



## SCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

Updated: Feb 2018

**School number:** 0282

**School name:** MORGAN PRIMARY SCHOOL

### 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 whiteboard, all students have access to computers and each student and staff member has access to an iPad 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. We have a focus on 'healthy living' focusing on healthy eating, participation in regular physical activity and supporting and maintaining a positive wellbeing. We use the Kids Matter framework to support student, staff and family wellbeing. School 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, share learning and growth, celebrate 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 MCDTA and Local Planning Group.

We support the Sporting Schools program providing our students an extra physical activity program. Kids Club and Youth programs also provide opportunities for students to further develop a sense of belonging and connectedness. Students are actively involved in recognised sport, interaction days, transition programs and students are supported to be involved in local service groups such as St Johns and CFS.

Our values of care and compassion, understanding/tolerance/inclusion, doing your best, respect and responsibility are embedded into all aspects of school life. Students participate in a weekly values program participating in a variety of activities being able to demonstrate these values.

We have developed The Morgan Education Community (Morgan Pre-School and Morgan Primary School) focusing on learning from B-7, promoting parental support and education, supportive intervention programs, a successful transition program and an early years focus on 'play' and literacy and numeracy development.

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

maintain a culture of high standards, expectations and continuous improvement. We celebrate success and 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.

### **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 ever-changing world.

This will be achieved by 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:** Mrs Kellie Zadow
- **Year of opening:** 1880
- **Postal Address:** Fourth Street, Morgan SA 5320
- **Location Address:** Fourth Street, Morgan SA 5320
- **DECD Partnership:** Loxton / Waikerie Partnership
- **Geographical location :** 160km North East of Adelaide
- **Telephone number:** 08 8540 2102
- **Fax Number:** 08 8540 2217
- **School website address:** [www.morganps.sa.edu.au](http://www.morganps.sa.edu.au)
- **School e-mail address:** [dl.0282.info@morganps.sa.edu.au](mailto:dl.0282.info@morganps.sa.edu.au)

- **Child Parent Centre(CPC) attached:** No, but has Pre-school/Playgroup in building alongside school. A sub branch of the Morgan Kindergarten.
- **Out of Schools Hours Care(OSHC) Service:** No
- **Student Enrolment:**

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Year Level	T	T	T	T	T	T	T
Reception	8.0	7.0	2.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	5.0
Year 1	4.0	6.0	4.0	3.0	2.0	3.0	4.0
Year 2	4.0	4.0	9.0	3.0	4.0	3.0	4.0
Year 3	6.0	3.0	4.0	8.0	3.0	4.0	3.0
Year 4	6.0	7.0	2.0	4.0	9.0	3.0	5.0
Year 5	7.0	5.0	8.0	2.0	2.0	7.0	2.0
Year 6	5.0	7.0	5.0	7.0	3.0	3.0	7.0
Year 7	6.0	4.0	8.0	5.0	6.0	3.0	5.0
Total	46.0	43.0	42.0	36.0	33.0	30.0	35.0

- **Student enrolment trends:** We have a somewhat transient community and as such enrolment numbers vary considerably during the year. Our enrolment numbers have declined during the past five years due to lack of employment opportunities, family circumstances, drought and financial climate of our area. Families are seeking employment opportunities in other towns.
- **Staffing numbers** (as at February census):
  - 1.0 Principal/teacher
  - 2.7 teachers
  - SSO2 - 27 hours per week – Front Office / Finance / Admin
  - SSO 1 - 30 hours per week – Library / IT / Admin / Classroom Support
  - SSO 1 - 17 hours per week – Classroom Support / Admin
  - SSO 1 - 3 hours per week – Japanese Assistant
  - GSE - Groundsman 12 hours per week
  - Pastoral Support 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, Blanchetown and Ramco Primary Schools. This involves shared Professional Learning twice a term, Pupil Free Days, 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:**

At Morgan we run a weekly Elective (CUDRR) Values program, Kids Club, lunchtime activities, healthy breakfast program and healthy lunch days.

### **Social and Emotional Learning is implemented through the school's involvement in:**

- Kids Matter Program
- Better Buddies Program
- 'Play is the Way Program'
- Kimochis Program
- Student / Peer Mentoring
- Counseling sessions – employing a professional counselor / CAHMS
- Curriculum – classroom lessons
- School Values
- Pastoral Care
- Student Mentoring / ICAN
- Volunteer work – Gardening Crew
- Extra-curricular activities
- Conflict Resolution
- Restorative Justice Principles
- Caring, safe and supportive environment
- 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

### **Student support offered:**

Learning Assistance Program, Mentor Program, Speech and Language program, WASP program, Counselling support, Pastoral Care Worker

- **Student management:**

The school has in place a Student Behaviour Policy / Anti-Bullying Policy which is agreed to by all parties involved in the school. This policy is reviewed each year.

The code emphasises the rights for everyone to learn in a safe, supportive environment and everyone is to be treated with respect.

