



SCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

Updated: June 2019

School number: 0282

School name: **MORGAN PRIMARY SCHOOL – incorporating preschool, occasional care and playgroup**

School Profile:

Morgan Primary School is a small school with a family atmosphere. It is situated about 160km north east of Adelaide where the Murray River turns south. Our school has a strong focus on literacy, numeracy, science, history as well as the arts, technology and ICT. Online learning and the use of ICT is incorporated into all areas of teaching and learning. Each classroom is fitted with an interactive TV, all students and staff have access to computers and iPads to support the teaching and learning programs. The specialist teaching domains of our school are physical education, Japanese language and culture, environmental education and special education. As part of improving well-being 'healthy living' focusing on healthy eating, participation in regular physical activity and a Growth Mindset. We are learning and implementing the Berry Street Model to student, staff and family wellbeing. Staff and the Pastoral Care Worker work closely with the students, their families and other agencies to develop strong relationships, to improve learning outcomes and to support families at school and beyond the classroom.

We provide many opportunities and encourage all members of our community to be actively involved and engaged in all facets of school life. This includes open days, assemblies, shared lunches, family dinners, extra-curricular activities and community events. The introduction of a Morgan Primary School Facebook page, Class Dojo and SeeSaw programs have allowed us to continue to improve communication by sharing learning and celebrating school success with our families and wider community. Students work collaboratively with organisations within the community such as the Morgan Library, Mid Murray Council, Morgan RSL, Morgan Museum and the Morgan Community District Tourism Association (MCDTA).

We support the Sporting Schools program providing our students an extra physical activity particularly in new sports. Students are actively involved in recognised sport, interaction days, and transition programs. Students encouraged to be involved in local service groups such as the CFS and Youth Hub.

Our values of **care and compassion, understanding/tolerance/inclusion, doing your best, respect and responsibility** are embedded into all aspects of school life. We have developed activities and events focusing on learning from B-7, promoting parental support and education, supportive intervention programs, successful transition programs and an early years focus on 'play' and literacy and numeracy development. All students enjoy nature play in the Gully (across from the school) each Monday afternoon in terms 2 & 3. This allows opportunities for exploration, creativity and leadership.

We have an emphasis on life-long learning. Staff are actively involved in new learning and developing their pedagogy that is transferred into the classroom to support student learning.

We strive to maintain a culture of high standards, expectations and continuous improvement. Success is celebrated and we continue 'To Strive with Pride' being proud of our accomplishments and achievements. It is a great school to work, learn and play.

Our School Values

Our values of **Doing Your Best, Respect, Care and Compassion, Understanding, and Responsibility** are embedded into all aspects of school life. The school dispositions for learning are: **Challenge, Adaptable, Switched on, and Self-motivated**

School Purpose

The purpose of Morgan Primary School is to facilitate a quality teaching and learning environment that results in high standards of learning and care for all learners.

Vision Statement

At Morgan we believe learning is a life- long process where all parties are valued. We aim to provide a safe, supportive and caring environment, in which children have access to an education, which will equip them to live confidently and independently in an everchanging world. This is achieved through professional and knowledgeable staff working in a supportive environment with families and the community to provide a well-resourced program that is responsive to the learning needs of our children. Striving for positive attitudes toward learning improvement and excellence is encouraged and valued.

'Our learners will be confident, capable, adaptable and prepared members of our local and global community.'

