

# Kindergarten Infrastructure and Services Plan

Yarra Ranges Shire

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# 1. Introduction

## 1.1. Reform context

The Victorian Government's \$14 billion Best Start, Best Life (BSBL) reforms are the most significant change to Victoria's early childhood sector in a generation.

The BSBL reforms include:

- **Free Kinder:** Free Kinder is now available for Victorian 3- and 4-year-old children at participating services in standalone (sessional) kindergartens and long day care centres – a saving of up to \$2,500 per child, every year.
- **Pre-Prep:** Four-Year-Old Kindergarten will gradually transition to 'Pre-Prep' – increasing to a universal 30-hour-a-week program of play-based learning for 4-year-old children in Victoria by 2036.
- **Three-Year-Old Kindergarten:** the continued roll-out of Three-Year-Old Kindergarten, with programs increasing to 15 hours a week across the state by 2029.
- **Early learning and childcare centres:** the establishment of 50 Victorian government-owned and operated early learning and childcare centres. These centres will be built in areas with the greatest need and will make it easier for families to access early childhood education and childcare. The first of the centres will open in 2025.

These initiatives demonstrate a clear commitment to improving early learning outcomes for Victorian children, workforce participation and access for families, and present the most significant change to Victoria's early childhood sector in a generation.

Pre-Prep will roll-out in Yarra Ranges Shire in 2034. Statewide, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children, children from a refugee or asylum seeker background, and children who have had contact with Child Protection services, will be able to access up to 25 hours of Pre-Prep in 2026, increasing to up to 30 hours from 2028. Children who have (or have a parent or guardian who has) a Commonwealth concession card and children who are a multiple birth child (triplets or more) across the state will be able to access up to 25 hours of Pre-Prep in 2028, increasing to up to 30 hours from 2030.

## 1.2. Purpose of Kindergarten Infrastructure and Services Plans (KISPs)

New and expanded infrastructure is key to delivering the BSBL reforms and will require a large expansion of kindergarten facilities across the State. KISPs, which are jointly developed with Local Governments, indicate where and when new infrastructure will be required to support both reform implementation and population growth in each of Victoria's 79 local government areas (LGAs). KISPs help all kindergarten providers meet demand and collectively provide a clear picture of infrastructure need across the State.

KISPs support planning for services and future capital works and include detailed information about:

- Current capacity and demand for funded kindergarten

- Capacity to be delivered for planned infrastructure projects and future demand for kindergarten
- Forecast ‘unmet demand’ for kindergarten – that is, the kindergarten places needed that cannot be met by current or planned capacity
- Information specific to each local government area and its early childhood education and care landscape.

KISPs were initially developed to support the roll-out of Three-Year-Old Kindergarten and have now been updated to incorporate Pre-Prep.

KISPs are intended to support planning. They are not funding documents and do not commit any party to addressing the unmet demand identified.

**However, it is expected that future investment requests through Building Blocks and funding decisions about Local Government, not-for-profit projects (including non-government schools) would align with the relevant KISP (including Section 3: Local Context).**

### 1.3. Structure of the KISP

Each KISP consists of the following sections:

- **Section 1:** A short introduction to the Best Start, Best Life reform and the KISP.
- **Section 2:** A map of existing and planned Early Childhood Education and Care services.
- **Section 3:** Local context and knowledge of key information in Yarra Ranges Shire relevant to early childhood education.
- **Section 4:** Unmet demand estimates in Yarra Ranges Shire over the life of the reform.

