



Kindergarten Handbook for Families

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About Kindergarten

Welcome to kindergarten!

We are excited to welcome you to Northern Schools Early Years (NSEY)!

Thank you for choosing our kindergarten for your child. We look forward to sharing in your child's learning journey and getting to know you and your child throughout the year.

We recognise that parents are the child's first teacher and there has been much learning that has already taken place for your child.

We pride ourselves on forming relationships with families that are based on trust and respect, where teachers and families work in partnership, sharing the task of guiding your child's development and learning.

Every child's learning journey will be slightly different. Our goal is for your child to be engaged and connected to their community and an active participant in their own learning and development in the kindergarten program.

Our programs have a focus on authentic relationships to support individual children's wellbeing and development, and a strong emphasis on learning through play in nature, cultural safety and diversity. Children are encouraged to explore, discover, create, investigate, wonder, be spontaneous, take supported risks, make mess and noise, and be wholly engaged in learning through play. Every NSEY service is different, but our programs share this in common.

Children are provided with lots of different resources, materials and experiences, both indoors and outdoors, from which they can freely choose throughout their session at kindergarten, as well as guidance to help them develop particular skills and abilities. Children can choose to play on their own, with other children or with adults. The teachers and educators provide a warm, caring and secure environment, which encourages children to become curious, creative and involved learners.

Most of our services are located on school sites and operate as a Kindergarten to Year 6 (K-6) model, where the kindergarten is considered a part of the school community. This has enormous benefits for children and families, and children get to develop a sense of belonging in the school environment from the very beginning.

Families are children's first and most important educators, and as such we encourage parents to be involved in our programs. Kindergarten is not just a place for children - it is a place for you too. It is somewhere you can discover, meet new friends and contribute to your child's learning. There are opportunities for you to join in with your child program and offer your personal skills and knowledge to enrich the children's learning and development.

The benefits of kindergarten

Attending kindergarten is one of the most important stages of a child's education. It is the stepping stone for future learning.

Our kindergarten curriculum is guided by the Early Years Learning Framework and the Victorian Early Years Learning and Development Framework (VEYLDF). The vision and purpose of these frameworks is to guide early childhood teachers in partnership with families towards the achievement of agreed Learning Outcomes where children:

- Have a strong sense of identity
- Are connected with and contribute to their world
- Have a strong sense of wellbeing
- Are confident and involved learners
- Are effective communicators.

As part of these outcomes the curriculum also supports children to:

- Develop self-esteem and confidence
- Encourage growth towards independence and self-regulation
- Help the child to develop their individual sense of agency
- Encourage a love of learning and dispositions that reflect curiosity and wonder
- Develop respectful relationships with peers and adults.

Two years of free kindergarten

Since 2023, the State Government has provided funding for two years of free kindergarten for children before they start school, starting from when they are three years of age.

In 2026, children who turn 3 by 30 April are entitled to 15 hours of funded kindergarten. The State Government provides a per capita grant to kindergarten service providers based on data submitted to the Department of Education and Training which makes kindergarten free for families.

Children who turn 4 by 30 April in the year prior to school are entitled to 15 hours of kindergarten funded by the State Government.

If your child is attending more than one funded service you will be asked by the service(s) to nominate which service you wish to receive the funding. Your child cannot access kindergarten funding at more than ONE kindergarten.

Pre-Prep

Some children are eligible for Pre-Prep, which provides up to 30 hours of kindergarten per week. Pre-Prep offers a longer program in the year before school, which means there will be more time for children to deepen their learning and development.

From 2026, between 22.5 and 25 hours of Pre-Prep will be available to the following children attending Northern Schools Early Years Services:

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children
- children from a refugee or asylum seeker background
- children who have had contact with Child Protection services
- children supported by Early Start Kindergarten or Access to Early Learning in their Three-Year-Old Kindergarten year.

Please speak to our enrolments team or your child's teacher if you think they are eligible for Pre-Prep but are not yet enrolled to attend the extended hours. Read more about Pre-Prep on the [Department's website](#).

Term dates for 2026

Our kindergarten programs are delivered in line with the school term dates. For 2026, these are as follows:

	Start date	Finish date
Term 1	28 January 2026	2 April 2026
Term 2	20 April 2026	4/26 June 2026
Term 3	13 July 2026	18 September 2026
Term 4	5 October 2026	18 December 2026

The specific term start/end dates for each kindergarten program depend on the days of the week it operates, but the above dates provide a general guide. Please note, the first and last day of the term are student free days.