1. General information

- School Principal name: Sue Billett
- Year of opening: 1880
- Postal Address: Fourth Street, Morgan, SA, 5320
- Location Address: Fourth Street, Morgan, SA, 5320
- DfE Region: Waikerie Partnership
- Geographical location – ie road distance from GPO (km): 160 km
- Telephone number: 85402102
- Fax Number: 08 85402217
- School website address: www.morganps.sa.edu.au

- School e-mail address: dl.0282.info@schools.sa.edu.au
- Child Parent Centre (CPC) attached: Playgroup/Occasional Care are attached to the School-based Preschool
- Out of School Hours Care (OSHC) service: No
- February FTE student enrolment:

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Preschool						7
Reception	2.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	5.0	3.0
Year 1	4.0	3.0	2.0	3.0	4.0	5.0
Year 2	9.0	3.0	4.0	3.0	4.0	3.0
Year 3	4.0	8.0	3.0	4.0	3.0	5.0
Year 4	2.0	4.0	9.0	3.0	5.0	5.0
Year 5	8.0	2.0	2.0	7.0	2.0	6.0
Year 6	5.0	7.0	3.0	3.0	7.0	4.0
Year 7	8.0	5.0	6.0	3.0	5.0	7.0
Total	42.0	36.0	33.0	30.0	35.0	38.0 +7=45

2019 School Card: 65%

2019 Non-English Speaking Background: 0.5%

ATSI: 0.5%

Student enrolment trends: We have a somewhat transient community and as such enrolment numbers vary considerably during the year. Due to lack of employment opportunities, family circumstances, drought and the financial climate of our area enrolments have been changeable over the last five years.

Staffing numbers (as at February census and including school based preschool staff):

- Principal/teacher
- 3.5 teachers (including school-based preschool)
- SSO2 - 27 hours per week – Front Office / Finance / Admin
- SSO 1 - 30 hours per week – Library / IT / Admin / Classroom Support
- SSO 1 - 10 hours per week – Classroom Support
- SSO 1 – 11 hours per week – Japanese Assistant and Occasional Care Worker
- GSE - Groundsman 12 hours per week
- Pastoral Care Worker – 9 hours per week
- Public transport access: No

- **Special site arrangements:** Morgan Primary School is a member of the Riverland West Small Schools Network (RWSSN), consisting of Morgan, Cadell, and Blanchetown. This involves shared Professional Learning sharing resources and facilities, and Interaction Days based on different curriculum areas and site priorities. We are also part of the Waikerie Partnership to support our learners from B-12 and staff in networking and learning opportunities.

2. Students (and their welfare)

- **General characteristics:**

Morgan Primary School is a small school with a family and community atmosphere. The school draws students from the local town and surrounding rural communities.

- **Student well-being programs:**

The school is a Trauma Aware School using the Berry Street Program, values education, and healthy breakfast and lunch events.

- Trauma Aware School - Berry Street
- Kimochis Program
- Buddy reading
- Counselling sessions – CAHMS & Relationships Australia
- Curriculum – classroom lessons
- School Values
- Pastoral Care
- Restorative Justice Principles
- Caring, safe and supportive environment
- Outdoor Classroom – Gully and Play-based learning
- Young Environmental Leaders
- Children's University
- Students/families are supported by all staff, the Principal and our Pastoral Support Worker. Intervention and specific programs are and will continue to be used for students / families requiring additional support.
- Staff implement SMART Strategies and teach the Child Protection Curriculum on an annual basis.
- Mental Health programs including Kids Help Line online sessions visits
- CAFHS – termly at preschool
- Four year old checks held pre entry to Reception

- **Student support offered**

Mentor Program, Speech and Language programs, Counselling support, and Pastoral Care Worker support and referral.

- **Student management**

The school has in place a Student Behaviour Management Plan/Anti-Bullying Policy which are agreed to by all parties involved in the school. The policy and plan are reviewed each year.

- **Student government**

School Leaders are elected at the beginning of each year. There are two House Captain (Blue and Gold) and two School Leaders from Year 7 cohort. The Student Representative Council is made up of other Yr 7 students to assist the School Leaders, Principal and staff, and students with issues raised by the student body, fundraising and model appropriate social behaviours.