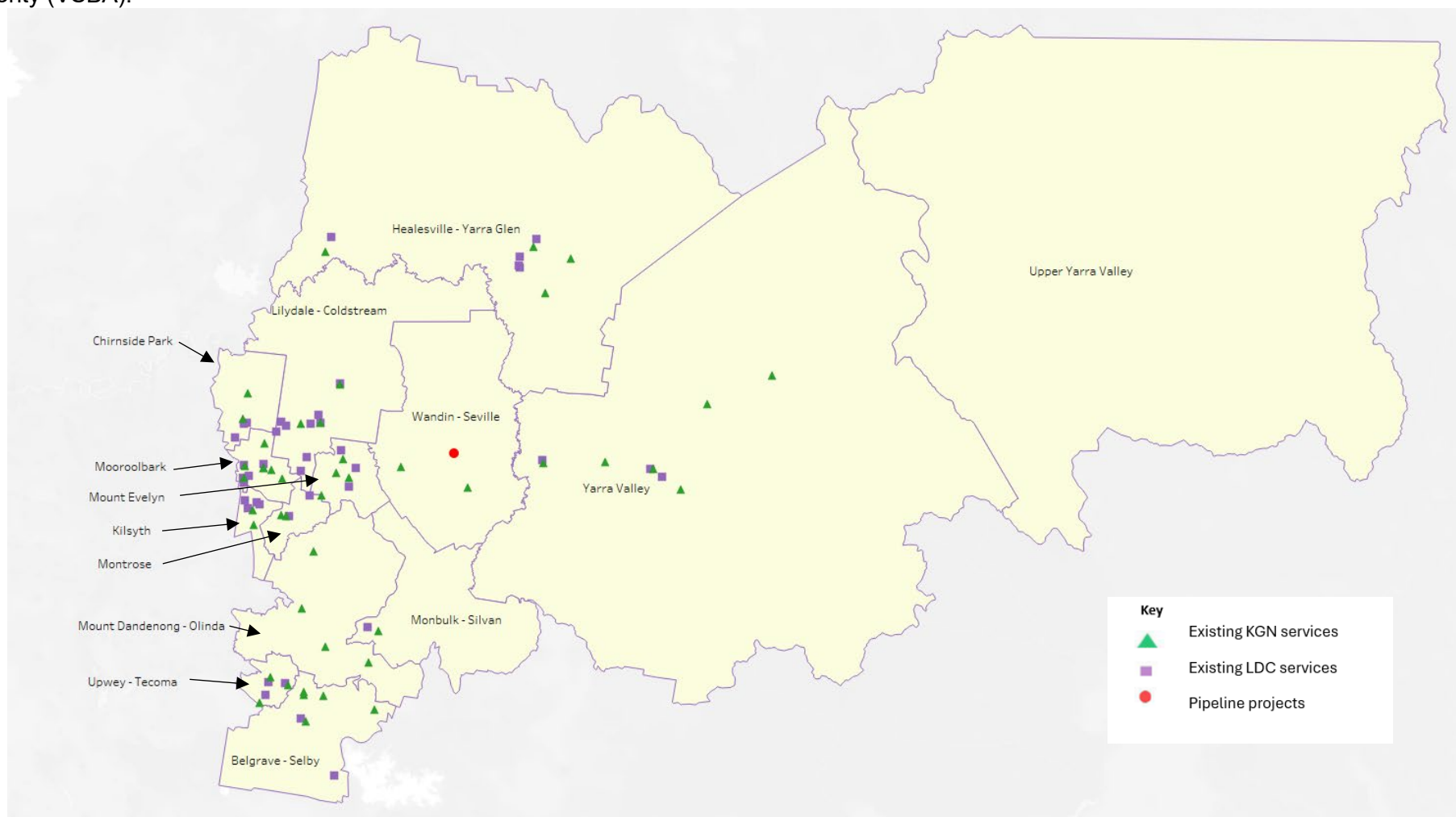
### 1.4. Disclaimer

All data presented in this document is published for information purposes only. Operational and business decisions should not be based solely on this document. Neither the Department nor Yarra Ranges Shire Council warrants, guarantees, makes any representation or assumes any duty of care in relation to the data, including as to its suitability, completeness, accuracy or adequacy.

## 2. Map of Early Childhood Education services in Yarra Ranges Shire

The map below shows the distribution of currently operating and new State-supported services that are planned to open in the future in Yarra Ranges Shire. Planned services by the private sector are not included.

This map has been prepared using departmental data, from both the National Quality Agenda IT System (NQAITS) and the Victorian School Building Authority (VSBA).



## 3. Local context

### 3.1 Purpose

Local, place-based knowledge and context play an important role in supporting the implementation of the BSBL reforms across Victoria. This section of the KISP documents this knowledge and context and should be considered alongside the kindergarten demand estimates in Section 4.

