



MODBURY SOUTH PRIMARY SCHOOL



PARENT HANDBOOK

WELCOME TO
MODBURY SOUTH PRIMARY SCHOOL

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🌐 www.modsthps.sa.edu.au

📍 8 Dampier Ave, Hope Valley

☎ 08 8264 3527



WELCOME



On behalf of the staff, students and our Governing Council, I would like to welcome you to Modbury South Primary School. The information in this booklet will hopefully assist with making your transition to Modbury South Primary School a successful one.

Our school caters to students from Preschool through to Year 6 including one Junior Primary Special Class, one Primary Special Class and two Disability Units.

Our vision is empowering students to become lifelong powerful learners so they acquire the knowledge and skills to excel in school and life. We support our students to become independent learners with skills, knowledge and the ability to be effective members of the school and wider community.

Modbury South Primary School opened its doors in 1965.

Modbury South Primary School is part of a multi-school campus with Modbury High School and Modbury Special School. As such we are known for our family and community hub atmosphere.

Since our opening, we have developed and maintained a tradition of high standards in education and a school where staff and families work together to provide the optimum learning environment for students.

We hope your time at Modbury South Primary School will be a positive and rewarding experience.

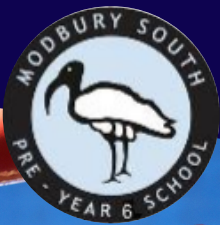
Together we will achieve a great deal working in partnership and harmony for the success of our children.

Denise Squire

Principal

Modbury South Primary School

GENERAL INFORMATION



DAILY ORGANISATION

School Day

8.35am	Staff on yard duty
8.47am	School start - line up bell
8.50am	Learning time
10.40am	Recess
11.00am	Learning time
12.40pm	Lunch eating time
12.50pm	Lunch
1.20pm	Learning time
3.00pm	School ends (After school yard supervisions ends at 3.20pm)

LATE ARRIVALS

Students who arrive late (after 8.50am) must report to the Front Office. A note, phone call, email or message via the SeeSaw or Audiri Skoolbag app is required either that day or the next, to explain the reason for the lateness.

EARLY DEPARTURE

Parents/Caregivers who need to collect students for an appointment or early departures during the school day must report to the Front Office to sign students out. We will not allow students to leave the school without direct parent/caregiver supervision and approval. Please make medical appointments etc outside of school hours to minimise time away from learning.

STUDENT ABSENCES

If your child is absent due to sickness, family or other reasons, please contact the school on 82643527 and advise us of their absence. Alternatively, you may email the school, message the classroom teacher via the SeeSaw app or lodge an absence through the Audiri Skoolbag app.

If your child will be absent for an extended period of time, eg holidays during term time, please contact the Front Office to sign an Exemption Form which must be authorised by the Principal. Student absences of 3 days or more due to illness will need to be explained by a doctor's certificate. Absences averaging 10 days a term are deemed chronic non-attendance and will be followed up on according to Departmental policy.

PARKING

Street parking is available on the residential streets nearby to the school. When dropping off or collecting children, we urge parents to use the Kiss'n'Drop zone. This is a drop-off zone, parking is not permitted here at anytime. In the interest of child safety, please observe speed limits. Parking is not permitted in front of the Reception area as this is used for our disability taxis and special visitors. We ask that you do not use the Modbury Special School car park as this space is required for their staff and families.

YARD SUPERVISION & YARD DUTY

Yard supervision begins each day at 8.35am.

Children should NOT be dropped off unsupervised in the yard before 8:35am.

After school, students must be collected or have left the grounds by 3.20pm. Yard supervisions finishes at this time and there are NO staff on duty.

If you are unable to collect your child by 3.20pm, please enrol them in Happy Haven OSHC.



COMMUNICATION

NEWSLETTERS

Newsletters are sent out to families electronically every two weeks via email, SeeSaw, Audiri and Facebook via link. They are also uploaded onto the school website at www.modsthps.sa.edu.au. We encourage families to engage with our fortnightly newsletters as to stay up to date with school information, events and celebrations.

TEACHER CONTACT / APPS

You can contact the classroom teacher for day to day queries and absence notification via the SeeSaw app. Teachers use the app between the hours of 8am-5pm weekdays and will respond to messages within 48hours. If you would like to discuss any issues or concerns, we advise that you make an appointment to meet in person or over the phone with your child's class teacher. If further support is required please make an appointment with the Principal. Front office staff can support you with an appointment. The school has a Grievance Policy which all members of the school community are required to observe. For your reference, the policy is available on our school website.

