



2024 SCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

Updated: 2023

School number: 1906

Preschool number: 3687

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

School Profile:

Morphett Vale Primary School stands as an inspiring and forward-thinking educational institution deeply rooted in the community of Morphett Vale. Our vision is to cultivate a flourishing community where every child is inspired and equipped to soar to their utmost potential. Grounded in our core values of respect, resilience, resourcefulness, and empathy, we strive to nurture responsible global citizens who will lead and create positive change.

Our mission is to provide a nurturing educational environment that promotes lifelong learning and the holistic development of each child. We pledge to honour the unique voice and contribution of every member of our school community, fostering mutual respect, encouraging resilience in overcoming challenges, empowering learners with critical and creative problem-solving skills, and nurturing empathetic hearts that will leave a positive mark on the world.

At Morphett Vale Primary School, our passion for learning positions children at the heart of our educational philosophy. From their earliest years to the culmination of their primary education, we are dedicated to giving every child a robust foundation that will fuel their aspirations as they advance academically and personally.

Our approach to education is innovative and dynamic, seamlessly integrating learning and socialisation from birth through to Year 6. Our learners journey from Occasional Care and Playgroup to Preschool and into Primary School, forming enduring relationships and a strong sense of community belonging. We pride ourselves on our learning environments and technological resources, yet it is our educators' unwavering commitment to preparing our students for future endeavours that truly distinguishes us.

Our educators are not just teachers but mentors who form close bonds with each child. They collaborate to establish individual learning goals and are dedicated to ensuring every student progresses and excels. Recognising the vital role of community engagement in educational success, we work diligently to transform our school into a vibrant community hub, inviting participation and fostering a sense of shared ownership over our resources and journey.

Morphett Vale Primary School is a crucible for cultivating powerful learners. We are committed to engaging, stimulating, and challenging our students, instilling in them the

confidence and skills to be successful. Through our Positive Behaviour for Learning model, we explicitly teach and model essential learning dispositions, focusing on student agency and voice, and fostering mindsets that will enable our students to become the leaders and innovators of tomorrow.

In unity with educators, parents, and students, we are resolute in our endeavour to elevate Morphett Vale Primary School to a standard of excellence. We aspire to be a lighthouse of educational prowess—a place where dreams are not only born but given the wings to take flight.

1. General information

- **School Principal:** Michael Koutsoukos
- **Deputy Principal:** Melissa Mundy
- **Year of opening:** 2012
- **Postal Address:** Lawrence Street, Morphett Vale, 5162
- **Location Address:** Morphett Vale, 5162
- **Partnership:** Panalatinga
- **Geographical location – ie road distance from GPO (km):** 35km
- **Telephone number:** 81865064
- **Fax Number:** 83263521
- **School website address:** <http://www.morphettvaleps.sa.edu.au/index.html>
<https://www.preschools.sa.gov.au/morphett-vale-primary-sch-preschool>
- **School e-mail address:** dl.1906.info@schools.sa.edu.au
- **Out of School Hours Care (OSHC) service:** 0434 184 169

February FTE student enrolment: 190 and 25 Preschool Enrolments

Student enrolment trends: Over the past two years, our school has experienced a seesaw affect in student enrolments compared to prior years. This is largely attributed to year 7s leaving for high school. However, 2023 saw of preschool numbers swell to 40 children. As it stands, we remain committed to providing the highest standard of education and support to our students.

- **Staffing numbers (as at February census):**

- February 2022: 13 full time and 3 part time staff
- Specialist Teachers: Performing Arts 0.4, Auslan 0.4, Physical Education 0.4 and Technologies 0.4
- Leadership: Principal, Deputy Principal, Wellbeing Leader
- ACEO: 7 hours per week
- SSO: 319 hours per week
- **Special site arrangements:**

At our site, we take pride in providing educational opportunities that cater to the diverse needs of our students. We are home to two regional Special Options Classes, which include a Junior Primary and Primary program. Our classrooms and common areas are specially designed as STEM spaces, where our students can collaborate and engage in activities related to science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. STEM education is an interdisciplinary approach to learning that bridges academic concepts with real-world applications, preparing our students for future success.

