

Murray Bridge North Context Statement

Guiding Principles

As a school we believe that there are a number of guiding principles, or pillars, on which our school is based. These include the following examples:

- Every child can learn – This is unconditional and applies to every child attending our school;
- Every child counts;
- We treat people in our community in a manner which is ‘fair’ – we define fair as giving to people in proportion to their needs. It is a fact of life that some people need more support than others.
- We provide an ‘evidence based school leadership.’ We focus on strategies / approaches that are demonstrated in educational research to be more effective.

In 2013 Murray Bridge North School (MBNS) was formed by the combination of the Murray Bridge Junior Primary and Murray Bridge North Primary School. We are a Reception to Year 7 school.

In 2016 our enrolment is 563 students. MBNS is a category 2 school on the Scale of Disadvantage. In 2016 we have 23 classes in addition to a Primary and Junior Primary Special Options classes. The enrolment is comprised of a number of EALD students with around 10% of the student population being Aboriginal.

The school learning priority is READING with the expectation that ‘every child read aloud to an adult every day’ and that reading is recorded in a diary or a Communication Book, daily with each class displaying a data wall. Consequently many students are able to demonstrate nightly reading in excess of 250 consecutive nights and staff have noticed a significant increase in reading fluency. In 2015 the focus extended to reading comprehension with staff developing targeted teaching strategies and working with parents on how to support their children to increase reading comprehension skills. To support the reading priority we offer a highly successful book fair allowing the community to purchase books for home and are involved in the Premiers Reading Challenge. We reward regular readers with a number of school sponsored trips and activities.

Our school features a strong music Performance Program and two choirs. Students in Years 5-7 are able to participate in a range of musical instrument lessons during school time. Our African Drumming group and Didgeridoo troupe have performed annually in a range of schools. Dance lessons, particularly hip-hop, are popular with boys and girls. We participate annually in the Festival of Music Choir and have a Ngarrindjeri choir that performs several times a year at metropolitan schools.

We compete annually in Pedal Prix (two teams) and (SAPSASA) sporting events where students are regularly selected to represent the district.

We are supported by a caring community with 75 trained volunteers currently registered with the school. The community is also supported by a Pastoral Support Worker, a strong Parent Network and an actively involved Governing Council.

MBNS has large open playing fields and excellent and well maintained play areas for children.