Management and staffing of the kindergarten

Management of the kindergarten

NSEY is a not-for-profit Early Years Management organisation established in 2011 to provide effective governance and management of several kindergartens on school sites across the Hume, Moreland and Macedon Ranges and the City of Melbourne municipalities. NSEY currently operates a long day care service at the Glenroy Hub Children's Centre and 18 kindergarten services (17 of which are co-located on school sites), under a collaborative governance structure involving school principals, local government representatives and community sector representatives.

A Board of Directors oversees the strategic direction of the NSEY. It comprises representatives from local government, the community sector, early childhood experts, and school leaders. Primary school principals take an active role in the governance and oversight of the kindergartens via the NSEY Principals Network Group, working closely with the Early Years Management team to plan for future infrastructure and service requirements based on the needs of the local community.

The NSEY Office is responsible for enrolments and administration of the kindergarten program (including fees). For enquiries in relation to enrolments or fees please contact us by calling the Office on 9306 1662 or by email at office@nseyc.org.au

At NSEY, our purpose is 'To love a life of learning and living'. We value:

- **TRUST**
- **RELATIONSHIPS**
- **RESPECT**
- **CURIOSITY**

Our goals are:

- Quality children's services
- Sustainability
- Strengthening communities
- Strengthening our workforce
- Growth

Kindergarten staffing

Our kindergarten teachers and educators are knowledgeable, competent, and are committed to providing the best quality early learning experiences for the children in our communities. They will work hard to get to know your child and your family and develop trusting relationships to support their individual learning journey.

Our kindergarten staffing reflects the requirements for centre-based early childhood education and care operating under the [National Quality Framework](#). Our kindergarten programs are led and delivered by bachelor-trained early childhood teachers. In addition, all educators hold a minimum of a certificate III early childhood qualification, and at least 70 per cent of educators hold, or are actively working towards, at least an approved diploma level education and care qualification.

Additional support

In addition to our teachers and educators, you might meet other professionals at the kindergarten who are there to support all children's participation in the program. Many of our services have Kindergarten Inclusion Support workers, plus we work closely with primary school Wellbeing teams and Foundation Teachers, Preschool Field Officers, Allied Health professionals (such as speech pathologists and occupational therapists), and some of our services have a Family Support Worker (or Social Worker) on site. The Family Support Worker is there to support the team and work with families to address barriers to kindergarten participation and support inclusion. You can read more about the NSEY model at <https://nseyc.org.au/our-model/>

Quality assessment and rating

Early childhood education and care services (long day care, family day care, preschool/kindergarten, outside school hours care) are assessed and rated against the [National Quality Standard](#) (NQS) to:

- promote continuous improvement in the provision of quality education and care
- improve knowledge and access to information about the quality of services to help families make informed decisions about their child's education and care.

The NQS is part of the National Regulations and includes 7 quality areas that are important to children's learning and developmental outcomes. These include:

- QA1. Educational program and practice - Children are supported to participate in play and learning
- QA2. Children's health and safety - Children are protected from illness and hazards
- QA3. Physical environment - Children play in a safe and well-maintained environment
- QA4. Staffing arrangements - There are enough qualified staff to give children the attention they need
- QA5. Relationships with children - Children are made to feel supported and welcomed
- QA6. Collaborative partnerships with families and communities - Local community involvement and respect for the beliefs and values of families
- QA7. Governance and leadership - Children are cared for in a positive and well managed environment.

Before starting kindergarten

Using EnrolNow

Enrol Now is an online system where parents/guardians can complete their child's enrolment. For parents/guardians who are unable to complete their child's enrolment online, a hardcopy can be provided by the NSEY Head office or your child's kindergarten service.

Completing enrolment

Before your child starts kindergarten, please make sure you have completed the enrolment form (either online or in hard copy) and provided all the necessary documentation including:

- Your child's original birth certificate or copy of passport (we will take a copy)
- Your child's current Immunisation History Statement. This document **MUST** be up to date, otherwise your child will not be able to attend the service
- Concession card, Health care card, IMMI card if applicable
- Digitally signed Funded Kindergarten declaration form (you will receive an email to complete this)
- If your child has an allergy or illness, a Medical Action Plan signed by your child's doctor

If your child is attending 3-year-old or 4-year-old kindergarten, you also need to provide:

- proof of your eligibility for Early Start Kinder (where applicable), such as a concession card or refugee/asylum seeker visa
- Please provide copies of any qualifications that the child's parents hold (such as a Certificate, Diploma or Degree). This is required as it affects the level of funding the kindergarten receives from the Government.