Information provided as local context may support applications through the Building Blocks Capacity Building and Planning Grants streams.

### 3.2 Key considerations

#### Key demographic trends that influence demand for kindergarten

Yarra Ranges is an Interface Council, sitting on the outer eastern edge of Melbourne. It is geographically the largest local government area in Melbourne, covering approximately 2,500 square kms. The municipality spans 100 kilometres, from the densely populated urban areas around Lilydale and Mooroolbark, to the Yarra Valley, Dandenong Ranges, and forested areas of the Great Dividing Range in the east.

In recognition of the diverse geographic and demographic characteristics of the various parts of this large municipality, Yarra Ranges is often divided into four distinct areas for the purposes of planning and service delivery. Table 1 shows how SA2s fit into Yarra Ranges Planning Areas.

**Table 1. Yarra Ranges Planning Areas**

Urban	Hills	Valley	Upper Yarra
Chirnside Park Kilsyth Lilydale-Coldstream Montrose Mooroolbark Mount Evelyn	Belgrave-Selby Monbulk-Silvan Mount Dandenong-Olinda Upwey-Tecoma	Healesville-Yarra Glen	Upper Yarra Valley Wandin-Seville Yarra Valley

Source: <https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/statistical-geography/australian-statistical-geography-standard-asgs>

With an estimated resident population of 160,137 (2024), Yarra Ranges has a large population, but has low population growth. However, population density, levels of growth and age structure differ across the municipality. For example, the Urban Area makes up 7% of total landmass but contains 53% of the population.

In 2025, Yarra Ranges had 2,023 3-year-olds and 1,915 4-year-olds. .id (informed decisions) project a growth in the 3-year old population to 2,039 in 2036, and a growth in the 4-year-old population to 2,054 in 2036.

The socio-economic situation of households in Yarra Ranges, which considers measures such as income and unemployment rates, is similar to the Eastern Metropolitan Region. However, those who live in the SA2s of Yarra Valley and Upper Yarra Valley tend to experience a higher level of socio-economic challenges; this includes a much higher proportion of households headed by a single parent.

More than 2,000 residents with a non-English speaking country of birth moved into Yarra Ranges between 2016 and 2021 (both from overseas and from other areas within Australia). The main birthplaces of these residents were Myanmar, India and China.

In 2024, 194 (6%) 3- and 4-year-olds spoke a language other than English at home and the number of children enrolled in kindergarten with a non-English speaking background has remained steady at approximately 6% per year from 2022-2024.

2021 Census data indicate that the top three languages used at home across Yarra Ranges are Mandarin (0.8%), Italian (0.7%) and Chin Haka (0.7%).

In 2024, Yarra Ranges kindergarten participation rates are similar to the Victorian average, at 95% for 4-year-olds (compared to 96% for Victoria) and 89% for 3-year-olds (90% for Victoria).

**Yarra Ranges Council’s role in the early years**

Council coordinates and hosts grant-funded positions that support families to access safe, inclusive, culturally appropriate and high-quality kindergarten services. These positions also provide workforce support and informal sector support.

While Yarra Ranges Council has a limited direct service delivery role - owning and operating only one kindergarten service (Sherbrooke Family and Children’s Centre) - it plays an important role in enabling kindergarten access through its infrastructure portfolio. Council owns and leases out almost 50% of all kindergarten facilities in the municipality, supporting a diverse and distributed service system across the municipality’s landscape. Within Yarra Ranges Shire there are 83 services:

- 45 stand-alone kindergartens.
- 38 integrated kindergartens in long day care.

**Kindergarten enrolment types**

Since 2022 there has been an increasing trend in kindergarten enrolments in Long Day Care (LDC) however standalone kindergarten (KGN) remains the preference for most families, as shown in Table 2.

**Table 2. Enrolment proportions by service type and age group: Yarra Ranges, 2022 to 2024**

Enrolment type trend by age			
3YOs	2022	2023	2024
Standalone kindergartens (KDNs)	61%	55%	57%
Long Day Care (LDCs)	39%	45%	43%
4YOs	2022	2023	2024
Standalone kindergartens (KDNs)	69%	68%	66%
Long Day Care (LDCs)	31%	32%	34%

Source: Department of Education (2024) Yarra Ranges Early Childhood Education (ECE) Profile.

