Government of South Australia
Department for Education

SCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

Updated: Feb 2026

School number: 0282

School name: Morgan Primary School (inc Morgan Preschool 6558)

School Profile:

Morgan Primary and Preschool is situated 160km North East of Adelaide where the Murray River turns South.The school is central to the local community and we provide many opportunities and encourage all members of our community to be actively involved and engaged in all facets of school life.

At Morgan Primary School we want all learners to be part of a caring, inclusive, quality learning environment which empowers everyone to continue life long learning with confidence. Student Wellbeing is a core focus.

The school has a strong focus on ensuring learners achieve their best in Literacy and Numeracy. We provide quality differentiated teaching programmes to ensure each child's strength and needs are accommodated for. We offer a range of specialist subjects with every year level having lessons in Japanese, Arts, Outdoor Education and PE. Online learning and the use of ICT is incorporated into teaching and learning and all classrooms are adequately resourced. Outside we have our Nature Play area and we have recently upgraded our student vegetable garden which includes a bush tucker section.

We have developed activities and events focusing on learning from B-6, promoting parental support and education, supportive intervention programs, successful transition programs and an early years focus on 'learning through play' and literacy and numeracy development. All students enjoy Outdoor Classroom in the Gully (across from the school) This allows opportunities for further exploration, mastery, creativity and leadership.

MOTTO: We Strive with Pride

CORE VALUES: Respect, Responsibility and Community

LEARNER DISPOSITIONS:

Adaptable, Challenged, Self-Motivated and Switched On.

NEALS © Department for Education

1. General information

- School Principal name: Mrs Carol Colbert
- Year of opening: 1880
- Postal Address: 1A Fourth Street Morgan, SA, 5320
- Location Address: 1A Fourth Street Morgan, SA, 5320
- DECD Region: Waikerie Partnership
- Geographical location – ie road distance from GPO (km): 160km
- Telephone number: 85402102
- Fax Number: 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 and Pre Entry Community Care is part of our Preschool.
- Out of School Hours Care (OSHC) service: No
- February FTE student enrolment:

Year	*Student Enrolment*	*School Card %*	*Non - English*	*ATSI*
2023	41 + 7 Preschool = 48	68%	2%	6.25%
2024	40 + 4 Preschool = 44	62.5%	2.5%	9%
2025	34 + 5 Preschool = 39	58.8%	0%	10.2%
2026	28 + 5 Preschool = 33	57%	0%	14.2%

NEALS © Department for Education

Student enrolment trends: Our student numbers are stable, however at times we note that due to lack of employment opportunities, housing availability, family circumstance and the financial climate of our area, enrolments have been variable over the last five years.

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

- Principal/teacher
  4.6 teachers (including school-based preschool)
- SSO 2 - 27 hours per week – Front Office / Finance / Admin
- SSO 2 - 28 hours per week –Classroom Support/Library
- SSO 1 - 9.5 hours per week –Wellbeing Officer
- SSO 1 - 19 hours per week – Classroom Support
- SSO 1 – 28.5 hours per week –Early Childhood Support Worker & SSO

Public transport access: No

Special Site Arrangements: Our site is part of the Waikerie Partnership consisting of 7 schools and preschools.

2. Students (and their welfare)

- **General characteristics:** Morgan Primary is a small school with a family and community atmosphere. The school draws students from the local town and surrounding rural communities. The school currently has 3 classes, configured as R-1 class, Yr2-3 class and Yr4-6 class. Fridays the class split is R-2 and Yrs 3-6. We also have a preschool.

- **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
  - Buddy reading
  - Counselling sessions – CAHMS, Relationships Australia & Centacare
  - Curriculum – classroom lessons
  - School Values
  - Wellbeing support officer
  - 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 Wellbeing 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.

NEALS © Department for Education

- Mental Health programs including Kids Help Line online sessions visits
- Four-year-old health checks held at preschool.

Student support offered:

Individual, group and whole class support is provided by both teachers and SSOs. 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. The SRC, Governing Council and staff have developed a whole school code of conduct. At Morgan Primary & Preschool, high-level behavioural incidents are rare.

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 6 cohort. The Student Representative Council is made up of 2 other students per classroom assisting the School Leaders, Principal and staff, and students with issues raised by the student body, fundraising and model appropriate social behaviours.

Special programmes:

Preschool – children are entitled to access 4 terms (1 year) of government preschool in the year before they start school. 2023 introduced a mid-year intake into preschool. This means that from 2023 children who turn 4 years old:

- before 1 May are eligible to start preschool at the beginning of the year.
- on 1 May to 31 October can commence preschool through the mid-year intake at the start of term 3 of that year
- after 31 October will be eligible to commence preschool at the start of the following year.

