PRESCHOOL CONTEXT STATEMENT

Centre number: 6553
Centre name: Morgan Preschool

1. General information

- Preschool Director
  - Tricia Zerner

- Postal address
  - Fourth Street Morgan 5320

- Location address
  - Fourth Street Morgan 5320

- DECD Partnership Region
  - Loxton Waikerie

- Geographical location - ie road distance from GPO (km)
  - 166 kms

- Telephone number
  - 85402321

- Fax number
  - 85402461

- Preschool website address
  - www.morgankgn.sa.edu.au
- **Preschool email address**
  - dl.6558.info@schools.sa.edu.au

- **Enrolment**
  - 2017 - 7 children

- **Co-located/stand-alone**
  - stand-alone

- **Programs operating at the 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. For more detailed information, the Same First Day Policy Fact Sheets linked to DECD can be found on our website.

  - **Pre-entry**
    Three sessions during term 4; the term before the children start full time preschool. Times and dates announced during term 3.

  - **Sessional Kindergarten for eligible children**
    Over a fortnightly cycle children attend:
    Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday 3x6 hour sessions (Even Weeks)
    Monday, Tuesday 2x6 hour sessions (Odd Weeks)
    This equates to an average 30 hours per fortnight. A total of 600 hours of preschool education per year under the Universal Access Program.

  - **Preschool Support**
    Support programs provided for children based on individual needs (speech/language/behaviour/physical needs etc) this is reviewed each term.

  - **Bilingual Support**
    Offered when the need arises.

  - **Playgroup**
    One (1) session per fortnight held on Wednesday mornings between 9 am and 11.00 am...Playgroup is run by the parents with the preschool director as coordinator and is run on site during a preschool session. CaFHS visit once per term.
2. **Key Centre Policies**

‘…..a place where children laugh, play and learn’

- Morgan Preschool is a stand-alone preschool centre where children delight in learning through a fun, safe and supportive learning and caring environment. Our Preschool provides a welcoming, caring and exciting place to learn where your child is the central focus. The core business of this preschool is to provide age appropriate educational programs that maximise each child’s potential development in a play-based learning environment.

- We provide a safe, welcoming, happy and supportive educational environment that caters for each child and family’s needs.
- We strive to provide opportunities for children and families to become involved in all aspects of the service.
- Provide opportunities for children and families to develop stable, caring and respectful relationships with staff and others.

3. **Curriculum**

- Morgan Preschool provides an accessible, quality teaching and learning program for preschool children in a safe, caring and supportive environment

- We offer a play-based curriculum which focuses on each child’s learning. The program is planned using Belonging, Being, Becoming, The Early Years Learning Framework for Australia - the national curriculum document.

- The Learning Outcomes planned for are:
  - ★ Children have a strong sense of identity
  - ★ Children are connected with and contribute to their world
  - ★ Children have a strong sense of wellbeing
  - ★ Children are confident and involved learners
  - ★ Children are effective communicators

- Core Values

  Excellence  Respect  Creative Learning  Honesty

- Joint programmes/special curriculum projects include working with the Morgan Primary School on the Morgan Education Community Project, the Morgan Public Library.
4. **Centre Based Staff**

- **Staff Profile**
  - 1 Director - 0.6
  - 1 ECW-Preschool Support/Finance Officer - 13hrs/week
  - 1 ECW-Preschool Support - 6.25 hrs/week
  - 1 Groundsperson - 1.5 hrs/week

- **Performance Management Program**
  - Performance Management Program is conducted with all educators.
  - Access to special support staff is available through District Education Office and Riverland Community Health Centre.

- When required Preschool Support staff are employed to work with children with special needs. Children with special needs are eligible for support by the DECS through Regional Support Services.

5. **Centre Facilities**

- **Buildings and grounds**
  - A new building was established in 2003. It 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 grounds are fully established consisting of a large lawned area, sandpit, cubby house, a covered learning area and playground equipment. There is a Japanese garden and large pots plants. There is also two very large outdoor storage sheds. Our grounds extended into the Morgan Primary School where we have a vegetable patch amongst the school’s garden. We also use the school’s library, playground, adjacent oval and playground equipment.

- **Capacity (per session)**
  - 25

- **Centre Ownership**
  - DECD

- **Access for children and staff with disabilities**
  - Ramp and disabled toilet
6. **Local Community**

- **General characteristics**
  - Morgan and Cadell are situated on the River Murray and are very popular tourist areas, 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.
  - Strong family and community involvement in the preschool.
  - Community volunteers support general tasks at the preschool and fundraising efforts.
  - Visits between the local community and preschool have improved children’s positive interactions with local community and beyond.
  - Schools to which children transfer from this preschool
    - Morgan, Cadell and Waikerie Lutheran Primary Schools.

- **Commercial/industrial and shopping facilities**
  - S.A.Water, Highways Department, Mid Murray District Council, Shopping facilities – Supermarket, Bakery, 1 Roadhouse, Takeaway, Post Office, Two Hotels, Deli, Hardware Store, Pharmacy, Nurse Practitioner available fortnightly. Meals on Wheels and Domiciliary Care also available.

- **Various Sporting bodies and Clubs**
  - St. John Ambulance Service
  - Bowling Club
  - Golf Club
  - RSL
  - Cricket Club
  - Speedway and Go Cart Club
  - Lions Club

- **Other local facilities**
  - Internet Centre
  - Day Care Centre
  - Community Library
  - CFS
  - St. John Ambulance Service
  - Pharmacy
★ Gym
★ Museum

❖ Availability of housing
   - Private rental available

❖ Other educational facilities
   - Our playgroup for 0 to 5 year olds is run by the parents with the preschool director as coordinator. They meet every Wednesday fortnight from 9.00am until 11.00am. Cost is $2.00 per session plus a yearly membership to Playgroup Association for insurance.

   - Cadell Play Centre is open on Thursdays 9.00am - 2.00pm for playgroup/play centre and run by a Play Centre coordinator.

❖ Availability of staff housing
   - Rental accommodation is limited

❖ Local Government
   Mid-Murray Council
   10 Fourth Street
   Morgan 5320
   Ph: 08 85400060
   Fax: 08 85691931
   Email: postbox@mid-murray.sa.gov.au