- **Special programmes**

- **Preschool** - One-year intake- children turning 4 before May 1st are eligible to start at the beginning of the year. Children turning 4 on May 1st or after, commence kindy the following year.
- Preschool sessions are held over a fortnightly cycle so children attend:
 - Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday 3x6 hour sessions (Even Weeks)
 - Monday, Tuesday 2x6 hour sessions (Odd Weeks)
 - This equates to a total of 600 hours per year compliant with the Universal Access Program.
- Pre-entry sessions are held during term 4; the term before the children start full time preschool. Times and dates are announced in term 3.
- There is one Playgroup session per weekly held on Wednesday mornings between 9.30 am and 11.00 am. Playgroup is run by the parents with the Early Years teacher as co-ordinator and is run on site during a preschool session. CaFHS visit once per term.
- School funded Occasional Care is offered to families for children over three on Mondays and Tuesdays 9-12
- Support programs are provided for children based on individual needs (speech/language/behaviour/physical needs etc) which are reviewed each term.
- 'Pair Reading' is used as a reading readiness program
- Information sharing between all levels of schooling is easily
- **Sporting Schools Program** – this program runs throughout the year and provides an opportunity for students to try new sports, learn new skills and to have fun.
- **Pastoral Care Worker** – supports the pastoral care of the school community and organises Christian Seminar visits.
- **Healthy Eating Program** – A breakfast and healthy lunch program runs throughout year and is supported by parents, staff and families.
- **Whole School Reading, Spelling and Writing Programs** – The school is committed to a whole school daily reading, spelling and writing program, including guided reading, DIPL and writing sessions. Jolly Phonics is used at Reception & Yr1 instead of DIPL. Other reading

programs used are Lexia, Reading Doctor and Literacy Planet. Students and parents are encouraged to support our commitment by focussing on reading at home each night, as part of our home reading program.

- **Maths Program** – strong emphasis on understanding processes using concrete materials which can then be applied to problem solving.
- **Class DoJo Program** – Students earn Dojo points through attendance, homework, nightly reading and demonstrating our school values.
- **Additional Needs** – Students who are identified with learning / social / emotional needs through data analysis and observations are supported with One Plans and are supported with specific programs to address their needs.
- **SeeSaw Program** – This program allows students to have an individual digital portfolio to become independent and confident learners, set learning goals, review and reflect on classroom learning and to share this with others. Families, staff and students can provide feedback for growth and improvement.
- **Japanese Program** – A Languages program is provided for students in the School-Based Preschool through to Year 7. Students are actively engaged in language learning and cultural understandings. Throughout the year students are involved in Japanese activities. Students have opportunities to communicate with students in Japan via the Internet to continue to broaden their experiences and skills.
- **Transition Programs** – Programs are strengthened with an open morning, shared learning and information session and with the introduction of the Parent Assisted Immersive Reading program.
- **Trauma Aware School** using the Berry Street Education Model

3. Key School Policies

- **Site Improvement Plan and Quality Improvement Plan:**

- The Morgan Primary School Improvement Plan was developed in consultation of the school community to support our identified priority areas. Our school priorities for 2019-2021 are High standards in learning achievement:
 - **LITERACY**
 - Focus on improving teaching and learning in reading through oral language, vocabulary development and phonics instruction
 - Focus on improving Writing through improved compound and complex sentences, extended vocabulary and punctuation.
 - **NUMERACY**
 - Focus on the number strand with an emphasis on problem solving, place value and multiplicative thinking.

- The School Based Preschool **Quality Improvement Plan** priorities are:
 - Responsive Relationships – increase children's oral language
 - Collaborative Critical Reflection-Making children's thinking visible
- **Recent key outcomes based on 2018/19 data:**
 - More than 85% of students made expected or better growth in writing narrative and persuasive texts using the BrightPath ruler
 - 81% of students achieved the SEA in PAT Maths
 - 82% of R-3 students achieved the SEA or greater in term 1 Running Records data collection

