



SCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

Updated: 04/05/2020

School number: 0282

School name: Morgan Primary and Preschool

School Profile:

Morgan Primary School is part of the Waikerie Partnership of Schools and Portfolio. The core principles of the school are: Respect, Achievement and Kindness. There are currently 38 students enrolled in the primary and 6 students in the preschool. 4 classes; Preschool, Junior Primary, Middle Primary and Upper Primary.

Our school offers a range of Specialist subjects apart from the excellent teaching and learning that takes place in our classrooms. At every year level our students have weekly lessons in Japanese, Creative and Performing Arts, Outdoor Education and PE. There are 5 buildings, The Preschool, UP classroom / Japanese, MP and JP classrooms that join onto the Arts/Technology room and the library / kitchen. While the main building houses the front Admin desk and Principal offices. Outside we have a large area of playground equipment, paved areas for tennis, handball and basketball and a beautiful green oval surrounded by Gum-trees for Athletics, Cricket, Softball and any other sport that requires it. In our small school, student well-being is a high priority and each of the staff members know every student.

Our school provides opportunities for maximum involvement and participation in extra curricula activities such as SAPSASA sport, swimming, visual arts and numerous school and community events. The updated Morgan Primary School Closed Facebook page, and parent / student Seesaw communication programs have allowed us to continue to improve and further strengthen communication for our students, staff, families and the 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 have an extremely well-resourced library, computer suite and classroom laptops and iPads accessible for every student. Through our innovative STEM program, all students are given the opportunity to develop skills in robotics, technology, critical and creative thinking and to use these skills to support learning across the curriculum.

All students enjoy Outdoor Classroom in the Gully (across from the school) Monday afternoon for the preschool and Thursday afternoon's for the primary held in terms 2 & 3. This further supports opportunities for exploration, mastery, problem solving and leadership.

(The primary and preschool's philosophy statement, vision and values are presently under review in 2020)

School Purpose

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

Philosophy Statement

At Morgan we believe learning is a life- long process where everyone is capable and 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 ever-changing 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, and adaptable and prepared members of our local and global community.'

1. General information

- School Principal name: **Melissa Claridge**
- Year of opening: 1880
- Postal Address: Fourth Street, Morgan, SA, 5320
- Location Address: 1A Fourth Street, Morgan, SA, 5320
- DfE Region: Waikerie Partnership
- Geographical location – i.e. 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/Early Learning Centre are part of our School-based Preschool
- Out of School Hours Care (OSHC) service: No
- FTE Student Enrolment:

Year	Student Enrolment	School Card %	Non - English	ATSI
2017	30			
2018	35			
2019	38 + 7 Preschool = 45	65%	0.5%	0.5 %
2020	38 + 6 Preschool = 44	65 %	0.5%	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 - 11 hours per week – Classroom Support
- SSO 1 – 8 hours per week – Japanese Assistant and Early Childhood Support Worker
- GSE - Groundsman 13 hours per week
- Pastoral Care Worker – 13 hours per fortnight
- Public transport access: No

2. Students (and their welfare)

General characteristics:

Morgan Primary & Preschool 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
- Program Achieve – Keys to success
- Buddy classes across the preschool - primary
- Counselling sessions – CAHMS & Relationships Australia
- Pastoral Care
- Restorative Justice Principles
- Caring, safe and supportive environment
- Outdoor Classroom – Gully play- based and mastery learning

Student's 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 government

School Leaders are elected at the beginning of each year. There are two House Captain (Blue and Gold) and School Leaders from our Year 7 cohort. The Student Representative Council is made up of other 1 student per classroom assisting the School Leaders, Principal and staff, and students with issues raised by the student body, fundraising and model appropriate social / emotional behaviours.

Special programmes

You Can Do It: Morgan PS is a You Can Do It school. Students explicitly learn the Keys to Success of Getting Along, Organisation, Persistence, Resilience and Confidence. The language and concepts of this program are embedded in the culture of the school.

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.
- Extra transition sessions are held during terms 3/4; the last two terms before the children start full time preschool. Times and transition dates are announced at the end of term 2.
- There is one Playgroup session per week held on Wednesday mornings between 9.30 am and 11.00 am. Playgroup is run by the parents with the Early Years teacher and is run on site during a non-preschool session.
- Support programs are provided for children based on individual needs (speech/language/behaviour/physical needs etc.) This is reviewed each term with the Early Years teacher and principal.
- 'Pair Reading' is used as a reading readiness program
- Information sharing between all levels of schooling is promoted.

Student well-being programs

The school staff work proactively with parents, students and community members to support student well-being. The school has implemented the "You Can Do It" program and is currently working to further develop students' organisation, confidence, persistence, resilience and ability to get along with others. We also teach emotional awareness and regulation using the Kimochis program in the



preschool. By 2021 the whole school will be using 1 well-being program gaining a more consistent approach across the site. We have a pastoral care worker on staff whose main role is to support student and community well-being.

