

# SCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

Updated: August 2019

School number: 1906

Preschool number: 3687

School name: Morphett Vale Primary School (including school-based preschool and Occasional Care)

## 1. General information

### Part A

School name : Morphett Vale Primary School (B-7)  
School No. : 1906 and 3687  
Principal : Rachel McLennan  
Postal Address : Morphett Vale, 5162  
Location Address : Lawrence Street, Morphett Vale, 5162  
Partnership : Panalatinga  
Distance from GPO: 35 kms  
Phone No. : 81865064  
Fax No. : 83263521  
School Based Preschool attached: Yes

ENROLMENT								
Year Level	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Preschool		30	34	30	40	32	29	35
Year Level	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Reception	34	30	41	38	34	50	33	37
Year 1	23	29	24	41	37	36	50	35
Year 2	24	31	30	24	35	35	36	48
Year 3	27	29	29	33	25	37	37	36
Year 4	29	36	25	28	35	25	34	31
Year 5	25	30	39	28	26	36	20	30
Year 6	23	32	32	36	29	24	36	18
Year 7	29	28	35	31	37	31	25	33
Primary Other	32	21	20	20	20	20	20	20
Total	246	266	275	279	318	326	319	323
NESB	3	2	2	3	2	2	1	20
SCHOOL CARD	42%	40%	43%	45%	48%	48%	33%	48%
ATSI	9	15	14	14	12	11	8	7

## Part B

**School website address:** [www.morphettvaleps.sa.edu.au](http://www.morphettvaleps.sa.edu.au)

**School e-mail address:** [dl.1906\\_info@schools.sa.edu.au](mailto:dl.1906_info@schools.sa.edu.au)

### Staffing numbers/information

Principal	1.0
Deputy Principal	1.0
Senior Leader/School Counsellor	0.6
Senior Leader Curriculum	0.6
Teachers	15.8
Special classes	2.0 (JP class/primary class)
Preschool	1.2
Ancillary staffing	343 hours
Pastoral Support Worker	10.0 hours
ACEO	8 hours

### Enrolment trends

Our new school was as a result of the merger of John Morphett Primary School, John Morphett Kindergarten and Morphett Vale West Primary School. The school continues to grow to the extent of one class a year, with an expected boost in enrolments due to sub divisions on the closed school sites in the near future.

### Year of opening

The school was officially opened in 2011 but operated over the 2 existing sites until moving into the new school in 2012.

### Public transport access

Most students walk to school or travel by car. Southlink (bus) public transport runs close to the school on Acre Ave.

### Preschool

The School-based preschool operates Monday –Thursday offering 4 sessions. Children attend full day sessions, 3 days one week and two days the next, enabling children to access 15 hours of preschool education as a part of the 'Universal Access' initiative.

## 2. Students (and their welfare)

### General characteristics

The school is allocated an index of disadvantage 3 rating with the present school card percentage being 48 %.

There are currently 43 students identified with a learning disability. This includes the 19 students enrolled across the two District Special classes.

### **Support offered and Special Programs**

An extensive special education support program working with both NEP (Negotiated Education Plan) students and students with learning difficulties is coordinated by the Deputy.

The Site facilitates a number of proactive programs to support student wellbeing and staff training and development. These programmes include:

- Pathways to Powerful Learning
- Counselling for students
- Peer mediation
- Community Circles
- SKIP Playground Program
- Peer support-buddy classes
- Values Education (Tiger Gym, Play is the Way, Kimochi's, Brain / Emotion Education)
- Wheel of Choice
- Play Program
- Kick Start for Kids
- Kids and Dad's Support Group
- Pastoral Support Program
- Outreach Groups

### **Intervention programmes-**

Levelled Literacy Intervention (LLI) is provided by one full-time School Service Officer – 30hours per week (Year 1-4) students are serviced each week – all receiving 5 sessions of LLI per week. This programme is extremely successful.

Quicksmart Mathematics operates for 20 hours per week (Year 3-7 students). 3 School Service Officers are trained Quicksmart facilitators.