Registering for Sign In / Sign Out (SISO)

Please note that your child will not be able to start at kindergarten until their enrolment form is complete and we have all documents we require.

- Once the enrolment process is completed and the child begins attending kindergarten, parents are required to **register themselves for our 'Sign in / Sign Out' portal on their child's first day.**
- This is done using **SISO**, an online platform provided through EnrolNow. Parents can register using the **mobile number they provided in the Enrolment Form.**
- During the registration process, parents will be asked to **create a Personal Identification Number (PIN).**

It is important that they remember this PIN, as it will be required to **sign your child in and out** each day the child attends kindergarten.

Authorised Nominees (Emergency Contacts) must also register for SISO for when they come to collect your child from the centre. Please note, the authorised nominees **must be 18 years or above.** Their details are collected as part of the enrolment form.

Compliments and complaints

We hope that families within our kindergarten are happy with the service we provide. Staff are available to discuss any feedback or concerns parents may have. In the first instance, it is preferable for families to address any concerns with the teacher, particularly those relating to your child or the program.

Should you still not be satisfied or wish to discuss any other issues, please feel free to contact our office to speak to the service's Area Manager on 9306 1662.

A "Complaints policy" can be found on our website (www.nseyc.org.au) or in the policy book located at each kindergarten.

What to bring to kindergarten

Kindergarten bag

Your child will need to bring a bag large enough for carrying their belongings and any artwork they do at kindergarten. They will need to bring their bag on the days that they attend the kindergarten. It would be appreciated if you could also include the following items in their bag:

- A change of clothes (underwear, socks, t-shirt, long pants) in case of accidents or wet/messy activities. Children can become upset about putting on strange clothes and find it more comforting to put something on if they know that it belongs to them.
- A sun hat and sunscreen. In line with the organisation's SunSmart policy, sunscreen will also be supplied at the kinder.
- A coat or warm jacket and a warm hat (beanie) in winter.

Please ensure that all clothing and other belongings are clearly labelled with your child's name.

Clothing

We ask that you dress your child in comfortable clothes that are easy to move in and that they can manage for themselves (e.g., trousers that pull down easily when they go to the toilet). It is also a good idea to label all removable clothing! The staff will do their best to protect the children's clothes and the children will be encouraged to wear smocks when they paint, play with clay and do other "messy" activities. However, it is not possible for the children to stay clean at all times, so it is better for the children to wear clothes that wash easily.

As a safety precaution please also send your child in shoes with a closed-in toe and that do not slip off their feet to enable your child to run and climb (no thongs please).

Even in the winter months children are encouraged to play outside, therefore we ask that you provide an appropriate cool weather hat and coat, as well as gumboots for wet days.

Water bottle

Your child will need to bring a filled water bottle with them to kindergarten for every session that is clearly labelled with your child's name. We encourage healthy eating at kindergarten, so water is the best option for your child.

Sun protection

We are a Sun Smart service and will follow our Sun Smart Policy at all times. The Policy can be accessed on the [NSEY website](http://www.nseyc.org.au) and in the policy handbook located at each kindergarten. We are guided by the Cancer Council UV ratings as to when sunscreen is required.

The NSEY kindergartens operate indoor/outdoor programs where children are able to choose where they play, either indoors or outdoors. Both environments are supervised constantly by kindergarten staff. Outdoor play is an essential part of the kindergarten program. Given this some children may spend a large proportion of their day learning in the outdoor environment. To ensure your child is protected for the sun please provide a hat with a wide brim. If your child has any skin sensitivities, please also provide appropriate sunscreen for the kindergarten staff to apply.

Please make sure your child wears light clothing in summer, such as a t-shirt, shorts or skirt and a hat. If your child does not bring a hat, they may be asked to play in the shade to limit the risk of sunburn. A hat with a broad brim, such as a school hat, is ideal.

Healthy food

Healthy eating is encouraged and promoted at our kindergartens.

Children will have morning tea and lunch, and afternoon tea for longer day sessions, during and as part of the session they attend. You will need to provide a snack and lunch for your child to eat while they are at kindergarten. The snack and lunch may include, for example, a sandwich, any piece of fruit, cheese, carrot, celery, sultanas, yoghurt and a drink. Or alternatively please pack food that you would normally eat at home.

Please do not send chips, lollies, chocolates, cakes, or mini packets of 'shapes' (e.g. pizza shapes), chewing gum, fizzy drinks or drinks in glass bottles, which are not in line with our Healthy Eating Policy. Additionally, please avoid sending foods that contain nuts as these are common allergens for children – particularly if you have been advised that there is a child with anaphylaxis attending the kindergarten.

