fresh food specials.

Mrs Daralievski says fruit salad cups and homemade sausage rolls have quickly become favourites in the schoolyard.

This week the school was awarded best canteen in SA/WA by the Australian School Canteen Association.

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More SA Schools Welcome Year 7s in 2020

Three more South Australian high schools will welcome Year 7 students for the first time in 2020, ahead of a state wide transition scheduled for 2022.

SA Education Minister John Gardner says 350 students will be part of pilot programs at Mitcham Girls High School, Wirreanda Secondary School and John Pirie Secondary School.

Year 7 has traditionally been taught in SA primary schools, but a number of government schools have already made the switch to include it as part of high school education.

It is hoped these pilot schools will offer insights into the transition process before Year 7 is only taught in high schools from Term 1, 2022.

Additionally, it is expected that all SA schools will be connected to reliable high speed internet by the end of 2020, while construction will also begin on a \$1.3 billion capital works program.

"We are committed to supporting our schools to achieve growth for every child, in every class, in every school, and I encourage every student across the state to embrace the learning opportunities before them".

Returning to school in South Australia this week:

- 275,000 primary and high school students
- Nearly 180,000 in government schools
- 14,000 reception students starting school for the first time
- 12,000 Year 8 students entering high school
- 13,000 Year 12 students starting their last year of high school.

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“...14,000 reception students starting school for the first time...”

Focus On Food For Woodville High Upgrade

Woodville High would be given a \$7.4 million facelift under plans before the State Government.

Existing buildings would be demolished at the St Clair school to make way for a new horticulture and home economics building in the first stage of works – part of an overall \$10 million project.

A new PE building would also replace two transportable asbestos-clad classrooms next to the school's oval.

An outdoor learning area would be constructed with a canopy between two buildings and the carpark on Leslie St would be expanded to allow for more staff parking.

Art and science classrooms and toilets would be renovated in a second stage.

“There is a bit of sadness there because the current garden space is going to be reduced but what we end up with ... is our kitchen looking out on the garden where they're growing the food,” said acting principal Neil Hendry.

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Back To School Costs \$568 Per Child

Back to School shopping is set to create another financial headache for Australian families, who are expected to spend an average of \$538 per child in 2020.

New data obtained by News Corp from YouGov's Annual Back to School Research Report, commissioned by Big W, has found the staggering cost of buying school supplies and uniforms has risen by \$62 or 13 per cent on last year.

South Australians are the second highest spenders with a bill of \$568 per child, up from \$401.

Lunch boxes and water bottles will cost \$40, up \$1 but stationery has seen an \$8 price drop down to an average of \$79.

Another bill more parents were feeling the brunt of is technology, with an average cost of \$242 per child for Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) programs in schools where students are required to have their own tablets or laptops.

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Research Project To Remain

The contentious research project will remain a compulsory Year 12 subject – albeit one many students complete while in Year 11 – in a partial backflip on changes announced early this year.

But the workload to complete the subject will be reduced.

There will still be changes from 2022 that will make it easier for students to find a relevant topic for their project by giving them more clearly defined choices tied to their vocational courses, entrepreneur or social enterprise ambitions, or university aspirations.

“There's a bit too much work for 10 credits (a half-year subject) at the moment. We'll reduce the workload a bit,” SACE Board chief executive Martin Westwell said.

[Full Story](#)

SA Schools Work On ATAR Alternative

South Australian schools will be at the forefront of a push to have students' abilities judged by more than just their ATAR.

A dozen public and private schools will work with the University of Melbourne on a two-year project to create a “learner profile” system, giving unis and employers a more rounded picture on which to assess applicants.

The “learner profile” concept came to prominence late last year, when a sample version devised by the SACE Board appeared in the national Beyond ATAR report.

The schools to take part in the trial are yet to be announced, and in some cases have not been finalised.

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Demand Forces Mitcham Expansion

Enrolment demand at a school piloting the Year 7 move was so great that a \$1.4 million temporary building project had to be constructed over the holidays, ahead of a \$5 million permanent fix.

Mitcham Girls High School's tennis courts have been completely covered with eight transportable classrooms in four buildings that had to be craned into place in sections, plus a toilet block.

There are 158 Year 7s and a large Year 8 intake of 195 girls, which the Education Department says was another reason behind the temporary build.

Education Minister John Gardner insists the Kingswood school was the right choice for the pilot.

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