In addition to our innovative approach to education, we also offer a range of programs in partnership with The Smith Family. These programs provide our students with additional support and resources to achieve their academic goals and empower them to reach their full potential. Moreover, we have established strong links with the local community and actively engage in community-based initiatives that foster a sense of belonging and inclusivity.

2. Students (and their welfare)

- **General characteristics:** 50% School Card and Aboriginal FTE Enrolment 22
- **Student well-being programs:** At our school, we are proud to be part of the Positive Behaviour for Learning Pilot, an evidence-based framework that supports students' academic, social, emotional, and mental health needs. This multi-tiered approach to behaviour management includes modifying environments to prevent common problems, defining and teaching expected behaviour skills, acknowledging positive behaviour, and using data to identify appropriate supports for students.

To further support our students' personal and social capabilities, we utilise a range of programs such as The Resilience Project, Zones of Regulation, Interoception, and the Child Protection Curriculum. These programs are integrated into classroom activities, guided play, and reflection, to empower our students with essential life skills.

Our school also incorporates restorative practices for conflict resolution and behaviour management, which fosters community building and enables students to repair harm and restore relationships damaged by their behaviour and decisions.

Moreover, we are fortunate to have a Pastoral Care Worker who is employed for 10 hours a week through the Department for Education National Schools Chaplaincy Program, with Centacare as the service provider. The objective of the program is to provide social and emotional support to all students, regardless of their faith or beliefs.

At our school, we take a holistic approach to education and are committed to providing a safe and inclusive learning environment that supports the academic, social, and emotional wellbeing of our students. We believe that through our innovative approach to behaviour management and the provision of additional support services, we can help our students to thrive and achieve their full potential.

- **Student support offered:**

At our school, we are committed to providing a supportive and inclusive learning environment that caters to the diverse needs of all our students. The Student Support Team is responsible for managing support for students with learning difficulties and emotional needs, and is comprised of a dedicated staff committee. This committee analyses and monitors student progress using various sources of data, including input from Speech Pathologists, Education Psychologists, attendance records, student achievement data provided by class teachers, school literacy testing, and NAPLAN test results.

To provide effective support to our students, we allocate SSO hours directly to students and also purchase additional teacher and SSO time. The Student Support Team plays a vital leadership role in providing professional development and influencing good practice for SSOs and teachers. Joint planning time is provided regularly to ensure that support is well-coordinated and targeted.

Our site offers an extensive special education support program for both One Plan students and those with learning difficulties, which is coordinated by the Deputy. We also offer a range of proactive programs to support student wellbeing, staff training, and development. These programs include Pathways to Powerful Learning, In-School Psychology for students, Smith Family Learning for Life and On Par Program, Peer Mediation, Group Problem Solving, SCIP Playground Program, Zones of Regulation, Interoception, Play Program, Kick Start for Kids, The Resilience Project, and Pastoral Support Program.

We believe that every student deserves an equal opportunity to succeed and are committed to providing the necessary support to ensure that this happens. Our dedicated team of educators works tirelessly to provide a nurturing and inclusive learning environment where every student can thrive and achieve their full potential.

- **Student management**

Our Behaviour Education Policy and procedures are regularly reviewed every 3 years and are guided by the philosophy of the Play is the Way

program and trauma-informed practices. We have a zero-tolerance policy towards bullying, and our grievance procedures are in place to ensure that all students are treated fairly and respectfully.

To further support our students' wellbeing, we conduct a bullying audit twice a year to identify students who may be at risk. The data collected from this audit is used to target groups of students for our social skills intervention programs. We are pleased to report that data collected from admin information, anti-bullying surveys, and teacher surveys indicate that our social skills program is making a significant positive impact on these students.

Furthermore, we use the anti-bullying/friendship survey and comparative data to assess the level of success of our social skills program and determine any modifications required for continued success. We report these findings yearly to the Governing Council, ensuring transparency and accountability in our approach to supporting our students' wellbeing.

- **Student government:**

- **Special programmes:** we are dedicated to offering a vibrant array of extracurricular activities that cater to the diverse interests and talents of our students. Our robust performing arts program includes a senior school choir that serves around 45 students, showcasing their talents at prestigious events such as the Adelaide and Southern Festival of Music. Complementing this is our Junior Choir, which delights audiences at school and community functions with their performances.

