# —morley senior high school—



parent information

## INTRODUCTION

The Morley SHS Community is pleased to welcome you to our school. Together we will work to achieve your child's potential and make his/her educational experience a happy and rewarding one. You will find Morley SHS offers a wide range of opportunities for your child which centre around the key concepts of diversity and inclusivity. The curriculum is diverse, allowing students to study a very broad range of subjects during their time at our school. The nature of our school is inclusive, bringing together students of all ability levels and from distinct ethnic backgrounds, within a range of programs of study.

## **OUR VISION**

Our vision at Morley SHS is to celebrate diversity and to cater for the needs of all students, with the goal of everyone achieving their personal best.

## **OUR MISSION**

Our mission at Morley SHS is to foster a culture of continuous improvement and high expectations, where all staff and students strive to achieve their personal best, develop resilience and accept personal responsibility, in a cohesive, supportive and engaging environment.

#### THE SCHOOL BOARD

Being an Independent Public School, the Morley SHS Board has a significant role. The Board takes part in establishing and reviewing the school's objectives, priorities and policy directions; evaluating the school's performance; and formulating codes of conduct for students at the school. The Board also approves costs and charges incurred by students and their families.

The Morley SHS Board comprises a number of members including parents, teachers and community business leaders, who each have expertise, qualifications or experience appropriate to the needs of the school.

# PARENTS AND CITIZENS ASSOCIATION

The Parent and Citizens Association has a variety of roles in the school. It promotes the physical, social and educational welfare of the children. It brings about cooperation between the parents or guardians of the children attending the school and fosters community interest in educational matters. It also acts as an advisory body to the school and oversees the management of the school canteen.

At the Annual General Meeting of the P&C Association, office bearers are finalised. Six (6) parents are elected to join the teacher and community representatives. Once the Executive has been formed the president, vice president, an honorary secretary and treasurer are elected from the membership.

#### CURRICULUM

Our programs of study allow students to demonstrate all major learning outcomes in eight learning areas:

- English
- Humanities and Social Sciences
- Science
- Mathematics

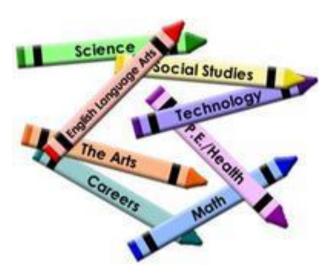
- The Arts
- Health and Physical Education
- Languages
- Technologies

## YEAR 7 CURRICULUM AT MORLEY SHS

Students in Year 7 and 8 follow a common course that covers all eight learning areas and is designed to give students a broad introduction into a wide variety of learning opportunities.

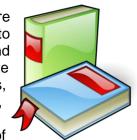
LEARNING AREA	PERIODS	LEARNING AREA	PERIODS PER
	PER WEEK		WEEK
HUMANITIES & SOCIAL SCIENCES	4	THE ARTS	2
SCIENCE	4	LANGUAGES	2
ENGLISH	4	TECHNOLOGIES	2
MATHEMATICS	4		
HEALTH & PHYSICAL EDUCATION	3	PASTORAL CARE	5
		PROGRAM/TUTE	(15 MINS PER DAY)

- Students who are selected for placement in one of our specialist programs (The Aviation Academy or The School of Screen and Media) specialise in an Arts or Technologies area but follow the same MESH (Mathematics, English, Science, HASS) course as other students.
- Students in the academic program (P+) have a specialist MESH course but join the mainstream for Arts and Technologies.



## **ENGLISH**

The English curriculum aims to develop students' knowledge of language and literature and to consolidate and expand their literacy skills. It aims to support students to understand how Standard Australian English works in its spoken and written forms and in combination with other forms of communication such as media. Students appreciate and enjoy language and develop a sense of its richness and its power to evoke feelings, form and convey ideas, persuade, entertain and argue. Students learn to understand, interpret, reflect on and create an increasingly broad repertoire of spoken, written and multimodal texts across a growing range of settings and to access a broad range of



literary texts and develop an informed appreciation of literature. English skills are delivered in a holistic manner to help students develop skills and understandings necessary as effective and productive citizens.