Regardless of whether your child starts at the beginning of the year, or through a mid-year intake they will undertake 4 terms of preschool.

Preschool sessions are held over a fortnightly cycle so children attend:

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday 3x6 hour sessions (Odd Weeks) Monday, Tuesday 2x6 hour sessions (Even Weeks)

NEALS © Department for Education

Pre-Entry Community Care - Our Pre-Entry program continues to offer 4 places each Tuesday in our Preschool to children who have already turned 3. This is to support development of social skills and an experience of preschool prior to formal entry. It is created in the essence of our site philosophy to work in partnership with families and community to develop children's agency.

Who can attend: Any child has already turned 3 and is already a part of our school community or intends to enrol in our preschool. Four places available each week.

When: Tuesday's
Where: Morgan Preschool with Kim and Chantelle
Cost: $5
Bookings: Not currently required, however subject to change depending on numbers.

Playgroup – Held each Friday during term. 9-11am run by the school community.

3. Key School Policies

- Site Improvement Plan and other key statements or policies:

  To improve student writing from R-6 and to increase student growth to a higher achievement in numeracy. 2026 School Learning Plan available on our website.

  The School Based Preschool QIP **Quality Improvement Plan** priorities are:
  To improve children's ability to express their thinking in multi-modal ways

- Recent key outcomes:

  Please refer to our 2025 Annual Report on our school website.
  www.morganps.sa.edu.au

NEALS © Department for Education

4. Curriculum

- **Subject offerings**:

  All eight curriculum areas including: English, Mathematics, Humanities and Social Sciences (HASS), Science, Design and Technology, The Arts, Health & Physical Education and Languages (Japanese) are taught.

  Information & Communication Technologies are a central part to all teaching and learning programs at Morgan Primary School. Each classroom is fitted with a Smart TV to support staff and students with teaching and learning. Students have access to an up-to-date network of computers, laptops and ipads.

- **Open Access/Distance Education provision:**

  Japanese is taught through the Open Access College. Students receive 1 lesson per week via electronic face to face lesson with their Japanese teacher. A classroom teacher is involved during this lesson.

- **Special needs:**

  Students with special needs and disabilities are catered for and supported by their individual One Plans. These plans are developed with the classroom teacher, the Principal, Berri Education Office personnel, students and families. Students are provided with additional support both individually and in the classroom environment by teachers and SSO's. Resources are purchased to assist students with their needs.

- **Special curriculum features:**

  Outdoor Education incorporating "The Gully" across the road from the school and vegetable and bushtucker garden. We also provide a whole school camp, with students visiting AFL Max camp this year.

  Teaching methodology:

  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.

  Morgan Primary School adopts a whole school approach using evidence-based strategies.

- **Student assessment procedures and reporting**

  The schools' assessment and reporting procedures meet the requirements as specified by DfE and the Commonwealth Government.

Term 1 – Parent Acquaintance Night
Term 2 – Week 2 – 3-way discussions
Semester 1 Written Report
Term 3 – Week 9/10 interviews offered
Term 4 – Semester 2 Written Report

NEALS © Department for Education

5. Sporting Activities

Morgan Primary School Sports Day – a family-oriented day for students and parents to be involved.

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

Swimming and Water Safety lessons are held on site and at Waikerie Town Pool.

Students are provided with the opportunity to participate in SAPSASA events over the course of the year once they are in year 4.

6. Other Co-Curricular Activities

- Welcome breakfast/assembly
- Breakfast Club
- Performances
- Student initiated activities
- Premier's Reading Challenge
- Sun Smart School – Life Education – Child Protection Curriculum
- Book Week, Science Week, Reconciliation Week, Harmony Day, Biggest Morning Tea
- Healthy Lunches
- Morgan Christmas Pageant
- End of Year Graduation and Concert
- Camps
- Excursions
- Assemblies – held 3 times per term and open for the school community to attend.
- The Gully – Outdoor Education Program
- Veggie Garden and Bush tucker Garden

7. Staff (and their welfare)

- **Staff profile**

  The school currently has an excellent blend of new and experienced teachers and SSO's who are highly supportive of each other and strongly committed and willing participants to grow professionally, trial new initiatives and improve outcomes for our students and the school community. Staff support each other and the school values are well represented in their professional relationships.

- **Leadership structure**

  Principal

  Governing Council

NEALS © Department for Education

- **Staff support systems**

  The principal provides support to staff, students and families. Outside agencies are available when required.

  Professional Development is strongly supported in line with the priorities of the site improvement plan and additionally on an individual need's basis. Teachers support one another at a site level and through the Waikerie Partnership by sharing teaching and learning programs, actively participating in professional learning opportunities.