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

#### **Site Improvement Plan Priorities**

- 1) Increase the proportion of students achieving in the upper bands in NAPLAN Reading in Years 3, 5 and 7
- 2) Increase the proportion of students achieving in the upper bands in NAPLAN Numeracy in Years 3, 5 and 7
- 3) Increase the proportion of students that are connected to their community and are active participants in their school and the wider community

#### **Other Key Focuses**

The Australian Curriculum

Student Voice

STEM - Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics

TfEL – Teaching for Effective Learning

Child Wellbeing Curriculum

#### **Contextual Influences**

Morphett Vale Primary School is a newly developed school in a picturesque setting within the Morphett Vale area, approximately 40 minutes from the Adelaide CBD. The school boasts new, modern and spacious classrooms and shared learning areas, science and art laboratories, drama and music suites, a new Preschool Centre, beautifully landscaped gardens, extensive playground and oval areas and a full sized gymnasium. We cater for the education and wellbeing of students from Birth to Year 7 and also accommodate two district special classes.

Out of School Hours Care, an Occasional Care service and an active “Learn and Grow” playgroup operate.

We have a strong emphasis on developing and sustaining the valued relationships we have built between families, staff and students across the new school community over recent years.

At Morphett Vale Primary School we are powerful learners who are engaged, creative, challenged, confident and successful. We recognise that in order to develop powerful learners, we as educators need to explicitly teach, role model and scaffold learning dispositions.

Research (Australian Curriculum and 21st Century Learning Design) clearly recognizes that learning- how- to- learn capabilities are critical for student's success in school.

## Student governance

Our main student leadership group are our Lead Learners. These students are in Reception to Year 7 and are selected because they have mastered our 5 dispositions of a powerful learner. Lead Learners plan and teach the Pathways Program to all classes in the first 2 weeks of the school year. They meet each week with the Principal. Lead Learners run a number of school events and a Partnership student forum each year. They sit on committees, co-design with teachers, attend conferences and make resources.

In 2017, our Lead Learners won a National Children's Week Award.

Our **Pathway to Powerful Learning Program** supports students to develop these capabilities in the following key areas:

- ☐ **Collaboration**
- ☐ **Communication**
- ☐ **Problem solving**
- ☐ **Self-regulation**
- ☐ **Mindsets**

The school's values of **caring, respect, responsibility and honesty** are strongly embedded in our school culture and drive our work across the school community.

A Pastoral Support Worker also supports a range of special programs including breakfast club and our Kids and Dad's program.

We are extremely proud of our new school and take great satisfaction in the standard of education and care and service that we are able to provide for our students and school community.

## Student management

At Morphett Vale Primary School we aim to:

- create a safe, supportive and productive learning community
- teach our students to become socially competent and take responsibility for their actions
- provide all students with opportunities and support to experience success

This is achieved through clear expectations and explicit teaching of skills. Our expectations of behaviour are based on our school values- Respect, Responsibility, Caring and Honesty

**DECD and local priorities that the school will address during the current planning period are:**

- LDAM (Learning Design and Moderation) practice through Tri-School Moderation
- Meet the outcomes and strategies outlined by our Partnership Improvement Plan in the areas of Higher band Literacy and Numeracy Improvement
- Build capability in the DECD priorities of Growth for every child in every class, in every school
- Build capability in the DECD fundamental areas of Challenging Learning, Quality people, Strong Engagement, Better Support, Targeted Resources

**Additional support structures and processes across the school include:**

- The senior school choir caters for the needs of approximately 45 students. Our students perform at both the Adelaide and Southern Festival of Music.
- We have a Junior Choir as well who perform at school and community functions
- Out of hours sporting opportunities for students
- Student attendance at SAPSASA sports and District sporting events, e.g. Athletics Day.
- The school operates a comprehensive behaviour management policy that is in line with the DECD Discipline Policy and reflects the principles of 'Play is the Way, 'Restorative Practices' and the agreed school values and Pathways. The policy's structures and processes emphasise students making appropriate choices with known consequences. The program supports a safe learning environment that is highly valued by the whole school community.