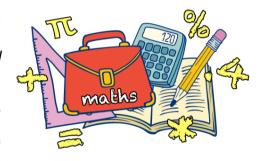
#### EAL/D English as an additional Language or dialect

Morley SHS offers EAL/D classes in Years 11 and 12. If a child is eligible for EAL/D, parents should bring this to the attention of the school administration on enrolment so that assistance may be organised as appropriate. Eligibility will be checked prior to enrolment in the subject. If the student has a visa number this must be given to the school on enrolment.

## **MATHEMATICS**

All Year 7 students study a common course which reflects and addresses all of the Mathematics Learning Area strands which are *Number and Algebra, Measurement and Geometry* and *Statistics and Probability.* 

In Year 7, students engage in a variety of mathematical processes including everyday problems involving rates, ratios and percentages, and solving problems involving profit and loss. They make sense of time duration in real applications. They choose appropriate language to



describe events and experiments. They explain issues related to the collection of data and the effect of outliers on means and medians in that data. Students use efficient mental and written strategies to carry out the four operations with integers. Students convert between units of measurement for area and volume.

## SCIENCE

in Year 7, students explore the diversity of life on earth and continue to develop their understanding of the role of classification in ordering and organising information. They use and develop models such as food chains, food webs and the water cycle to represent and analyse the flow of energy and matter through ecosystems and explore the impact of changing components within these systems. They consider the interaction between multiple forces when explaining changes in an object's motion. They explore the notion of renewable and non-



renewable resources and consider how this classification depends on the timescale considered. They investigate relationships in the Earth-Sun-Moon system and use models to predict and explain events. Students make accurate measurements and control variables to analyse relationships between system components. They explore and explain these relationships through appropriate representations and consider the role of science in decision making processes.

## **HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES**

The Year 7 program takes students on a learning journey developed to engage students and introduce them to the wonders and challenges of our world. Students are provided with an opportunity to investigate our geographical, historical and cultural worlds, past and present. Students are challenged to demonstrate their abilities to problem solve and to demonstrate their ability in a wide range of skills, using varied assessment tools. The Year 7 Curriculum for Humanities and Social Sciences includes the following subjects:



Semester 1 Geography History Semester 2
Economics and Business
Civics and Citizenship

# THE ARTS

Students in Year 7 study a program that includes Art, Media, Music and Dance. Year 7/8 students experience one term in each of these four subjects, and the sequence of study varies from class to class. Following these introductions in Year 7 and 8, students choose to study one or more of these subjects in Years 9 to 12. Students in the School of Screen and Media programs will study this in place of Arts subjects.



- In **Art**, students learn about the elements and principles of design and apply their knowledge and skills in **Art** and **Graphic Design** situations.
- In Media, students investigate visual language and how it is used in photography and video production. Students demonstrate what they have learnt by producing their own video and photographic products.
- **Dance** exposes the students to both the performance and fitness routines of dance movement and modern dance techniques.
- In Music, students experience a range of music over different time periods and cultures and develop a sense of musical appreciation and the skills needed to compose their own music. Students involved in playing a musical instrument have additional lessons through Instrumental Music School Services (IMSS).

# HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Morley SHS is a strong supporter of student physical education and health. In Year 7 students spend one third of the time allocated to this area in a Health Education Program which introduces them to the knowledge, skills, attitudes and values required to live a healthy and happy life. The remainder of the time is spent on Physical Education where the emphasis is placed on developing the skills required for different types of physical activity. Students should develop confidence in their abilities to participate in physical activities and in working in cooperation with others. Students are also encouraged to join

school sporting teams and participate in school sport events such as Athletics and Carnivals.

## **TECHNOLOGIES**

Each semester, students in Year 7/8 study different areas of Technologies. Over the year the students build on skills, concepts and processes developed in earlier years, and are given the opportunity to create a range of solutions by applying their problem solving skills. In Years 9 – 12, there are a variety of Digital Technologies, Design and Technologies, Home Economics subjects available for study to develop greater levels of skill, and students can undertake specialist Certificates, general subjects and ATAR subjects in Senior School as part of their WACE course. Students in the Aviation Academy program will study this in place of Technologies subjects.



## LANGUAGES

On entry to Morley SHS, students select to study either Chinese (Mandarin) or Japanese. It is recommended that students continue the language studied at Primary School, however this is not a requirement. Once a language has been selected, students study that language from Years 7-9, and may choose to continue in Years 10, 11 and 12. Students engage in traditional classroom learning as well as excursions, language workshops, language film festivals, cultural days and may participate in exchange trips with our sister schools in Japan and China.