- **Staff utilisation policies**

  The school has a comprehensive set of policies which are being systematically reviewed. Systems and processes are constantly being upgraded to ensure efficient work practices, service delivery and wellbeing.

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

- **Access to special staff**

  DfE personnel and outside agencies support Special Education, Guidance, Speech, Attendance, Social Worker, CAMHS and Behaviour Management.

8. Incentives, support and award conditions for Staff

- Complexity placement points
  :N/A
- Isolation placement points
  :3.5
- Shorter terms
  :N/A
- Travelling time
  : approximately 2 hours from Adelaide
- Housing assistance
  :N/A
- Cash in lieu of removal allowance
  :N/A
- Additional increment allowance
  :N/A
- Designated schools benefits
  :N/A
- Aboriginal/Anangu schools
  :N/A

NEALS © Department for Education

- Medical and dental treatment expenses
  :N/A
- Locality allowances
  :N/A
- Relocation assistance
  : Refer DfE
- Principal's telephone costs
  :N/A

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, teachers' resources and preparation area, meeting rooms, and Principal's office.
  - The playground has been upgraded with the inclusion of new play equipment and a nature play area. 2025 saw an upgrade to our preschool swing with the old one replaced and a new one installed.
  - 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 grassed 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. Building 6 has been currently renovated and houses the Lower and Middle Primary classes. The Upper Primary resides in building 4.

- **Heating and cooling**

  All buildings have ducted and/or split system units providing heating and cooling.
- **Specialist facilities and equipment**

  Outdoor learning area and garden

  Library / IT Resource Centre

  Art Room

  Kitchen facilities for cooking

  Laptops and Ipads for all students

  Swimming Pool used in terms 1 & 4

  School Oval & Tennis Courts

  Access to Morgan town Library

NEALS © Department for Education

- **Student facilities**

  SRC

  Student Voice

  Classroom refrigeration

- **Staff facilities**

  Staff room with fridge, stove and microwave etc

  Access to IT facilities

  Teachers Resource Room

  Regular Staff Meetings

- **Access for students and staff with disabilities**

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

- Access to bus transport

  Waikerie Primary School bus available for hire

  Waikerie Coaches for excursions

10. School Operations

- **Decision making structures**

  Democratic decision making is practised through staff meetings, Governing Council, Student Voice, the SRC and Partnership meetings. Governing Council has a sub finance committee.

  Staff meetings are held weekly. Morgan Primary School is dismissed at 2.30pm each Thursday for staff to participate in site professional development and occasionally combined professional development with the Partnership schools.

- **Regular publications**

  The School Newsletter is published via SWAY every 3 weeks to provide information about school & preschool events, priorities, successes, developments, directions and to seek feedback and support from families. Ultimately, the purpose is to keep our school community informed about Morgan Primary School & Preschool.

- **Other communication**

  Facebook Page, Class DoJo for lower & middle primary, school website.

- **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.

NEALS © Department for Education

- Rural and Isolated Students Index allowance
- Disadvantaged Schools Program
- 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 Community Development and Tourism Association, Morgan & Cadell Lions Club and Mid Murray Council are very active in the community and support the school wherever possible.

- **Parent and community involvement**

  Parents/Carers are always welcome to be involved at Morgan Primary School. We have volunteers to help with healthy lunches and fundraising activities.

- **Feeder or destination schools**

  Students come from the general community to enrol in the preschool and usually stay until year 6. Students usually enrol in Waikerie High School and can access the department bus for transport.

NEALS © Department for Education

- **Other local care and educational facilities**

  Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS)

  AC Care Riverland

  Access to private music tuition

- **Commercial/industrial and shopping facilities**
  - Post Office
  - Supermarket
  - Pharmacy
  - Hardware Store
  - Bakery
  - Caravan Park
  - Service Station/Roadhouse
  - X2 Hotels

- **Other local facilities**
  - Visitor Centre
  - Morgan Activity Centre
  - CFS
  - St. John Ambulance Service
  - Gym
  - Museum
  - Mid Murray Council Office (Community Hub)
  - Town Library
  - Small Bore Rifle Club
  - Netball/Tennis courts
  - Town Oval
  - Bowling Club
  - Golf Club
  - Go-Kart Club
  - Lions Club
  - Tourism Association
  - RSL
  - Motocross track and club

NEALS © Department for Education

- **Availability of staff housing**

  Staff housing is possibly available through Government Employee Housing. Please refer to the DfE Website for further information.

  Private rental may be available through the real estate agencies in Waikerie.

- **Accessibility**
  - Accessed by road from Adelaide160km.
  - No public transport
  - Closest regional centre Waikerie 45km east
  - All sealed roads

Local Government body

Mid Murray Council
10 Fourth Street, Morgan
Email: postbox@mid-murray.sa.gov.au

© Department for Education