Student support offered

Individual, group and whole class support is provided by both teachers and SSOs. Our classes work in two groups (R/3 and 4/7) Friday's. Small group reading support is provided by teachers and SSOs for all students who are identified through our whole-school data monitoring processes. SSOs support individual students to achieve their One Plan goals. The size of our school enables all staff to know each student well allowing us to easily identify, and then plan, interventions for students who may need support with their emotional wellbeing, behaviour or learning.

Student management

Behaviour is managed through a clear process that involves positive reinforcement and clear consequences. Parents are very supportive. The Principal and staff are actively involved in counselling children. The SRC, Governing Council and staff have developed a whole school code of conduct. At Morgan Primary & Preschool, high-level behavioural incidents are rare.

3 Key School Policies

Our mission is to provide a high quality educational program that will develop in each student a passion and purpose for learning and a commitment to maximising his/her learning potential. Our motto is 'Developing 21st Century Learners'. High quality teaching, good resources and an outstanding school environment contribute to maintaining educational excellence. Students are encouraged to the highest standards, to think critically and creatively, work collaboratively, act ethically and responsibly, engage productively with difference, and develop a commitment to contribute to the broader common good as well as their own personal development. We believe these ideals meet the challenges of 21st century Australia.

Long Term Objectives:

Morgan Primary School 2019 – 2021 Site Improvement Plan outlines our long term objectives for literacy and numeracy. **SIP School Improvement Plan** includes goals, targets and challenges of practice.

The School Based Preschool QIP **Quality Improvement Plan** priorities are:

- Responsive Relationships – increase children's oral language

Students are encouraged to:

- Be challenged to take risks in their learning in a safe, harassment free environment
- Use their 'voice' to learn
- Experience a relevant, challenging and interesting curriculum
- Be motivated and flexible powerful learners
- Develop the abilities of independent and co-operative learning
- Develop skills and abilities in all curriculum and cross-curricula learning



- Be aware of themselves and their role in the social environment of the broader world and operate effectively and autonomously within it.

4. Curriculum

Like all South Australian Government schools, at Morgan we use the Australian Curriculum and the Early Years Learning Framework.

Subjects taught in our school:

- English
- The Arts
- Mathematics
- Science
- Technologies
- Humanities and Social Sciences
- Languages Other than English (Japanese)
- Health & Physical Education

Open Access/Distance Education provision:

We currently do not use Open Access. Our language program is delivered face-to-face

Special needs:

Approximately 6% of our students are verified as students with a disability. We have highly committed SSOs working with these students and receive excellent support from both DfE and NDIS support service providers if required.

Student Assessment Procedures & Reporting:

Term 1 – Parent Acquaintance Night/ Dinner & Student Led Conferences

Term 2 – Mid-Year Written Report

Term 3 – Student Led Conferences

Term 4 – End- of-Year Written Report

Parents/Teachers are encouraged to discuss student progress at other times of the year as needed. We follow a yearly Assessment Schedule that includes PAT testing, Running Records, NAPLAN on-line, and Phonics Screening. Teachers continuously monitor student learning using formative and summative assessments.

5. Sporting Activities

Regular sporting clinics are held on site through the Sporting Schools Program.

Swimming and Water Safety lessons are held on site, Cadell and Waikerie.

6. Other Co-Curricular Activities



The annual School Concert is a long standing tradition and one of the highlights of the school year.

7. Staff (and their welfare)

Leadership

1.0 Principal (0.7 admin & 0.3 teaching)

Teaching Staff

1.0 Class teacher

0.9 Class Teacher

0.6 Class Teacher

0.6 Preschool Teacher

0.3 Class Teacher

0.2 Specialist Teacher (HASS and Japanese)

Non-Teaching Staff

Finance/Administration Officer

3 Curriculum Support Officers

Pastoral Care Worker

Grounds person

Staff at this site work together as a supportive and dedicated team. Strong working relationships have been developed. Teaching and support staff meet once a week (Wednesday) for professional development and discussion.

Leadership structure

1.0 – Principal (0.7 admin & 0.3 teaching)

Staff support systems

Opportunities to work collaboratively with staff from other sites are provided regularly. Budgets are set each year to support staff training, especially when it is relevant to the school's priorities. Morgan PS teachers meet with Cadell and Blanchetown PS teachers at least twice x1 per term. Partnership leaders meet regularly to plan professional development. (The partnership includes Cadell PS, Ramco PS, Blanchetown PS, Swan Reach Area School, Waikerie Primary and High, & Waikerie Children's Centre).



Performance Management

In line with the Department for Education's performance development guidelines, performance development meetings occur each term, and consist of observations, discussions, sharing of practice, formal recording of successes and written feedback. Participation in training & development, shared curriculum leadership and peer observation & feedback is encouraged. Discussion on programs to support the school's Site Learning Plan are an embedded part of weekly staff meetings.

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: Yes

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 in 2019
- 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.

Staff facilities

A teacher preparation room is available for staff use. The library has a designated office area for use by staff. An extensive professional library is available for staff use.

Access for students and staff with disabilities

There is disabled access to all classrooms areas. There is disabled access to toilets both in the primary and preschool.

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 1 teacher, 1 support worker and principal meeting 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 stable financial position with some 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
- Motel
- X2 Hotels

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