- **Student government**

We have an active Student Representative Council with representation from each class. This group of students work hard throughout the year to aid with fundraising, improvement of facilities, development of curriculum and programs and to support their peers on issues that are raised through class meetings and in the yard.

School Leaders are elected at the beginning of each year to support staff, SRC and the whole student body.

- **Special programmes:**

**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 includes the Kids Club program and Christian Seminar visits.

**Healthy Eating Program** – A breakfast and healthy lunch program runs throughout the year and is supported by parents, staff and families.

**Riverland Choir Festival** – annually a group of students participate in the Riverland Music Festival in Renmark. This is a highlight for parents, staff and students.

**WASP Program** – Students in lower primary work on Fine Motor Skills and Sensory skills while developing their overall coordination.

**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. 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.

**Class DoJo Program** – Students earn Dojo Points through attendance, homework, nightly reading and demonstrating our school values. Students are rewarded at the end of the semester with a Dojo Day.

**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.

**Additional Needs** – Students who are identified with learning / social / emotional needs through data analysis and observations are supported with Education Plans and are supported with specific programs to address their needs.

**Lexile Program / Lexia Program** – Students are involved in these interactive computer programs to support reading comprehension skills.

**Japanese Program** – A LOTE program is provided for students in Kindergarten through to Year 7. Students are actively engaged in language learning and cultural understandings. Throughout the year students are involved in Quiz Days, Japanese Sports Days, Japanese Open Days. Japanese Interns and students visit our school annually and students have an opportunity to communicate with students and friends 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.

**Our MEC (Morgan Education Community)** - continues to grow with shared play based literacy and numeracy sessions, classroom visits and sessions focusing on coordination skills.

### **3. Key School Policies**

- A Morgan Primary School Site Improvement Plan and Operational Plans are developed in consultation of the school community to support our identified priority areas.

Our school priorities in 2017 are:

#### **HIGH STANDARDS OF LEARNING ACHIEVEMENT**

- **LITERACY** - Focus on improving teaching and learning in the area of reading with an emphasis on oral language, comprehension and vocabulary.
- **NUMERACY** - Focus on the number strand with an emphasis on problem solving and mental computation.
- **IMPROVED HEALTH AND WELLBEING** - Improved attendance, engagement and wellbeing for all members of our school community.

#### 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 Whiteboard to support staff and students with teaching and learning. Students have access to an up to date network of computers, an Ipad and are taught explicit computing skills and use various programs from R-7 to support learning in the classroom.

- **Open Access/Distance Education provision:** No

- **Special needs:**

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

- **Special curriculum features:**

\* Interaction days are held with other Riverland West schools.

\* Transition programs with Morgan Kindergarten 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 Lower Primary- R/1/2, Middle Primary - 3/4, Upper Primary – 5/6/7. The afternoon learning sessions allow students in R-3 and students in years 4-7 to work collaboratively in teacher's areas of expertise.

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.

SSO's are used with 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 whiteboard which is actively used.

- **Student assessment procedures and reporting:**

NAPLAN and PAT Testing results and internal test results are recorded and analysed by staff to inform teaching programs and individual plans and to help set site priorities for the following year.

Reporting:

- Acquaintance Night is 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 and The Riverland West Cluster.

## 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 Barmera every two years.
- Spash Carnival - is held in Term 1 at Waikerie Town Pool with students, families and staff from Morgan, Blanchetown and Cadell PS.
- SAPSASA Sporting Involvement: Tag Rugby, Lawn Bowls, Croquet, Athletics, Basketball, Football, Netball, Cricket.

## 6. **Other Co-Curricular Activities**

- School camps are offered on an annual basis.
- Sporting Schools Program
- Kids Club / Youth group
- Healthy Breakfast / Lunch program
- Regular Performances
- Student Initiated Activities
- Sun Smart School – Life Education – Child Protection Curriculum
- Young Leaders Program
- Year 7 Leaders Program
- Environmental Education / Outside Classroom / Nature Play Focus
- Bookweek / Science Week / Literacy & Numeracy Week Celebrations
- Quiz Nights / Fundraising Events are held regularly
- Community Involvement: Morgan Museum, Morgan Day Care Centre, Morgan Town Library
- Riverland / Adelaide Choir Festival
- End of Year Graduation / Christmas Concert
- Staff / student involvement in annual Morgan Christmas Pageant
- Assemblies are held during the term and 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.

## **Staff (and their welfare)**

- **Staff profile:**

We have a small, dedicated and enthusiastic TEAM with all members being supportive of each other. All staff have a wealth of knowledge and experience



and are willing participants to grow professionally, are life long learners, trial new initiatives and are committed to improving outcomes for students and our school community.

- **Leadership structure**

The Principal teaches (NIT – Japanese and Literacy). The Principal facilitates SRC, Year 7 Leadership, Choir and other extra curricular activities

- **Staff support systems**

Principal provides support to staff, students and families. Outside agencies are used when necessary.

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 supporting our site priorities, through mentoring and challenging teaching methodologies and beliefs.