# HOMEWORK POLICY AT MORLEY SHS

The revision, practice and completion of learning at home is considered necessary so that the child can consolidate her/his school learning and acquire desirable study habits to achieve good standards.

SUGGESTED TIMES			
Year 7	1.0 hour / night	5 hours per week	
Year 8	1.5 hours / night	7.5 hours per week	
Year 9	1.5 hours / night	7.5 hours per week	
Year 10	2 hours / night	10 hours per week	
Years 11 & 12	3 hours / night	15 hours per week	

- Homework may consist of completion of unfinished work, set exercises, set assignments or tasks, preparation for tests or class activities and revision work.
- More information on study tips and techniques are in the diary. Students are responsible for maintenance of their diary. Parents should monitor this diary and be aware of the progress.

Homework Club is provided after school every Tuesday and Thursday in the library, where teachers are available to give students general or specialist help in a variety of learning areas.

# **EXTENSION PROGRAMS**

#### The AVIATION ACADEMY

Morley SHS is one of a few public schools in the metropolitan area that offers a specialist program in Aviation. Students accepted into the program at Year 7 level are expected to continue the study of Aviation in Years 8 - 10. Students can then elect to continue their Aviation studies in Years 11 and 12. In Year 7 the study of Aviation replaces the courses other students study in the Technologies learning area. In Years 7-10 Aviation studies cover topics such as: Aeroplanes at War, Physics of Flight and Flying the Aeroplane.

**Eligibility:** Aptitude testing is held throughout year for interested students in Year 6. The test includes English Comprehension, Mathematics, Science and a Written Essay. The top students from these tests are offered a place. Parents may ring the school to enquire about the dates for testing. Further enquiries may be directed to the Aviation Teacher. **Students accepted into the program are expected to pay 50% deposit of program fees on acceptance of their place.** 

#### The SCHOOL OF SCREEN AND MEDIA

Morley SHS is the only secondary school in Western Australia offering specialist programs in School of Screen and Media. This subject offers students the opportunity to link traditional Arts skills to the contexts of Broadcasting (Television) and Multimedia. This environment fast-tracks their knowledge, skills and understandings in the areas of Drawing, Digital Photography, Graphics, Media Design and Multimedia Production using our custom designed facilities.

**Eligibility:** Aptitude testing is held throughout the year for interested students in Year 6. The top students from these tests are then offered a place. Applicants can also submit a folio of Drawings (drafts and finals), Paintings, Photography, and/or CDs/DVDs/thumbdrives (that you have produced). Parents may ring the school to enquire about the dates for testing or look out for more information on our website. Further enquiries may be directed to the Multimedia Teacher. **Students accepted into the program are expected to pay 50% deposit of program fee on acceptance of their place.** In Year 7 the study of Screen and Media replaces the courses other students study in the Arts learning area.

#### INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC PROGRAM

Students in the Music Program study class music for two periods per week for a semester. Additionally they are given weekly lessons in instrumental music from a qualified teacher/musician employed by the Instrumental Music School Services. There is no charge for this tuition. Students are expected to do at least 30 minutes practice for six days a week on their chosen instrument. Students selected in the Special Music Program have a commitment to participate in the School Band program and be involved in the required practices and performances.

**Eligibility:** Students who have played an instrument for the last two years (through IMSS) of primary school are eligible. Students with no instrumental background may be admitted if they successfully complete the listening test.

#### PERFORMANCE PLUS (P+)

The Inuagural Year 7 Performance Plus class commenced in 2018 at Morley SHS. This class is designed to enrich the learning experience of high performance students in Mathematics, English, Humanities and Science. Students will be encouraged to become critical thinkers through enrichment opportunities in each of these learning areas. There will also be regular opportunities for students to participate in cross-curricular activities. The P+ program continues to Year 9.

Students are selected for this program through submission of a portfolio of evidence, (including school reports, NAPLAN results), which demonstrates sustained high achievement in primary school. Invitations to apply for this program will only be offered once enrolment at Morley SHS has been confirmed.

## TALKING TO YOUR SCHOOL

Morley SHS is committed to responding promptly and helpfully to issues that arise in relation to your child's education. Parents play a critical role in a child's learning, both formal and informal. Teachers, while responsible for the more formal aspects of a child's learning, acknowledge that learning is most effective where parents and teachers are as actively engaged **together** in the educative process.