We ask that you please place their snack/lunch in containers clearly labelled with your child's name. If there are any items need to go in the refrigerator, please let staff know at the beginning of the kindergarten session.

Some services practice what is known as 'progressive snack'. This is where children are encouraged to make their own decisions about when they have their morning snack. This allows the child to engage in long uninterrupted sessions of play which supports their growth and development. If you have concerns about your child's eating habits, please have a conversation with your child's teacher.

Attending kindergarten

Orientation and settling in

The first few sessions are an important part of your child's commencement at kindergarten. This is a time to formulate the foundations of relationships with children and adults.

For pre-school aged children, coming to kindergarten may be an exciting adventure, however it may also be stressful. Children need time to build trust with their new educators and to feel secure in their environment before they are ready for separation from their loved one. We offer shorter kindergarten sessions at the start of the year to allow children to settle into the program in smaller groups (you will be provided with an orientation timetable).

You are more than welcome to stay for the first day of kindergarten or until your child has settled in happily, as some children feel shy, need reassurance and need to become familiar with their new

surroundings/teacher. However, if your child has not settled, after the orientation period, your child's teacher may discuss with you an ongoing amended timetable (shorter hours) for as long as necessary to assist your child develop a sense of belonging.

The orientation program is to support children settling into the program. Your child may commence with full sessions at the start of the year should your child be settled and not require the shorter sessions. Please talk to your Early Childhood Teacher at your interview should your child not require an orientation period at the beginning of the year.

Kindergarten parking

To ensure the safety of children at all times around cars and the road please ensure that you:

- Park in an appropriate position, before getting your child out of the car.
- Travel very slowly – children do not have the same viewing ability and perception as adults.
- Be aware of children crossing the road/car park and coming out of the kindergarten and or school.

Arrival and departure

All children must be brought to the kindergarten and picked up by an adult that you have authorised (someone over the age of 18 years). You must wait with your child until the session commences and they are under the supervision of kindergarten staff.

It is important that your child is collected **promptly** at the end of each session. Children often worry if they have to wait more than a few minutes at the end of the session. Staff also require adequate time for other commitments such as preparing for the next session and cleaning.

You must sign your child in and out at the start and end of the day. See the above section 'Registering for Sign In / Sign Out (SISO)' for more information.

Attendance

Under the State Government's policy your child is entitled to 15 hours per week of 3- and 4-year-old funded kindergarten in the two years prior to their attendance at school (up to 30 hours of Pre-Prep, if your child is eligible in the year before school).

To ensure your child receives all off the benefits of kindergarten it is important that your child attends regularly. Please contact the kindergarten and inform the teacher if your child is absent.

Authorisations

If someone other than a parent or guardian is coming to pick up your child please notify staff at the beginning of the session, as they will need to check that the person is nominated on your enrolment form. If they are not listed, you will be contacted by telephone and the person picking up your child will be required to show ID and fill out an authorisation form on arrival to collect the child.

Late pick up

If you are running late, please contact your kindergarten teacher as soon as possible.

Incursions and excursions

During the year incursions, excursions and other special days may be arranged as part of the children's kindergarten program. You will be notified when they are to occur through a notice and will be asked to provide your permission for your child to attend. Kindergarten staff complete a detailed risk assessment prior to the excursion or incursion commencing.

Emergency evacuation

The kindergarten has an Emergency Management Plan on display at each exit point. Parents/guardians are requested to read and familiarize themselves with the plan in case we need to put it into action when they are present.

Evacuation drills are required to be practised with the children, at least once per term. You will be notified of any planned drills.

Service closures

On occasions it is necessary to close the kindergarten due to unforeseen circumstances. Families will be notified through email and via SMS text message.

The kindergarten will be closed for a planned staff professional development day during the year. Families will be notified of this date in advance.

Family participation and communication

Communication with families

Parents are children's first and most important educators, and we place a high value on working in partnership with families to support children's learning at home as well as at kindergarten. Communication between the home and the kindergarten is essential. We ask that you please let the staff know of any changes in your child, their development, the home routine or anything else that you feel we may need to know in order to assist us in planning for your child's learning and development.

If your contact details change, please advise the teacher and update them on the enrolment form via Enrol Now.

It is also essential that families receive timely information about the operations of the kindergarten and anything that is happening within the kindergarten on a daily basis.