4. Curriculum

- **Subject offerings:**
 - The Australian Curriculum is used for teaching and learning, planning, assessment and reporting. Information and Communication Technologies are a central part to all teaching and learning programs at Morgan Primary School. Each classroom is fitted with an Interactive Television to optimise teaching and learning. Students have access to an up to date network of computers, and I pads and are taught explicitly computing skills and using various programs.
 - Morgan Preschool provides an accessible, quality teaching and learning program for preschool children in a safe, caring and supportive environment. We offer a play-based curriculum which focuses on each child's learning. The program is planned using Belonging, Being, Becoming, Literacy and Numeracy Indicators, and The Early Years Learning Framework for Australia - the national curriculum document.
The Learning Outcomes planned for are:
 - ★ Children have a strong sense of identity
 - ★ Children are connected with and contribute to their world
 - ★ Children have a strong sense of wellbeing
 - ★ Children are confident and involved learners
 - ★ Children are effective communicators
- **Open Access/Distance Education provision:** No

- **Special needs:**

Students identified with special needs are allocated SSO time to assist in their learning. Resources are purchased to assist students to meet their individual needs.

- **Special curriculum features:**

- Interaction days are held with other Riverland West schools.
- Transition programs with the Preschool class and across year levels, and Waikerie High School support our students' overall confidence and wellbeing when enrolling and graduating from Morgan Primary School.

- **Teaching methodology:**

The school is currently grouped – Preschool, Lower Primary- R/1, Middle Primary – 2/3/4, Upper Primary – 5/6/7.

Staff at Morgan Primary School, work collaboratively across all areas using the Australian Curriculum. A range of methodologies are used and teachers regularly attend professional learning sessions and share experiences, learning and resources. SSOs support individuals and small groups to assist in targeted areas of curriculum support. All students have access to computers, Ipads and internet and each classroom has an interactive television which is actively used.

- **Student assessment procedures and reporting:**

NAPLAN, PAT and Running Records and BrightPath results and site-based test results are recorded and analysed by staff to inform teaching programs, identify individual student needs with appropriate interventions, and determine any professional learning required.

Reporting routine:

- Meet and Greet held in Term 1
- Student/Teacher/Parent Interviews Terms 1 & 3
- Open / Shared Learning Days are held once a term
- Written Reports are sent home in Term 2 & 4

- **Joint programmes:**

Interaction Days and shared learning opportunities through the Riverland West Small Schools Network.

5. Sporting Activities

- Morgan Sports Day – A family orientated day for students and parents to be actively involved.
- Mid Murray Sports Day – An annual event that is hosted by Riverland West Schools on a rotational cycle.
- Swimming Lessons and Aquatics Program – all students participate in instructional swimming lessons at our school pool / Waikerie Town Pool. Upper Primary students participate in an aquatics program at Baramera every two years.
- Splash Carnival - is held in Term 1 at Waikerie Town Pool with students, families and staff from Morgan, Blanchetown and Cadell PS.
- SAPSASA Sporting Involvement in Athletics

6. Other Co-Curricular Activities

- School camps are offered on an annual basis.
- Children's University
- Sporting Schools Program
- Youth Hub
- Healthy Breakfast / Lunch program
- Regular Performances
- Student Initiated Activities
- Sun Smart School – Life Education – Child Protection Curriculum
- Year 7 Leaders Program
- Environmental Education / Outside Classroom / Nature Play Focus
- Bookweek / Science Week / Literacy & Numeracy Week Celebrations
- Fundraising Events are held regularly to support organisation such as the Cancer Council – The Biggest Morning Tea, and Heart Foundation - Jump Rope for Heart
- Community Involvement: Morgan Museum, Morgan Day Activity Centre, Morgan Hub 9 (Library)
- End of Year Graduation / End of Year Concert
- Assemblies held during the term are hosted by each class and are student organised and driven. Students from each class share their learning with the whole school community and students are rewarded/ acknowledged with certificates and positive behaviour awards. Parents and the community support these and are an important part of the teaching and learning experience.

