

Kindergarten Central Enrolment Scheme

- Parent Booklet



What is the central enrolment scheme for kindergarten?

Council is committed to facilitating an equitable application and allocation process for families to access high quality early education services for children.

The central enrolment scheme will support families to identify their three local kindergartens of choice and participate in the allocation process in a transparent and fair manner.

What is Kindergarten?

Kindergarten (sometimes called 'state funded kindergarten', 'preschool' is one year of early education for children in the year before they start primary school.

Kindergarten gives your child important opportunities to learn, make friends and develop skills through a play-based curriculum, it helps prepare your child for their transition to primary school.

Kindergarten programs are developed and delivered by qualified degree trained Educators to deliver the National Early Years Learning Framework, Victorian Early Years Learning and Development Framework; they must abide by the National Education and Care Law and Regulations.

Where is it offered?

Kindergarten is offered in a range of settings including community kindergartens, child care centres, children's centres and schools. They are managed by volunteer parent committees and not-for-profit early years management.

Is my child eligible?

To be eligible for kindergarten children must be four years of age or older by 30 April in the year they start kindergarten, or be eligible programs offering Early Start or Access to Early Learning Kindergarten programs.

CHILD'S DATE OF BIRTH	ELIGIBLE YEAR
01/05/2013 - 30/04/2014	2018
01/05/2014 - 30/04/2015	2019
01/05/2015 - 30/04/2016	2020
01/05/2016 - 30/04/2017	2021
01/05/2017 - 30/04/2018	2022

What does it cost?

The Victorian State Government subsidises places for eligible children to attend one year of kindergarten. An additional subsidy is available to eligible families to provide free or low cost kindergarten.

For more information, visit education.vic.gov.au

Families not eligible for this subsidy will be required to pay an attendance fee, set by each kindergarten to cover the 'gap' between the Government subsidy and the cost of running the kindergarten program.

What is the priority of access allocation criteria?

In accordance with State Government guidelines, children are eligible for allocation priority of access into a kindergarten program if they meet the criteria below.

Priority 1 criteria include a child if they are:

- » at risk of abuse or neglect (including children in out of home care),

- » are Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander,
- » are an asylum seeker or refugee,
- » are eligible for Kindergarten Fee Subsidy,
- » have an additional need,
- » are eligible for a second year of funded kindergarten or
- » have delayed their kindergarten year.

Allocation priority will be subject to resident and non resident criteria.

What are the priority allocation criteria?

There are four levels of criteria for the allocation of kindergarten places:

Priority 1 - Residents of the City of Greater Dandenong (With allocation priority in accordance with State Government guidelines)

Priority 2 - Residents of the City of Greater Dandenong not identified in the priority 1 criteria

Priority 3 - Non residents of the City of Greater Dandenong with children who attend childcare within the municipality for a minimum of three days per week, or whose parent/guardian works or volunteers within the municipality for a minimum of three days per week.

Priority 4 - Non residents of the City of Greater Dandenong

How do families apply to register with the central enrolment scheme for kindergarten?

Step 1 - Visit kindergarten services and decide on the kindergarten that best meets your needs.

Step 2 - Obtain an Enrolment Application Form and complete all details.

Kindergarten application forms are available online on Council's website

www.greaterdandenong.com/document/19354/kindergarten

Step 3

Submit your Enrolment Application Form.

Applications can be posted to Central Enrolment Officer, PO Box 200

Dandenong or emailed to

council@cgd.vic.gov.au

Change of Details

Complete Kindergarten Change of Details' form. Change of Details' forms are available online on Council's website

www.greaterdandenong.com

Allocation of places

ALLOCATION OFFERS	
First Round Offers	1 August
Second Round Offers	1 September
Late Offers	Late applications received after 1 October, will be offered where vacancies exist, in accordance with the priority of access criteria



For a funded kindergarten enrolment form or information, contact:

Kindergarten Enrolment Officer

☎ 8571 1817

@ ChildrenServAdminSupport@cgd.vic.gov.au

Or visit a City of Greater Dandenong Customer Service Centre:

Civic Centre

225 Lonsdale Street, Dandenong

Springvale

397 Springvale Road, Springvale

Parkmore Shopping Centre

317 Cheltenham Road, Keysborough

Noble Park, Paddy O'Donoghue Centre

18-32 Buckley Street, Noble Park



Phone **8571 1000**



Fax **8571 5196**



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Speak and listen: 1300 555 727

Online: relayservice.gov.au



TIS: 13 14 50

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greaterdandenong.com

