# Funded kindergarten place declaration

The Victorian Government provides funding to sessional kindergarten and long day care services to deliver high-quality kindergarten programs in the two years before school. This helps to ensure all Victorian children get the best start in life.

Funding for your child’s funded kindergarten program is provided to your service from the Victorian Government.

Your child can access one funded year in a Three-Year-Old Kindergarten program (between 5 and 15 hours per week) and one year in a Four-Year-Old Kindergarten / Pre-Prep program.

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| Your child can only access one funded kindergarten program at a time. This means that only one service can claim kindergarten funding for your child. If you accept a funded kindergarten place at more than one service and both services receive funding, you may be required to repay the funding and may lose your child’s place in one program. |

Please note that your service is not participating in Free Kinder in 2025. Some families may be eligible for a free kindergarten program (or low fees) by accessing the [Kindergarten Fee Subsidy](https://www.vic.gov.au/costs-kindergarten#free-and-low-cost-kindergarten) or Early Start Kindergarten. Visit <https://www.vic.gov.au/costs-kindergarten> and <https://www.vic.gov.au/early-start-kindergarten> for more information. Please talk to your service if you think your child may be eligible.

**Please complete the form below and return it to your service to let them know where you are claiming your child’s one funded kindergarten place in 2025.**

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| **In 2025, which program will your child be accessing?** |
| **☐** Three-Year-Old Kindergarten (they will start primary school in 2027) |
| **☐** Four-Year-Old Kindergarten / Pre-Prep (they will start primary school in 2026) |

| Will your child attend any other kindergarten or long day care services in 2025? |
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| **☐** No, my child will only attend this service |
| **☐** Yes, my child will also attend another service |

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| **Parent/Carer/Guardian declaration** |
| Your child can only access kindergarten funding at one service at a time. Will your child access their funded kindergarten program at this service?**☐** **Yes, my child will access the funded program at this service.*** I confirm that my child will not accept a funded kindergarten place at any other service.
* I understand that if I accept a funded kindergarten place at more than one service, I may be required to repay the funding and may lose my child’s place in the kindergarten program.

**☐** **No, my child will access a funded program somewhere else.** * If my child attends any other long day care or kindergarten service, I will let them know where my child is receiving their funded kindergarten place.
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| --- | --- |
| Date: | Signature: |
| Child name: | Parent/carer/guardian name: |

**Once completed, please return this form to your service as soon as possible.**

# Kindergarten information sharing

Information for families with children enrolled in a funded kindergarten program

Each year, kindergarten providers collect information about the families and children enrolled at their services. This includes sessional kindergarten and long day care services that offer a kindergarten program. This information is shared with the Department of Education (the department) if your child is enrolled in a funded kindergarten program.

## How the department uses your information

The department uses your information to:

* work out how much funding to pay to your service to help them deliver the kindergarten program.
* plan any changes to funding and supports for services and families and help local councils plan their early childhood services.
* link kindergarten information with other Victorian Government information to help plan supports for Victorians. Data linkage is done in a safe way to make sure that your child’s name is **not** linked to the enrolment information used for analysis.
* complete the Annual Kindergarten Census and meet national reporting obligations. Some enrolment and attendance information is shared with the Australian Bureau of Statistics so that they can report on the numbers of children attending kindergarten in Australia each year. This information is anonymous, meaning your child’s name is **not** shared.
* help academic researchers study part of the childcare or kindergarten system in Victoria. If those researchers are approved, they may have limited access to anonymous information.

Any agency or researcher, whether it’s the Australian Bureau of Statistics, or a researcher at a university, must meet strict criteria on how they use and store this information, even when it’s anonymous.

The department must share information that is not anonymous where required by law.

## Privacy policies

All information is handled in accordance with the Department of Education’s [Privacy Policy](https://www.education.vic.gov.au/Pages/privacypolicy.aspx) and relevant privacy legislation including the *Privacy and Data Protection Act 2014 (Vic)* and the *Health Records Act 2001*.

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