The majority of information pertaining to the day-to-day operations of the services and communication from the staff will be shared via email and Storypark. Of course, the kindergarten staff will still communicate with you in person each day at drop off and pick up.

Storypark

We use a communication app called Storypark, which you can download to your phone. Through Storypark you will receive important service information, reminders, and thoughtful reflections on children's learning. As part of our commitment to keeping children safe – both in person and online – we take great care in how we share photos and updates. While we understand how meaningful it is to see glimpses of your child's day, our educators' primary focus is always on being fully present and engaged with the children, rather than

capturing frequent photos. For this reason, you may not see daily photos; instead, we share significant moments and learning experiences when possible. Our goal is to provide updates that are meaningful, respectful, and supportive of every child's wellbeing and privacy.

Parent interviews

As well as attending an interview with your child's teacher at the start of the year, at any time during the year you can arrange an appointment if you wish to discuss your child progress at kindergarten. It is a great opportunity to work in partnership to establish goals for your child.

All staff are very approachable and are committed to working in partnership with you to develop an individual learning plan for your child that will support your child in their learning journey at kindergarten. Our highly experienced teachers will also talk with you about your aspirations and expectations for your child's kindergarten year.

Family participation

We always encourage families to participate in the program and encourage you to share your talents, culture, or stories with the children and staff. Programs are more effective when parents and staff work as a team, and where the learning that happens at kindergarten is also supported at home. Please note that families are not permitted to use personal devices or take photographs within the service (see 'Photos and use of devices in services' for more information.) All adults participating in the kindergarten program are required to hold a valid Working With Children Check (WWCC). The WWCC is free for volunteers and is available at <https://www.vic.gov.au/working-with-children-check>

Celebrations

We are an inclusive community and encourage you to share your traditional and cultural events in the kindergarten program. This may include things like birthdays, Eid, Diwali, Easter, Passover just to name a few.

Many of the kindergartens celebrate these festivals and events as part of the program and would always encourage you to participate and share your knowledge about these things.

Children's health, safety and wellbeing

NSEY is committed to child safety and to providing a safe and secure environment for all at our services. We respect the rights of each child and value the cultural diversity of our children, families, staff and communities. We do not tolerate discrimination.

NSEY and all staff, volunteers and visitors must comply with the Victorian Child Safe Standards. These are the ways in which an organisation will keep children safe. You can read more about the Child Safe Standards on the [Commission for Children and Young People](#) website.

Interactions with children

The NSEY has an Interactions with Children Policy, in line with the National Regulations 2011, that outlines how staff go about developing respectful relationships with children and how we will meet the values of the

organisation in doing this. The Policy can be accessed on the [NSEY website](#) and from the policy handbook located at each kindergarten.

Illness

If your child is sick or shows signs of illness, please keep them away from the kindergarten until they are well enough to return. Infectious diseases spread quickly among children, so please be considerate of other families and keep your sick child at home until they have recovered.

If your child is going to be away, please contact the service and notify the staff of the child's absence.

If your child does contract a contagious condition, it is important that you let the staff know and that you follow the advice of your doctor regarding exclusion from kindergarten. Please note that this is a government directive, and the time of exclusion must be followed. Further information please contact the Communicable Disease Prevention and Control Section on 1300 651 160 or visit www2.health.vic.gov.au/public-health/infectious-diseases/school-exclusion

First aid and emergency care

Minor cuts and abrasions are treated at kindergarten. All staff are trained in First Aid and Emergency Paediatric Resuscitation. Parent will be notified if there is a head injury or other serious injury or if the child is upset and does not settle. You may be asked to collect your child however staff will discuss this with you. Should you wish to be notified of minor cuts and abrasions that occur during the day, please talk to your Early Childhood Teacher.

If a serious accident occurs staff will administer first aid. An ambulance may be called by staff if it is deemed necessary.

Accidents will be recorded and reported to the Victorian Early Childhood Regulatory Authority if the child is required to see a medical professional as a result of the incident or accident.

All accidents require an accident/ illness /injury form to be completed by staff which also require the parent/guardian signature.

Medical authorisation

Through the enrolment form you have given your authority to the kindergarten teacher to call an ambulance for your child in an emergency situation. This means, if your child was to have a serious accident at the kindergarten the teacher/educator has permission to call for an ambulance. It also means that you are responsible for any resulting costs.

The enrolment form also asks that you provide details of your child's medical practitioner. It is compulsory that you fill in/sign this section of the enrolment form.