7. Staff (and their welfare)

• Staff profile

We have a small, dedicated and enthusiastic TEAM with all members being supportive of one another. All staff have a wealth of knowledge, skills and experience, and are willing participants in developing professionally. They are life long learners, implementing and trialling new initiatives and ways to improve their practice. They are committed to improving outcomes for students and our school community

• Leadership structure

The Principal has a teaching component and manages the school, students and staff.

• Staff support systems

Principal provides support to staff, students and families. Teachers support one another at a site level and through the Riverland West Small Schools Network by sharing teaching and learning programs, actively participating in professional learning opportunities, mentoring one another, and challenging teaching methodologies and beliefs. Outside agencies are sought when necessary.

• Performance Management

All staff develop their Professional Development Plans, and through discussion with the leader, collaborative planning and learning with other educators and Partnership personnel like the SLLIP, their professional growth is ensured which will be reflected in students continuing to make growth in their learning.

To support their PDPs classroom observations, team teaching opportunities, planning and assessment meetings, and regular discussions to address issues and successes about pedagogy and strategies.

Staff utilisation policies

Consultation exists in relation to class organisation, student placement and leadership arrangements. An Induction Folder supports the Induction process and is continually updated.

Access to special staff

Regional agencies support Special Education, Guidance, Speech, Attendance, a Social Worker, CAHMS, CAFHS and Behaviour Coach. We are fortunate in having a Pastoral Care Worker who works 9 hours per week.

8. Incentives, support and award conditions for Staff

- Complexity placement points: nil
- Isolation placement points: 3.5
- Shorter terms: N/A
- Travelling time: Approximately two hours from Adelaide
- Housing assistance: See Rental Agency in Waikerie
- Cash in lieu of removal allowance: N/A
- Additional increment allowance: N/A
- Designated school benefits: N/A
- Aboriginal/Anangu schools: N/A
- Medical and dental treatment expenses: N/A
- Locality allowances: N/A
- Relocation assistance: Refer to DfE
- **Principal's telephone costs**

The school mobile is available for Principal's use and can claim their private phone as a tax deduction.

9. School Facilities

- **Buildings and grounds**
 - The school consists of one stone building, three buildings and two portables.
 - The main building houses the front administration office, staff room, SSO workspaces, Japanese room, teachers' resources and preparation area, meeting rooms, and Principal's office.
 - The two portable classrooms have been freshly painted, new heating and cooling units installed, new blinds and lockers.
 - The playground has been significantly upgraded
 - The Preschool building has a large activity area, office, resource room, laundry, store-room, children's toilets, disabled adult toilet and ramp and enclosed kitchen. An enclosed outdoor deck area allows for extended indoor play area. The nature themed grounds are fully established consisting of a large lawned area, sandpit, cubby house,

succulent and sensory gardens, a covered learning area and playground equipment. There are also two very large outdoor storage sheds and a shared vegetable patch.

The school community takes great pride in maintaining the buildings and grounds to an immaculate condition.

- **Heating and cooling**

- All buildings have ducted and/or split system units providing heating and cooling.

- **Specialist facilities and equipment**

- Preschool/ Occasional Care/ Playgroup area
- Library/IT Resource centre
- Outdoor Learning Area
- All classrooms have Interactive Whiteboards or televisions
- Languages - Japanese area
- School swimming pool
- Access to indoor sports complex
- Access to Morgan Hub
- Access to netball/basketball/tennis courts
- Sand volleyball court
- Kitchen facilities for classroom cooking

- **Student facilities**

- Refridgerators for each classroom

- **Staff facilities**

- Staff meetings on Wednesdays and PLCs on Thursday after early dismissal at 2.30pm
- Staff room with fridge, stove, microwave oven
- Access to IT facilities
- Teachers Resource room
- Preparation Areas / Office
- Social