## **4. Curriculum**

### **Subject offerings**

Our teaching and learning programs reflect the Australian Curriculum <https://www.australiancurriculum.edu.au/> and TfEL (Teaching for Effective Learning) Framework <https://www.education.sa.gov.au/teaching/teaching-effective-learning/teaching-effective-learning-tfel-resources>

We have a strong focus on Literacy, Numeracy, STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics), and Wellbeing with an emphasis on high expectations, explicit teaching and innovation and consistency with

teaching theory. Recent Information Communication and Technological developments include providing laptops for all staff, interactive Smart boards in all learning areas, computer hubs in all classes and shared learning areas, 1:1 laptops for every senior student and laptops for middle primary students to share. We have a number of banks of ipads, movie making equipment and two 3D printers which support our STEM focus.

Comprehensive intervention programs operate across the school with trained personnel. Further to this, support staff hours have been allocated to each class to assist students with identified literacy and/or numeracy needs. Specialist curriculum areas (specialist teachers) across the school include Music/Drama/Dance, Science, Physical Education and Language (Indonesian).

### **Open Access**

N/A

### **Special needs**

Students with special needs are supported through a comprehensive set of programs coordinated by the Deputy Principal.

Individual learning programs are developed by Classroom Teachers in collaboration with Speech Pathologist, Regional Special Educator, School Services Officers and other relevant support services and staff.

### **Special Curriculum feature**

Performance management processes link with 'Site-Improvement Plan' priorities and teachers' ongoing professional development through personal goal setting.

The review, evaluation and action planning is based on comprehensive and accurate student achievement data. This is used to best support ongoing improvement for student learning, informing our Site Improvement Plan.

### **Teaching methodology**

We are committed to ongoing work in implementing the 'Teaching for Effective Learning Framework' (TfEL). The framework is assisting our leaders and teachers to effectively implement the Australian Curriculum and develop a consistent and innovative approach to teaching and learning across the school.

### **Assessment procedures and reporting**

A comprehensive assessment and reporting process is undertaken across the Reception to year 7 classes.

School processes include the following:

- Acquaintance evening organised early in Term 1. This evening allows for teachers to meet families and to provide an outline of teaching and learning programs as well as share important information about expectations, routines, special events etc.
- 3-way interviews are led by students towards the end of Term 1. All parties have the opportunity to share experiences, evaluate student progress - celebrate achievements and set future goals for improvement.
- See-Saw is a free online app we use to share student learning with home and for students to experience giving and receiving "Improvement Feedback".
- A summative written report is provided to parents at the end of Terms 2 and 4 each year. Reports are graded using A-E. Reports reflect the implementation of the Australian Curriculum.

## **5. Sporting Activities**

- Weekly competitive sports are offered at Morphett Vale Primary School. Sports offered can change each year depending on student interest.
- The School's annual Sports Day is valued by the school community and is well organised and attended.
- The students participate in an annual swimming and aquatic lessons program at the Noarlunga Leisure Centre and Port Noarlunga Aquatic Centre.
- Students participate in SAPSASA sports competitions, District days, District exchanges and State trials.
- "Sporting Schools" Grants support an afterschool sport each term on an individual grant basis
- "Growing Cricket for Girls" grant has funded a Term 1 and 4 Girls Cricket competition (depending on interest).

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

Morphett Vale Primary provides a range of co-curricular activities that have an emphasis on student achievement and well-being and these provide an



opportunity to celebrate with the school community .both within and outside classes.

Activities include:

- Sports day
- Fundraising events
- Student fun days
- Buddy activities
- Transition programs
- School performances
- School excursions
- Sports coaching clinics
- Smith Family Learning Club

### **Special**

The school community is enhanced through the inclusion of an Occasional Care, Preschool and the two special classes (Junior and Primary) all situated on the same site.

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

### **Staff profile**

Most staff members are permanent with a mix of experience, knowledge and skills. There is a mix of male and female staff members at our site.

### **Leadership structure**

The school leadership team consists of the Principal, Deputy Principal, Senior Leader – Well-being and Senior Leader - Curriculum.

### **Staff support systems**

Professional Learning Teams are established and meet regularly through the staff meeting programme. School Services Officers meet regularly as an administration team (personnel with an administration role) and/or as an SSO school team (administration and classroom based personnel).