No Jab No Play

You will be required to provide an Immunisation History Statement as part of the enrolment. Under the '[No Jab, No Play](#)' legislation, before enrolling a child, Early Childhood Services have to first obtain evidence that the child is fully immunised for their age, or on a vaccination catch up program or unable to be fully immunised for medical reasons.

An Immunisation History Statement is available via your myGov account or from the Medicare or Centrelink office. If you require assistance to access your child's IHS, please speak to our enrolments team who can assist you.

'Conscientious objection' is not an exemption under the 'No Jab, No Play' legislation.

Asthma, anaphylaxis, allergies and medical conditions

Each kindergarten has an Asthma, Anaphylaxis and Medical Conditions Policy.

Upon enrolment, families who have children with Asthma, Anaphylaxis, Allergies or a Medical Condition that requires medical support are required to complete a Medical Action Plan with their Medical Practitioner. Your child will not be able to commence kindergarten until this plan is received as this will ensure safety for your child. This is also required under the Regulations.

Parents will need to provide the kindergarten with any medication that is required, in a self-contained plastic container. If an Epipen/Anapen is required, it must be supplied to the kindergarten by the parent/guardian. Please be mindful of the expiry dates on all medication provided to the Kindergartens. Any medication to be administered must be within the use-by date on the packaging and be prescribed to the child.

New allergies, medical conditions, or any changes to Medical Action Plans, need to be reported to staff immediately.

Administration of medication

If your child requires any medication while at kindergarten:

- **your written authorisation is required in the medication book**
- **medication must be provided to the kindergarten in a sealed plastic container that is clearly labelled with your child's name**
- all medication **must be handed to staff** on arrival and staff will ensure it is put in a secure place that cannot be accessed by children
- all medication must be administered by a staff member - **children will not be allowed to keep medicine in their kinder bag or administer it themselves**
- the medication must be what is noted on your child's action plan
- **the medication must have the chemist's label on it – detailing your child's name and dosage.**

If your child requires pain relief during the session (such as Panadol), staff will only administer it if it has been prescribed by a doctor. If this is required, it may be better for your child to stay home from kindergarten while they are unwell or experiencing pain.

Please refer to our medication policy for further information.

Rest and relaxation

As many of our services offer longer kindergarten sessions of up to 7.5 hours, children may still have a sleep and most have an afternoon rest/quiet/yoga session. Please refer to our Relaxation and Sleep Policy at <https://nseyc.org.au/policies/>

Toileting

Children progress at different rates and therefore your child may still be in nappies when they attend kindergarten. We will always cater to individual children's needs and in the case where your child is still in nappies, we will work with families to develop goals to support your child to become independent with their toileting. All of our sites have nappy changing facilities.

Finishing kindergarten

Withdrawing your child

If you plan to withdraw your child from the program before the end of the kindergarten year, please provide a least two weeks' notice to our Enrolment Officer either by email or phone: Office@nseyc.org.au or 9306 1662.

Enrolling in school

Starting primary school is an exciting time for children, parents and carers. In Victoria, the first year of primary school is called Foundation or Prep. To start Foundation (Prep) in 2027, your child will need to turn 5 years old by 30 April 2027. School is compulsory for children who have turned 6 years old.

If your child is starting Foundation (Prep) in 2027, you will be able to apply for enrolment at a Victorian government primary school from the start of Term 2, 2026 (Monday 20 April 2026).

To find out more about what you need to do to enrol, visit <https://www.vic.gov.au/enrolling-foundation-prep>

Transition to school

Most of our services are located on school sites and operate as a Kindergarten to Year 6 (K-6) model, where the kindergarten is considered a part of the school community. This has enormous benefits for children and families, including:

- making it easier for families who have children at kindergarten and school
- providing the opportunity to develop connections and familiarity with the school environment and teachers, which supports a positive transition when children commence their formal schooling
- giving children access to a broader range of facilities and programs (such as a library, gymnasium, kitchen gardens, music and language programs etc.)
- supporting continuity of learning for children from early childhood into Foundation/Prep.

Your child's teacher will work with the Foundation team of their co-located school throughout the year to support a positive transition to for your child. If your child is transitioning to a different school, your child's teacher will work with the school on a transition program to support your child.

In addition, every child attending a funded kindergarten program that is going to school will have a Transition Learning and Development Statement (TLDS) written for them. A child's TLDS is written by early childhood educators and includes a section for families and the child to complete. The TLDS will include information about your child's interests, skills and abilities, including ideas and strategies that support your child to learn best, so that your child's future school can help them settle in successfully.