- **Staff communication**

Staff communication is face to face, via email, Weekly bulletin and staffroom whiteboard. Other communication is delivered via pigeon holes.

- **Performance Management**

Morgan Primary School Performance Management Plan supports staff to manage personal and professional development.

In Term 1 staff develop goals and actions to support school priorities and are discussed with Principal.

Performance Plans are reviewed in terms 2/4 through formal meetings and staff are provided with written feedback. Other practices that support our Personal Development Plans are classroom observations, team teaching opportunities, planning and assessment meetings, regular discussions to address issues/concerns/successes.

- **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, Social Worker, CAHMS and Behaviour Management.

## **8. Incentives, support and award conditions for Staff**

- Complexity placement points  
:Nil
- Isolation placement points  
:3.5
- Shorter terms  
:N/A
- Travelling time  
:Approximately 2 hours from Adelaide
- Housing assistance  
:See Rental Agency in Waikerie
- Cash in lieu of removal allowance  
:N/A
- Additional increment allowance  
:N/A
- Designated schools benefits  
:N/A
- Aboriginal/Anangu schools  
:N/A
- Medical and dental treatment expenses  
:N/A
- Locality allowances  
:N/A
- Relocation assistance  
:Refer to DECS
- Principal's telephone costs  
:The Principal is able to claim private telephone rental

## 9. School Facilities

- Buildings and grounds

The school consists of one stone building, a new building and two portables. The main building houses the front admin office, staff room, SSO workspaces, Japanese room, teacher's resource and preparation area, meeting rooms and Principals office.

The two portable classrooms have been freshly painted, new heating and cooling units installed, new blinds and lockers.

Our new building funded as part of the Building the Education Revolution – Library Program houses our library, computer room and kitchen area for students and parents to utilise.

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

- **Heating and cooling:**

All buildings have ducted units and/or split system units providing heating and cooling for staff and students.

**Specialist facilities and equipment**

Library/IT Resource centre

Outdoor Learning Area

All classrooms have Interactive Whiteboard

LOTE- Japanese Room

School swimming pool

Access to indoor sports complex

Access to Morgan Town Library

Access to netball/basketball/tennis courts

Sand volleyball court

Kitchen facilities for classroom cooking

- **Student facilities**

SRC

Classroom Refrigeration

- **Staff facilities**

Regular Staff meetings

Staff room with fridge, stove, microwave oven

Access to IT facilities

Teachers Resource room

Preparation Areas / Office

Social functions

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

Most 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 practiced through staff meetings, Governing Council, class and SRC meetings and RWSSN Meetings.

Sub committees of the Governing Council are Finance, Grounds, Parents and Friends and Fundraising Committees. Our PAC committee consists of all staff.

- **Parent Complaint Management:**

The Parent Complaint Management Procedure was developed by leadership and staff in 2012.

- **Regular publications:**

A Weekly Newsletter – is sent home to parents on a weekly basis to provide information to families about school 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. Information is also available on our website.

Information Handbooks	Policies / Procedures
Staff Induction Folder	Annual Report
Weekly Teachers Bulletin	Improvement Plans
Term / Yearly Overviews	

- **Other communication:**

All classroom teachers, parents and students use a daily Diary/Communication Book to communicate with families.

- **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 at Morgan Primary School.  
Small Schools Grant  
Rural and Isolated Students Index allowance  
Disadvantaged Schools Program  
Special Education Funding  
Better Schools Funding  
Early Years Literacy and Numeracy Funding  
Australian Curriculum Funding

## 11. Local Community

- **General characteristics**  
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**  
Strong parental involvement in the school  
Parents and Friends  
Fundraising events  
Parent elective helpers  
Listening to class reading  
Library volunteers
- **Feeder or destination schools**  
Morgan Kindergarten  
Waikerie High School
- **Other local care and educational facilities**
- **Commercial/industrial and shopping facilities**  
2 Hotels  
Post Office  
Take Away Stores  
Deli  
Supermarket  
Hardware Store  
Bakery  
Caravan Park  
Service Station

- **Other local facilities**  
 Medical Centre  
 Chemist  
 Council Office  
 Town Library  
 Internet Centre  
 Sporting Complex  
 Netball/Tennis courts  
 Town Oval  
 Bowling Club  
 St John Ambulance Service  
 CFS  
 Golf Club  
 Youth Hub  
 Go-Kart Club  
 Lions Club  
 Tourism Association  
 Local Museum
  
- **Availability of staff housing**  
 Contact Martin Williamson on 82265432
  
- **Accessibility**  
 Accessed by road from Adelaide 150km.  
 No public transport  
 Closest regional centre Waikerie 45km east  
 All sealed roads
  
- **Local Government body**  
 Mid Murray Council

## 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 open - Everyone is approachable. There are no barriers. Everyone is valued and welcome.
- ❖ It is safe – We have an excellent Behaviour Management Policy. Inappropriate behaviour is attended to effectively.
- ❖ 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!