Our participation in the Wakakirri Story-Dance Festival stands as a testament to our commitment to enriching student engagement and wellbeing through the performing arts. This national program is a cornerstone of our cultural offerings, enabling students to express themselves creatively and collaborate in storytelling and dance.

In the realm of sports, Morphett Vale Primary School partners with professional sporting bodies to offer the Sporting Schools program, providing students with unique opportunities to explore various sports. This initiative not only promotes physical education but also encourages teamwork, discipline, and the joy of movement.

Our literary pursuits are highlighted by the 'Write a Book in a Day' competition, where our students' creativity and teamwork have led to commendable achievements, including a second-place finish in the South Australia, Victoria, and Tasmanian category in both 2020 and 2022. This challenge exemplifies our commitment to fostering creative thinking and collaboration under time-sensitive conditions.

The Children's University program opens a world of learning to students from Year 2 to 6, aiming to instill a passion for learning that lasts a lifetime. Our goal is to develop free-thinking, inquisitive children who not only pursue knowledge but also excel as lifelong learners and achievers.

Beyond the classroom, we offer out-of-hours sporting opportunities that encourage active participation and foster athletic skills. Our students proudly represent our school at SAPSASA sports and district sporting events, such as Athletics Day, demonstrating their sporting prowess and team spirit.

Leadership development is also a key focus at Morphett Vale Primary School. Through our Future Leaders Program, we nurture the next generation of community leaders. Furthermore, our students engage in scientific inquiry and innovation through participation in the Young ICT Explorers where our students finished 2nd and 3rd nationally in 2023, cultivating their analytical and problem-solving skills.

Reading and digital literacy are also pillars of our educational program. We participate in the Premier's Reading Challenge and the Premier's Digital Challenge, both of which promote literacy, encourage a love for reading, and enhance digital competencies among our students.

3. Key School Policies

- **Site Improvement Plan and other key statements or policies:**

Our Sprint Process, along with LDAM (Learning Design, Assessment, and Moderation) and Task Design, has been central to driving our improvement initiatives. LDAM has significantly influenced staff development by providing strategies tailored to the needs of high-band (HB) students and enabling effective tracking of their progress. Through this, staff have deepened their understanding and developed formative assessment tools, gathering evidence to ensure these students are adequately challenged. Key outcomes include:

Development of shared units, resources, and portfolios for mathematics learning.

Enhanced teacher knowledge and confidence in formative assessment and task design.

Greater alignment and confidence in assigning A–E grades.

Instructional leadership opportunities for identified teachers within the school.

Staff have reported that the focused 6–8 week sprint model has promoted greater reflection on practice and resulted in more targeted student responses. This model has contributed to noticeable improvements in learning outcomes, particularly in Reading, and has provided clarity on where students are in their learning and how they can progress.

We observed increased consistency across the site in both Reading and Mathematics, with students acknowledging that the teaching of these subjects is uniform across classrooms and year levels. This continuity supports the ongoing development of student learning. All students can confidently articulate their reading and numeracy goals, explain the evidence they use to monitor progress, and clearly understand when and how they will achieve these goals. Additionally, every student is able to describe the process of setting personalised goals.

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/teachingeffective-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 6 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.
- 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.
- Interviews in Term 1 and Term 3. All parties have the opportunity to share experiences, evaluate student progress - celebrate achievements and set future goals for improvement.

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

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

We have a dynamic and engaged staff that are come 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.

Staff support systems

Research 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 DfE 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, Inclusive 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 Morphett Vale Primary School

9. School Facilities

Buildings and grounds

The school boasts new, modern and spacious classrooms and shared learning areas, STEAM spaces, 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, Thursday 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.

10. School Operations

Decision making structures

The school's Decision Making Policy was reviewed in 2020. 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, Numeracy Committee, Literacy Committee, Positive Partnership Group, Finance, Governing Council, Fundraising, Sports and Grounds, Out of School Hours Care, Canteen, and Lead Learners.

Regular publications Regular publications include a fortnightly newsletter, Facebook updates, SeeSaw for students and families Information Handbook for parents, Skoolbag app weekly bulletin and google docs. Other communication Student diaries and communication books are used in some classes to provide daily contact with parents if SeeSaw access is not available.

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

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.