Supply of kindergarten services and unmet demand can change rapidly, influenced by the introduction of new licensed services, or by existing services adjusting their licensed capacity. Likewise, variations in family preferences for standalone kindergarten or integrated kindergarten in long day care can significantly alter demand for particular service types. Families may also be influenced by the type of kindergarten program offered, like Steiner programs, the Reggio Emilia approach or bush kindergarten.

**2024 Australian Early Development Census (AEDC)**

The AEDC measures the development of children in Australia in their first year of full-time school, at an average age of five years and ten months. It covers five key domains:

- Physical health and wellbeing

- Social competence
- Emotional maturity
- Language and cognitive skills
- Communication skills and general knowledge

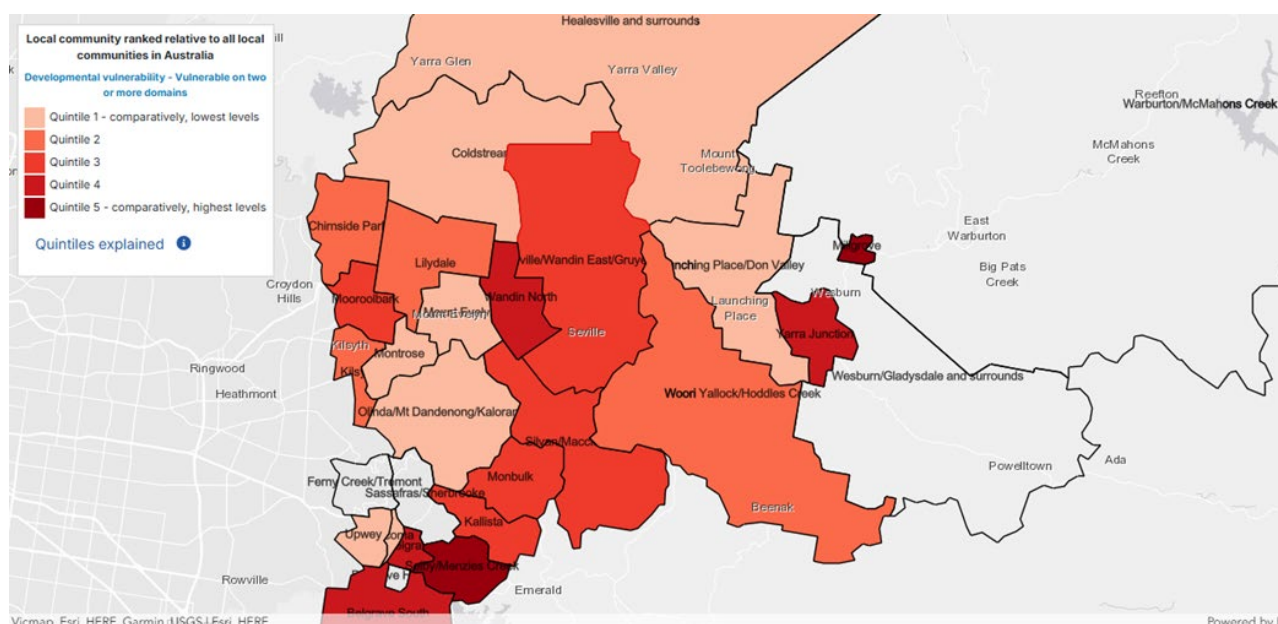
The three summary indicators are:

- Developmentally vulnerable on one or more domains (DV1)
- Developmentally vulnerable on two or more domains (DV2)
- Developmentally on track on five domains (OT5)

In 2024, 57.5% of children in Yarra Ranges were developmentally on track in all five AEDC domains, up from 55.2% in 2021.

The percentage of children in Yarra Ranges measuring DV2 increased slightly from 8% in 2021 to 8.5% in 2024 but was lower than the State average of 11.8%. Diagram 1 illustrates the levels of child developmental vulnerability across Yarra Ranges. Lighter shading indicates comparatively low levels of vulnerability.

**Diagram 1. Developmental vulnerability on two or more domains, 2024 AEDC**



Source: AEDC Community Data Explorer, 2024.