Preschool -7 staff meetings include both an administration, training and development and site improvement review component. Training and development supports the site learning plan priorities.

The school has established grievance and harassment procedures and clear decision-making processes.

### **Performance Management**

Teaching staff and SSO personnel are supported through established performance management processes coordinated by senior staff based on DECD proformas. Performance management processes and structures support both individual staff and teams to identify areas for celebration and professional development.

Staff meet with Line Managers and discuss negotiated agendas. Written feedback is provided after each meeting as part of this process.

### **Access to special staff**

The school is provided with regular support through Speech and Language Pathologists, Guidance Officers, Behaviour Coaches, Special Educators and a range of other agencies as required to best meet the needs of our students.

Classes are supported through SSO hours in the reading block and a sound special education support program is coordinated across the school.

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

Not applicable to Morphet Vale Primary School

## **9. School Facilities**

### **Buildings and grounds**

The school boasts new, modern and spacious classrooms and shared learning areas, science and art laboratories, drama and music suites, OHSC, a new Preschool Centre, beautifully landscaped gardens, extensive playground and oval areas and a full sized gymnasium.

### **Cooling/Heating**

Heating and cooling systems are present in all buildings.

### **Specialist facilities**

#### **Student facilities**

A school canteen operates on the Monday, Wednesday and Friday of each week. The Canteen Manager is supported by parents and volunteers.

**Staff facilities**

Access for students and staff with disabilities

The school has access and facilities for disabled students, staff and parents.

Access to bus transport

Special class students have access to transport through DECD.

## **10. School Operations**

**Decision making structures**

The school's Decision Making Policy was reviewed in April, 2018.

A range of teams and committees operate across the school.

**Key groups include:** School Planning and Management Committee, Teaching Staff, School Service Officer Team, Leadership Team, Personnel Advisory Committee, STEM focus Group, Numeracy Committee, Literacy Committee, Finance, Governing Council, Family Focus, Fundraising, Sports and Recreation, Out of School Hours Care, Canteen, Grounds and Facilities, Lead Learners, STEM Student Action Team and the Student Representative Council.

**Regular publications**

Regular publications include a fortnightly newsletter, Information Handbook for parents, Skoolbag app, weekly bulletin and google docs. A school 'Intranet' system was introduced in 2008 and operates effectively across the school.

**Other communication**

Student diaries and communication books are used in some classes to provide daily contact with parents. See-Saw is used in all classes across the school. Facebook is also utilised to keep parents up to date.

**School financial position**

The school's finances remain in a sound position through effective planning and Global Budget management. Finances and budget expenditure is monitored closely by staff, budget managers and the Finance Committee through consultative processes.

# **11. Local Community**

## **General characteristics**

The school is growing as the old school sites are now being sub-divided for private housing. It is close to South Plaza Shopping Centre.

## **Parent and community involvement**

The parent and wider community take pride in participation in various aspects of school life.

There are many opportunities for parents and community members to be actively involved in school programs and activities through a supportive Staff and Governing Council.

## **Feeder schools**

Morphett Vale Primary School students feed into a range of secondary schools including: Wirreanda High School, Christies Beach High School, Seaford Secondary School and Reynella East College.

## **Other local care and educational facilities**

A number of other public primary and secondary schools are situated in close proximity to Morphett Vale Primary School.

## **Commercial/industrial and shopping facilities**

The school is in close proximity to shopping complexes situated on South Road and Noarlunga e.g. Colonnades at Noarlunga Centre, Southgate Shopping Centre, Reynella and a Woolworths Shopping Centre at Morphett Vale. A deli is also situated very near to the school.

## **Other local facilities**

Other local facilities include: Noarlunga Leisure Centre, Port Noarlunga Aquatic Centre, Noarlunga Hospital and Christies Beach Police Station.

## **Availability of staff housing**

There is no provision for staff housing.

## **Accessibility**

The school is situated 35 kms from the Adelaide GPO and is easily accessible via a number of roads.

## **Local Government body**

Onkaparinga City Council – 83840666

## **12. Further Comments**

Our programs are aimed at developing the whole child, challenging them to extend themselves, to question and to enjoy their learning experiences.