

School Buses: A bus service is provided for students residing 4.5 kms or more from the school. Applications to use the services can be made via the internet (pta.wa.gov.au). Those children who travel by bus will be taken to the front of the school in the morning and collected from the bus stop at the back of the school in the afternoon. Please notify the bus driver if your child is not on the bus.

Sick Children: The spread of viral infections such as a cold or flu can be minimised if students stay home in the early stages of illness when they are most likely to spread the virus through coughing and sneezing. Please notify the school reasons for any absences.

Sun Safety: To ensure students are protected from skin damage caused by harmful UV rays, students will need to wear a hat for outdoor activities. A NO HAT – PLAY IN THE SHADE policy has been adopted by the school.

Telephone: Generally the school officer will handle telephone enquires and messages. Students may make telephone calls in important or urgent circumstances.

Toys and Valuables: Parents are asked to ensure that toys are left at home as damage or loss could occur. Class teachers will advise parents about what items they may want students to bring as part of the learning program.

Uniforms: Uniforms are available from the Uniform Shop. Contact the school office for further information about opening times. Please provide a hat for your child. Pre-primary is the first year of compulsory uniform. Please ensure students wear sandals or closed-in shoes, and sneakers for sport.

Valuables: Students are discouraged from bringing valuables, including mobile phones, iPads, iPods and toys to school as the school cannot accept responsibility for any loss or damage. Teachers will advise parents about what items they may want students to bring as part of the learning program.

Visitors to the School: For security reasons, all visitors to the school to undertake a school activity must sign the Visitors Register and obtain a badge at the school office. On completion of your visit please return the badge and sign out. This is due to emergency evacuation procedures. All Departmental employees, volunteers, visitors and external providers in child-related work must hold a Working with Children Check in accordance with Departmental regulations. Parents volunteering for school activities where they have a child enrolled at the school are exempt from having a Working with Children Check but must sign a Confidentiality Declaration, which is available at the school office.

Term Dates 2017

Term 1 Wednesday 1 February— Friday 7 April

Term 2 Wednesday 26 April—Friday 30 June

Term 3 Tuesday 18 July—Friday 22 September

Term 4 Tuesday 10 October—Thursday 14 December

School Development Day [Pupil Free] for 2017 are:-

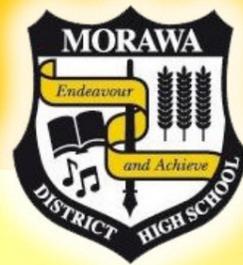
Monday 30 & Tuesday 31 January

Monday 24 April

Monday 17 July

Monday 9 October

Friday 15 December



MORAWA DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOL

Endeavour & Achieve

PARENT INFORMATION BROCHURE

Primary 1-6 Years

Teaching and Learning

Morawa District High School applies a consistent whole school approach to meet school priorities. Teachers use their expertise to establish a supportive learning environment, identify their students learning needs, and make decisions on what to teach and how to teach it, so that specific targets for student achievement are met. Our staff are committed professionals who understand that instruction has many facets. They strive to work in partnership with other teachers, students, their families and the whole community in a positive way. We teach the *Western Australian Curriculum and Assessment Outline* to students in Years K-10. It sets out curriculum, guiding principles for teaching, learning and assessment and provides support for teachers in their assessment and reporting of student achievement. We also incorporate *The Early Years Framework* and *National Quality Standards*.

The *Western Australian Curriculum* currently encompasses ACARA's Australian Curriculum in English, Mathematics, Science and History. In addition, year level syllabuses for Humanities and Social Sciences, Health and Physical Education, Technologies and The Arts are also being taught at Morawa District High School.

School Code of Behaviour

All students and staff are guided by our school Charter which states:

- All students have the right to learn and all teachers have the right to teach free from disruption.
- All students and staff have the right to be treated courteously and with respect.
- All students and staff have the right to work in a clean and safe environment.
- All students and staff have the right to have their property cared for and respected.
- All students and staff have the right to expect all members of the school community to abide by the Department of Education regulations.



Respect · Responsibility · Excellence

Contact - Phone: 99710900 Fax: 99711358 Email: Morawa.DHS@education.wa.edu.au. Office Hours 8.30am - 3.30pm.