- **Access for students and staff with disabilities**
 - All rooms have wheelchair access
 - Disabled toilets
- **Access to bus transport**
 - Hire of buses for excursion/camps
 - Use of community council bus

10. School Operations

- **Decision making structures**
 - Democratic decision making is practised through staff meetings, Governing Council, class, SRC and RWSSN Meetings
 - The main committee of the Governing Council is Finance with working parties formed for specific short term events or issues
 - Our PAC committee consists of all staff and meets as the need arises
- **Regular publications**
 - A fortnightly newsletter and weekly preschool newsletter are sent home to provide information about school events, priorities, successes, developments, directions, and to seek feedback and support from families
 - Information is also available on our website such as Information Handbooks, Policies / Procedures, Annual Report, and the Improvement Plan
- **Other communication**
 - All classroom teachers, parents and students use a daily Diary/Communication Book to communicate with families
 - A weekly email is sent to staff communicating upcoming events, changes to the timetable, and feedback on professional learning classroom practice
 - Class pamphlets are sent home each term sharing units of work and themes to be covered
 - There is a school FaceBook page which shares school events and student work
 - School website which is updated with latest policies and information
- **School financial position**

The school is in a sound financial position with reserves allocated for continual upgrades and improvements to facilities and equipment.

- **Special funding**

The school is fortunate to receive various grants and funding to support students and learning.

- Small Schools Grant
- Rural and Isolated Students Index allowance
- Disadvantaged Schools Program
- Special Education Funding
- Better Schools Funding
- Early Years Literacy and Numeracy Funding
- Sporting Schools Grants

11. Local Community

- **General characteristics**

- Morgan is situated on the River Murray and is a very popular tourist area, catering for various water sports including skiing and fishing. A high quality caravan park and many riverside shacks cater for increased population during the summer months.
- The Morgan Progress Association, Morgan Lions Club and Mid Murray Council are very active in the community and support the school wherever possible.

- **Parent and community involvement**

- There is strong parental involvement in the school
- Parent helpers – soup days
- Listening to class reading

- **Feeder or destination schools**

- Students come from the general community to enrol in the preschool class and usually stay till Year 7.
- Students usually enrol at the local high school - Waikerie High School and can access the department bus for transport

- **Other local care and educational facilities**

- **Commercial/industrial and shopping facilities**

- Post Office
- Take Away Stores
- Supermarket
- Hardware Store
- Bakery
- Caravan Park
- Service Station
- 2 Hotels
- Motel

- **Other local facilities**

- Internet Centre
- Day Activity Centre
- CFS
- St. John Ambulance Service
- Pharmacy
- Gym
- Museum
- Medical Centre
- Mid Murray Council Office (Community Hub)
- Town Library
- Sporting Complex
- Netball/Tennis courts
- Town Oval
- Bowling Club
- Golf Club
- Youth Hub
- Go-Kart Club
- Lions Club
- Tourism Association
- RSL
- Cricket Club
- Speedway
- Motocross track and club
- Pistol shooting club
- Interactive Playground

- **Availability of staff housing**

See Rental Agency in Waikerie

- **Accessibility**

Accessed by road from Adelaide 160km.

No public transport

Closest regional centre Waikerie 45km east

All sealed roads

- **Local Government body**

Mid-Murray Council

10 Fourth Street

Morgan 5320

Ph: 08 85400060

Fax: 08 85691931

Email: postbox@mid-murray.sa.gov.au

12. Further Comments

At **Morgan Primary School** we believe in the following positive features:

- ❖ It is a **small school** - There is a greater opportunity for children to receive individual attention.
- ❖ It is **safe** – We have an excellent positive behaviour programs and strategies, and Behaviour Management Plan in place to attend to inappropriate behaviours.
- ❖ It is **exciting** – There is always something happening.
- ❖ It is **effective** – We strive for high standards in all that we do!
- ❖ It is **positive** – We work from a success-oriented culture and strive for continual improvement!