#### Morley SHS may communicate with you, through electronic newsletters and media platforms, about:

- Assemblies, special events, celebrations and displays of students' work,
- Information about school-based processes such as NAPLAN and OLNA, attendance, approaches to homework, behaviour management, excursions and dress codes,
- Information about fees, charges and contributions.
- Information on Education Department policies, especially if there are changes which affect your child,
- Course details, assessment policies and student achievement reports for each learning area,
- School Business plan and Annual Report,
- Information about participation in the School Board, Parents and Citizens' Association, and other support groups,
- Surveys, and
- Information about subject choices for the next school year.

The school uses email to communicate with parents but parents can also access CONNECT, FACEBOOK and our website for more information.

#### What can you do if you have a problem?

Seeking information as early as possible can solve many problems.

- If you have issues or questions related to your child's learning environment, attitude, progress, attendance, participation, the homework set or the assessment procedures, contact the class teacher or Head of Learning Area.
- If you have issues or questions related to your child's social and emotional wellbeing, contact the Tutorial Teacher or the Year Coordinator.
- If you have issues or questions related to your child's access to support services such as student services or external services, **contact the Student Services Manager**.
- If you have issues or questions related the quality of teaching, policies and procedures, and conduct of staff contact the Deputy Principal or Principal.

Contact the school office to arrange a mutually convenient time for a telephone conversation or meeting. If language is a difficulty the school can organise an interpreter.

#### What can you do if you have a complaint?

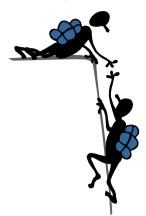
Morley SHS is committed to working out complaints in a fair, timely and equitable manner. If you need assistance in resolving a concern or complaint, staff will help you obtain information about school policies and procedures and clarify a problem and register a concern with the school. They will refer you to the appropriate person to direct letters or emails of enquiry or complaint.

## STUDENT WELLBEING

Morley SHS has a variety of policies and processes designed to maintain an orderly and safe environment for your child. These processes are managed by the Student Services Manager and the Student Services Team in consultation with the Deputy Principals. These processes include, but are not limited to;

- Attendance
- Student conflict and bullying (including cyberbullying)
- Unlawful substances/items at school
- Positive behavior management and good standing
- Uniform
- Student recognition and reward

Morley SHS invests significantly in student wellbeing. The mission of the Student Services Team and Student Services Manager is to work with students who may be at educational risk for a variety of reasons and to help ensure that schooling is seamless and effective for all students. All students are able to access the services of the team and parents are encouraged to contact the Student Services team if there are issues which may impact on their child's wellbeing at school.



The school uses a Restorative Justice Framework when dealing with issues of student management. Your first contact when raising issues of student wellbeing should be your child's Tute Teacher and/or Year Coordinator. Parents will be contacted by phone/email in the event that there are issues with a child's performance – either academic or behavioural – and are asked to respond promptly to teacher's concerns. We are happy to work with parents in managing these issues as they arise.

There are several important non-teaching members of staff available to help students at Morley SHS:

#### What does a Chaplain do?

The Chaplain is one of a number of staff at Morley whose particular role and concern is the well-being of everyone within the school community. One of the major roles of the Chaplain is to be available as a friend, listener, counsellor and to assist in a wide variety of school activities including camps, excursions, sports events, committees. They will also assist Student Services when necessary. The Chaplain is not here to promote God or Christianity to students, as individuality is respected, however, if you or your son/daughter wishes to discuss religion the Chaplain would be happy to do so. The Chaplain is not a teacher and is only in the classroom if invited to discuss a particular subject or issue.

#### What does a Nurse do?

The role of the School Nurse is to assist students with medical issues, both physical and mental. The School Nurse is a bridge that parents and teachers can use to access medical services for students in need. The Nurse has a significant role in ensuring the successful transition of students with medical issues to Morley SHS and in supporting them and their families while they are onsite. The Nurse is also involved in First Aid training for staff and students at Morley SHS and deals with medical emergencies.

#### What does a School Psychologist do?

The role of the School Psychologist is to assist students with their mental health. Students often experience stress in high school for a variety of reasons and the School Psychologist can provide specialist strategies to help a student deal with issues that arise that might need support through counselling. The School Psychologist is also a bridge that parents and teachers can use to access medical services for students in need. The School Psychologist has a significant role in ensuring the successful transition of students to Morley SHS and in supporting them and their families while they are onsite.

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