Alphabet Formation: Victorian Modern Cursive is currently being used in the primary school using a ‘closed p and b’. For further information, please see class teachers. Students are encouraged to use the correct pencil grip at all times.

Assemblies: Details about school assemblies will be published in the school newsletter. Teachers will endeavour to make parents/carers aware of presentations which involve their child.

Arrival and Departure Times: Students should begin to arrive at school at 8:30am. Students should not be at school before 8:30am except for organised meetings or events. Students who do arrive before 8:30am will be required to sit outside their classrooms. Teachers open classrooms at 8:30am to enable students to prepare for the day. School finishes at 3.10pm except Wednesday (2:30pm).

Assessment and Reporting: Morawa District High School is committed to providing high quality educational programs for students. Assessment, monitoring and reporting are integral to the achievement of high learning outcomes. Our goal is to provide timely feedback to students, parents and teachers. Formal reports will be sent home to parents at the end of each semester.

Attendance: Going to school every day really does matter. Teachers plan programs in a sequence so children can build on skills and activities from one day to the next. Attendance is compulsory for all students from Pre-primary to Year 12. It is a legal requirement that all absences are explained. Once absentees have been completed by class teachers, parents will receive an SMS message from the school informing them that a child is absent without reason. If your child is absent, please inform the school office of the reason in person, by telephone, in writing or by text. If your child is late, please ask your child to get a late note from the school office.

Access to Students: For the safety and welfare of all students **ALL** visitors must report to the school office and complete the sign-in book prior to going to classrooms. Parents are not permitted to directly access classrooms during lesson times. Under no circumstances are parents allowed to approach a child other than their own regarding behavioural concerns. All concerns must be directed to the class teacher or Deputy/Principal.

Behaviour Management in Schools: A Behaviour Management Plan operates in this school. Our aim is to have a positive approach to behaviour management by encouraging and praising good behaviour and work. The basis of the plan is that all students will be encouraged to take responsibility for their own behaviour. Parents will be advised if there are serious breaches of the School Code of Behaviour. Please refer to the MDHS Behaviour Referral Process brochure.

Bicycles and Scooters: As legislation exists requiring all cyclists to wear helmets, children who do cycle to school **must** wear a helmet. It is recommended that all students under ten do not ride bicycles unsupervised. Please ensure bicycles and scooters are walked around the school grounds. A bike shed is provided for bikes and a scooter rack for scooters—no responsibility will be taken for bicycles or scooters left behind after school. Locking chains are recommended.

Booklists: Please bring all items on the booklist on the first day of school. Please name all books. Students will need a large school bag that will easily hold a lunch box, water bottle, jumper and completed work. Copies of the Booklists are available on our school website or from the school office.

Breakfast Club: Students are invited for breakfast on some mornings during the week between 8:00am and 8:30am. Please contact the school office to find out which days the Home Economics room is open for breakfast.

Bullying: Morawa District High School seeks to affirm each child’s worth and dignity. Bullying strikes at the core of those values and prevents students developing to their full potential. Bullying can take a number of forms – physical, verbal, social and psychological. **The school strongly opposes bullying in all its forms.** Please inform teachers if your child is experiencing bullying.

Communication: Please contact your child’s teacher first if you have any concerns or questions. Whole school events and information will be available through the school newsletter and parent notes. Classroom teachers will notify parents of any class events. Further information about our school can be found on our school website. Other information regarding your child’s education can be found on the Department of Education’s website or Facebook page.

Communicable Diseases: Please contact us if your child contracts measles, mumps, chicken pox, glandular fever, German measles, conjunctivitis, ringworm, head lice, slap cheek or another communicable disease so that we may notify parents if necessary. General health information can be obtained from the Health Department.

Curriculum: The *Western Australian Curriculum and Assessment Outline* sets out the curriculum and guiding principles for teaching, learning and assessment in the areas of English, Mathematics, Science, Humanities and Social Sciences, Health and Physical Education, Technologies, The Arts and Languages. Staff expertise at our school reflects a wide range of experiences, skills and interests. Classroom teachers teach students English, Mathematics, Health, Humanities, Social Sciences, Science and Music Specialist teachers teach Science, Humanities, and Social Sciences, Physical Education, Music, Visual Arts and Technologies. All students are assessed for the School of Instrumental Music (SIM) and offered placements in Instrumental Music in Years 5. These students also have an opportunity to join the Junior Brass Band. A number of intervention programs are available for students requiring additional support in regards to literacy and numeracy. Parents will be notified if students are identified to be part of these programs. The Primary Extension and Challenge (PEAC) program provides extension opportunities for students in Years 5 and 6. Selection is based on results from assessment tests completed in Year 4 and other relevant information. Please liaise with your child’s classroom teacher, Primary Deputy or the Learning Support Coordinator if you require any further information.