LEARNING PARTNERSHIPS

We believe that students have the best learning outcomes when the school and families work in partnership. In order for this to happen we conduct Parent/Teacher learning interviews in Term 1 and 3. Student learning reports are sent home at the end of Term 2 and 4. Students with disabilities, those who identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander and those under the guardianship of the minister will have a One Plan that documents learning goals and adjustments. This One Plan is written in partnership with families during Term 1 interviews.

HEALTH PROCEDURES

In case of emergencies the school will contact parents/caregivers or emergency contacts. Please let the school know of any changes to your contact details or those who are nominated as emergency contacts. Good health is vital for effective learning and participation in school activities. Children should be kept at home when they are unwell and are exhibiting symptoms of illness. If children are absent due to illness please notify the school.

FIRST AID

If your child is unwell we will contact parents/carers or the emergency contact via phone call so that your child can be collected. It is our policy for sick children to be sent home and not spend lengthy times in the first aid room. In an emergency we will call an ambulance and advise parents as soon as possible. Parents are responsible for all costs associated with ambulance travel.

The school First Aid Policy involves giving your child a completed First Aid Treatment Form if they have received first aid in the sick room. If you have any queries regarding the first aid of your child please contact us immediately.



SCHOOL FEES AND UNIFORMS



MATERIALS AND SERVICES CHARGES (SCHOOL FEES)

Parents are asked to pay a Materials and Services charge for the whole year (school fees). The Materials and Services charge is used, together with Department for Education grants, to provide your child with books, educational materials, and equipment in all areas of the curriculum. This includes for example, stationery, art/craft and duplicating materials, which will be provided throughout the year. The Materials and Services charge is sent to families at the beginning of Term 1. Payments can be made by cash, EFTPOS or direct debit. We also offer instalment plans but this must be arranged with the Finance Officer as soon as the invoice is received.

SCHOOL CARD : GOVERNMENT ASSISTED STUDENTS

The school card scheme provides financial assistance for families for the costs of school fees, known as Materials & Services Charges. Eligibility is in accordance with Centrelink family allowance benefits. If applying, please do so online as soon as you receive your invoice as there is a cut-off date beyond which you are unable to apply and so become responsible for the full cost of the school fees. Applications are online. To check eligibility and to apply online, see link:

[SA.GOV.AU - School Card scheme \(www.sa.gov.au\)](http://SA.GOV.AU - School Card scheme (www.sa.gov.au))

STUDENT STATIONERY

Students are provided with all stationery requirements for the year. Materials and Services fees cover the cost of these items. Students may bring their own items eg. Pens, pencils and pencil cases if they wish. Please ensure that all items are clearly names.

UNIFORM

All students are expected to wear a school uniform as part of our dress code. Our uniform price list is available on our website as is our Uniform Policy. Purchases of uniform can be made at the Front Office during school opening times.

In recognition of their final year at school, Year 6 students will have their own commemorative windcheater and polo shirt. This special uniform is ordered at the beginning of the year.

NO HAT NO PLAY POLICY

As we are a SunSmart school, a school bucket hat must be worn for all outside activities throughout the school year. Please ensure this is clearly labelled with your child's name.



ENROLMENTS

ENROLMENTS : SCHOOL

In South Australia, the first year of primary school is called Reception, Children who turn 5 years old:

Before 1 May can start school in Term 1

Between 1 May and 31 October can start school in Term 3 (midyear intake)

After 31 October can start the following year.

Children who start school at the beginning of the year will complete 4 terms of reception.

Children who start school in a mid-year intake will complete 6 terms of reception.

Children must be enrolled before they start school.

When you enrol you will need to bring the following documentation and information:

Copy of Birth Certificate

Current Council Rates or Rental Agreement

Current address on a utility bill eg. Gas/ Water

Details of any medical condition including any Medication Plans signed by the child's doctor.

Any documentation relating to custody orders, if applicable

Visa documentation and a copy of passport if child born overseas.

ENROLMENTS : PRESCHOOL

In South Australia, children are entitled to access 4 terms (1 year) of government Preschool in the year before they start school.

Children who turn 4 years old:

· Before 1 May are eligible to start Preschool at the beginning of the year.

· On 1 May to 31 October can commence Preschool through the midyear intake at the start of term 3 of that year.

· After 31 October will be eligible to commence Preschool at the start of the following year.