Table 3 shows the indicators with the most significant changes in AEDC results for Yarra Ranges, between 2021 and 2024. There has been progress in language and cognitive skills, with 86.6% of children measuring OT5, compared to 82.7% in 2021. However, emotional maturity skills have decreased, with 8.6% of children developmentally vulnerable in 2024, compared to 6% in 2021.

**Table 3. Significant changes, AEDC 2024**

Physical health and wellbeing	2021 (%)	2024 (%)	Significant change
On track	79.7	80.1	No change
At risk	12	12.7	No change
Vulnerable	8.3	7.2	No change
Social competence	2021	2024	Significant change
On track	78.8	79.3	No change
At risk	14.1	13.1	No change
Vulnerable	7	7.5	No change
Emotional maturity	2021	2024	Significant change
On track	79.1	76.7	Decrease
At risk	14.8	14.7	No change
Vulnerable	6	8.6	Increase
Language and cognitive skills	2021	2024	Significant change
On track	82.7	86.6	Increase
At risk	9.9	8.6	No change
Vulnerable	7.4	4.9	Decrease
Communication skills and general knowledge	2021	2024	Significant change
On track	80	80.5	No change
At risk	15.1	15.6	No change
Vulnerable	4.9	3.9	No change

Source: Australian Early Development Profile 2024. Yarra Ranges, Vic.

For further information about Yarra Ranges 2024 AEDC results please refer to the community profile <https://aedc-gov-au-static-files-dev.s3.ap-southeast-2.amazonaws.com/community-profiles/20079.pdf>

In 2024, 1,621 3-year-olds and 1,841 4-year-olds were enrolled in free kindergarten. Approximately 3% of 3-year-olds and 4% of 4-year-olds were reported to have a disability or developmental delay. The number of 4-year-olds with a disability or developmental delay has decreased. The chart below shows these numbers between 2022 and 2024.

Number of children enrolled with developmental delay or disability			
3YOs	2022	2023	2024
Total enrolled	1628	1611	1621
3yo with disability/delay	42	36	49
%	3%	2%	3%
4YOs	2022	2023	2024
Total enrolled	1818	1928	1841
4yo with disability/delay	88	55	54
%	5%	3%	3%

Source: Department of Education 2024 Yarra Ranges ECE Profile.

Between June 2022/23 and March 2023/24, there was a 16% growth in 0-6-year-olds participating in the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS), increasing from 546 to 632.

In 2024, Yarra Ranges received 264 referrals into the Preschool Field Officer Program; 66% were for social-emotional or speech/communication concerns.

Early Start Kindergarten (ESK) enrolments fluctuated between 2021 and 2024 (see Table 4), which may be due to 3-year-old kindergartens offering up to 15 hours universally over this time period. Approximately 5% of 3-year-olds enrolled in kindergarten in Yarra Ranges are enrolled in ESK programs.

**Table 4. Early Start Kindergarten Enrolments across Yarra Ranges**

2021	2022	2023	2024
69	91	82	87

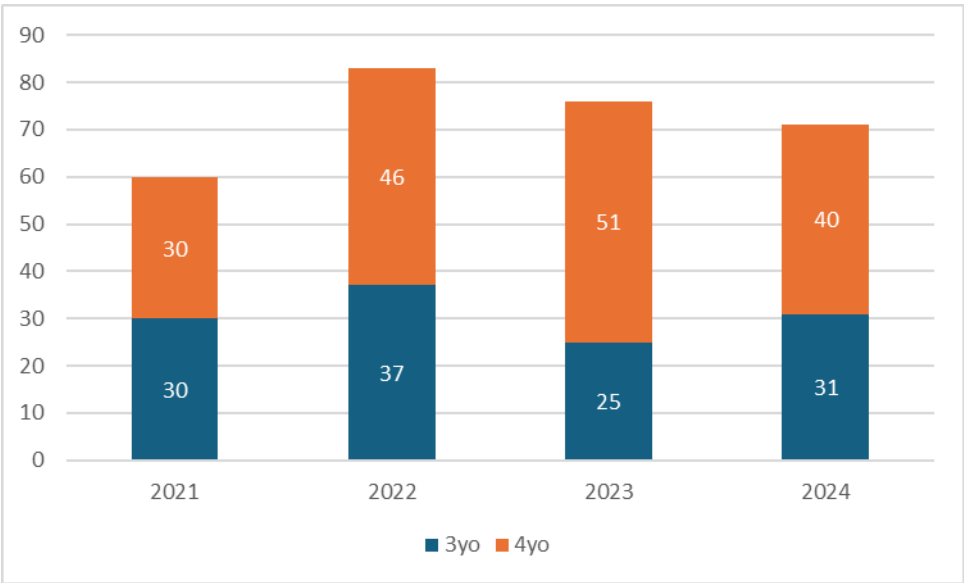
Source: Department of Education 2024 Yarra Ranges ECE Profile and Yarra Ranges Council ESK data