Factions: All students from Pre-primary to Year 10 will be placed in a Faction (House). Students from the same immediate family will be placed in the same faction.

Good Standing: Good Standing is a status that determines a student’s access to and participation in extra-curricular activities. Good Standing defines a student’s status in terms of maintaining satisfactory attendance, behaviour and conduct.

Custody Arrangements: Please advise the school of any custody arrangements that involve your family. Documentation involving these arrangements must be provided.

Dogs: Dogs are not permitted on the school grounds at any time, even if they are on a leash.

Early Departure of Children: If you need to collect your child early from school, please inform the class teacher beforehand and report to the school office to complete the sign out procedure.

Emergency Contacts: Parents must ensure that their phone numbers and the emergency contact’s phone numbers are kept up-to-date in the event of an emergency. Please inform the school office and the class teacher of any changes to details.

Enrolment Information: All enrolment information is located on our website or available from the school office.

Grounds and Security: Parents are asked to remind students that the school grounds are out of bounds out of school hours. In the event of vandalism, please report to School Watch on 1800 177 777 or the local Police on 99 601 666.

Head Lice: Head lice is a frequently occurring problem in schools. It is recommended that parents check their children’s hair every Friday evening so that any problems can be treated over the weekend. Health Department fact sheets are available from the school office to assist with treatment. Parents will be notified if students in the class have head lice.

Homework: Homework will be set for students and can take the form of home reading, concepts to learn, practice examples, or assignments requiring the student to undertake some research. Please refer to our Homework Plan for further information.

Library: Students are able to borrow books from the library once per week. Students will need a library bag (preferably waterproof) to borrow books. Lost or damaged books will incur a cost.

Lost Property: Please write your child’s name clearly on all clothing and belongings so that they may be returned as quickly as possible. **The “Lost Property” bin is located outside Room 10.** Uniform items not claimed after a reasonable time will be washed and sold through the Uniform Shop or forwarded to charity.

Medication: Most prescribed medication can be administered at home. There are times however when medication needs to be administered at school. Before doing so, parents must complete a Health Care Form. If your child suffers from any health concerns then the relevant medical forms need to be completed. All forms are available from the school office.

Mobile Phones: Mobile phones are not permitted at school. If it is necessary to bring a mobile to school, it must be switched off and kept in bag or alternatively handed to the school office or teacher for safe keeping. No responsibility will be taken if a mobile is lost or stolen at school.

Money: Please send any money in an envelope with all details written on the front (name, class, amount and the purpose of the payment). Permission slips for excursions or incursions must be returned with money if requested to classroom teachers.

No Smoking: Parents and visitors are asked to adhere to the Department of Education’s policy prohibiting smoking on school grounds.

Nut-Aware Zone: Some students experience severe allergies to nuts. Please assist us to keep these students safe by ensuring you provide nut free foods in your child’s lunch box. Please remind your child not to share food with others.

P&C Meetings: Meeting dates are published in the school newsletter. We encourage you to support the P&C as they have made many significant contributions to our school.

Parking: Parents are asked to exercise particular care when leaving or collecting students. Parking is provided for parents on surrounding street frontages. Parents are also able to park behind the fence at the back of the school, accessed by Prater Street. Parents are discouraged from parking outside the Performing Arts building (unless reverse parking). Student safety is our priority.

Repeating a Year: Departmental policy strongly suggests that students should not repeat a year level. Current research shows there is no benefit to repeating and that the long term effects are detrimental. Parent requests will be given full consideration in consultation with the Principal, School Psychologist and other key staff.

School Breaks: Please provide your child with healthy and nutritious food for recess and lunch. Students are able to purchase snacks and lunches from the school canteen. The canteen follows the traffic light system, which promotes healthy, nutritious and affordable food and drinks. Students are not allowed to leave the school grounds without permission. Students must be signed out at the school office and sign in upon their return.