Children who identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander and children under the guardianship of the Minister can start after they turn 3.

Documents required on enrolment:

Copy of Birth Certificate,

Copy of Council Rates / Rental Agreement

Visa documentation / Passport

Immunisation Statement (Up to date)

Custody orders (if applicable)

Medical Plan (if applicable)

Your child will not be able to commence Preschool until we have all the documentation prior to term start.

Our Preschool session times are :

Monday and Tuesday 8.45am to 2.45pm

Wednesday 8.45am to 11.45am.





TRANSITION



PRESCHOOL BEGINNING OF YEAR & MIDYEAR INTAKE

Preschool transition provides children to have a 'Stay & Play' session where parents/carers are able to stay with their child, we then progress to two 'Drop & Go' sessions where children experience Preschool for short sessions before starting in the next term.

RECEPTION BEGINNING OF YEAR & MIDYEAR INTAKE

At Modbury South Primary School we are pleased to welcome all students into our school and in order to make your child's transition to school as smooth as possible, we provide transition opportunities. We have found that children who attend all transition visits develop a strong connection to the school which supports a successful beginning of their school journey.



THE NEST DISABILITY UNIT & SPECIAL CLASSES

We give our children with additional needs a wonderful opportunity to meet their teacher, SSOs and to meet each other. Through transition they learn about the school environment, school routines and explore the school yard.



YEAR 6 TO HIGH SCHOOL TRANSITION

High School can be very daunting for students therefore we work closely with Modbury High School to have our Year 6 students walk over and experience a day at MHS where students learn about high school, its values, expectations and to meet the staff. We also connect with Modbury High School for additional transition opportunities throughout the year. For students who are attending a private school or other government school, their transition times will differ.



WELLBEING

STUDENT WELLBEING

Mental health and wellbeing are priorities at Modbury South Primary School. Our staff are trauma-informed and prioritise fostering safe, inclusive and predictable learning environments and build strong relationships with students and families. At Modbury South PS we have a Wellbeing Leader who works in partnership with students, families, educators, allied health professionals and the wider community to ensure positive student wellbeing and optimise learning. If you have a concern about your child's wellbeing, do not hesitate to contact our Wellbeing Leader to discuss these concerns.

STUDENT VOICE

At Modbury South Primary School students play a vital role in developing and shaping the learning and social environments of the school. Class leaders are voted in by their peers during Term 1 and sworn in at the last assembly of the term. Student voice across the school is highly valued and encouraged by all staff.

BEHAVIOUR MANAGEMENT

Students are expected to comply with the school's behaviour code, which is based on care and respect for others and the environment. Class teachers work in partnership with students to develop clear classroom expectations and routines. These are explicitly taught and reviewed regularly. There are also clear expectations around yard behaviour to ensure the safety and wellbeing of all. We take a holistic approach to behaviour and employ a number of proactive and reactive strategies to support positive behavioural outcomes for all. We keep in mind best practice around strategies for children who are trauma-affected and on the Autism Spectrum.

Take-homes and suspensions are always a last resort and other avenues are explored first. However, violence and harmful behaviour of any kind is not accepted, and in the event of this, parents/caergivers will be contacted and steps involving a take-home or suspension may be necessary.





CURRICULUM AND IMPROVEMENT

CURRICULUM

Our school follows the Australian Curriculum for all learning areas. These learning areas are:

- English
- Mathematics
- Humanities and Social Sciences
(History, Geography, Civics and Citizenship and Economics and Business)
- Science
- Health and Physical Education
- The Arts
- Technologies
- Language (Japanese)

STEPHANIE ALEXANDER KITCHEN GARDEN PROGRAM

The Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Program offers students the opportunity to engage in learning experiences in our kitchen and garden spaces. The purpose of the SAKGP is to introduce pleasurable food education to children in order to form positive food habits for life. Students are provided the skills, experiences and role modelling to make healthier and more environmentally sustainable choices about what to plant, harvest, cook and eat. It also provides a hands-on approach to teaching and learning literacy, numeracy, science and more.

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

All Department for Education schools follow a Site Improvement Plan which documents goals, aims and actions towards improved learning outcomes for students over a three-year period. The School Improvement Plan is shared with the Governing Council and published on the school website.

Reviews are held frequently to track and monitor our progress. An annual review of progress and successes is documented and presented to the school community in the form of an Annual Report. Our Site Improvement Plan focuses on improving student learning outcomes in the areas of English and Mathematics.

