



Ltyentye Apurte Community Education Centre, Santa Teresa

Ltyentye Apurte Community

Ltyentye Apurte Community Education Centre is a Catholic School situated in Santa Teresa, an Aboriginal settlement of 800 people belonging to the Eastern Arrernte people. The Indigenous people speak fluent Arrernte and use English as their second language.

The community is located 80kms southeast of Alice Springs, in semi-desert country. Temperatures are extreme, ranging from -2 to 46 degrees and there is year round access via an unsealed road.

The school at Santa Teresa community was founded as a Mission in 1953 by the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart and the OLSH Sisters. The school is now known as Ltyentye Apurte Community Education Centre (LACEC) and is governed by the Catholic Education Office, Diocese of Darwin and the Marist Brothers. 'Ltyentye apurte' means 'clump of beefwood trees' in the Arrernte language.

There are 35 staff at the school, 20 of whom are Indigenous. With an enrolment of 145 students from pres-school to Year 10, the school has small class sizes and features specialist facilities including a community library, manual arts, visual arts, pottery and home economics.

The school buildings and staff housing have been recently refurbished and the well resourced classrooms feature interactive whiteboards and computers to support student learning.

English is the second or third language of most students at the school and the Arrernte language and cultural program is a key part of the curriculum at LACEC. Teachers work as a member of a teaching team in partnership with local Indigenous people and committed Arrernte assistant teachers and tutors.

LACEC offers a post primary senior pathways program and also takes part in projects of national significance including, Growing Our Own (GOO), Leading Aligned Numeracy Development (LAND) and Strong Foundations. The school also has high student attendance rates (80%) and a successful literacy program showing significant student progress.

With a full-time curriculum support teacher and a school/community liaison officer, LACEC offers a student nutrition program providing breakfast and lunch for students and a student tutorial program out of hours.

The school hours are 8:30-12:30 and 1:30-3:00 during the winter and 8:00-12:30 and 1:30-3:00 during the summer, and on Fridays school finishes at 12:00 all year round.



Teaching & Learning

- Teachers work closely with an Indigenous assistant teacher who knows and understands the students, families and their relationships
- Both teachers and assistant teachers bring a range of skills in a spirit of active and mutual participation in the teaching and learning process
- ‘Learning Together’ sessions are on-site meetings where staff learn and plan in a cooperative group providing opportunities to develop teaching skills and to gain or share knowledge about cross-cultural situations and the school curriculum
- All students learn using English as a second or additional language. Teachers are provided with introductory and on-going support for teaching ESL
- Religious Education is a key priority for Indigenous people in Indigenous Catholic Community Schools
- Professional Learning is provided for teachers to deliver school designated approaches to literacy and numeracy



Community Facilities

- Well equipped store—groceries, general items and fuel
- Shire office and Government Business Centre
- Police Station with night patrol
- Commonwealth Bank agency and ATM
- Post Office
- Centrelink office
- Health Clinic with doctor attending 4 days per week
- Mechanic Workshop
- Next G mobile and wireless internet coverage
- Television and radio coverage
- Swimming Pool and sport and recreational activities program
- Annual sports carnival, horse racing and Finke Desert Race
- Football Club
- Famous Keringke Arts Centre
- Santa Teresa is a dry community— no alcohol

Teacher Benefits

- Paid removal costs and storage costs for 2 years
- Airfares for you and your family
- Vehicle delivery costs
- Salary packaging
- Special teaching allowance for all teachers and a district allowance paid to employees with dependants
- Free health care and remote tax benefits
- Free housing in a range of 1-3 bedroom furnished units and houses with most contents provided
- Free electricity, gas, water and contents insurance
- Food freight costs reimbursed
- Special study leave arrangements and access to the Study Incentives Program
- Laptop computer supplied
- 10 days sick leave and 10 days personal leave per year
- Portable long service leave
- 1 day per term for private business
- 2 FOILS per year— travel and accommodation