**Aboriginal self-determination in early childhood education and care**

In 2021, there were 1,713 Indigenous people living in Yarra Ranges. The number of residents identifying as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander rose by 26% between 2016 and 2021, as measured by the Census. Upper Yarra Valley (3.4%) and Healesville-Yarra Glen (2.7%) have the highest levels of Indigenous residents; Upwey-Tecoma (0.4%) has the lowest.

Between 2022 and 2024, approximately 2% of children enrolled in 3- and 4-year-old kindergarten identified as Indigenous. Aboriginal children enrolled in Four-Year-Old Kindergarten is typically greater than the number enrolled in Three-Year-Old Kindergarten.

**Graph 2. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander enrolments**



Source: Department of Education 2024 Yarra Ranges ECE Profile

**The Best Start Program**

The Best Start program is funded by the Department of Education. It aims to ensure all children in Victoria, particularly Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and those experiencing vulnerability, have the best possible start in life. The program aims to increase participation in kindergarten, maternal and child health (MCH) services, and supported playgroups.

Organisations in the Best Start partnership aim to identify and address barriers to participation in early years services. They also work to strengthen professional collaboration; ensure service continuity; and embed culturally safe and responsive practices for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families.

The *Marrung Aboriginal Education Plan 2016–2026* recognises that improving outcomes for Aboriginal children hinges on strengthening the connection between universal services and Aboriginal families. This includes empowering families to make decisions about service access, in order to ensure the health, wellbeing, education and development of their child/ren.

In alignment with the goals of Marrung, Best Start partners are committed to supporting the educational journey of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children. Supports include promoting self-determination; and supporting local solutions tailored to the needs and aspirations of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.

### **Projects or trends that may influence the supply of early childhood education and care**

The Urban Area has the highest levels of 0–4-year-olds, who accounted for 6.5% of residents in 2021, and is expected to have the largest increase in its number of young children. This is partly due to projected growth in young families and residential development at Kinley Estate (Lilydale SA2), which is expected to be home to around 10,000 people when completed. Potential infrastructure required to accommodate additional demand for kindergarten in this estate has been considered through site planning processes.

The Best Start, Best Life reforms are the most noteworthy influence on kindergarten supply in Yarra Ranges. The increased hours will increase demand for existing local government infrastructure, beyond what was previously projected in the capital works program for Council facilities (prior to the reforms).

In 2028, Victorian children who have access to a Commonwealth concession card or are from a multiple birth (triplets or more), will have priority access to 16–25 hours of Pre-Prep per week. This will increase to a maximum of 30 hours from 2030, placing further demand on kindergartens in disadvantaged areas and increasing their likelihood of unmet demand. Predicting the number of children eligible for the 2028 priority group could be a particular challenge, as Yarra Ranges does not have access to data on numbers of children or families with a Commonwealth concession card.

Anecdotal evidence indicates that some areas of Yarra Ranges could see more families moving in. This is due to lower property prices compared to other parts of Melbourne, along with a rise in remote work among families who are now less affected by living further from the CBD. Perceived lifestyle benefits of living in a semi-rural location may also be a factor.

Based on Department of Education 2023 data, 6.8% of children who attend childcare in Yarra Ranges live in Maroondah or Knox. Also, 13.1% of children who live in Yarra Ranges attend childcare in Maroondah or Knox. Thus, more children are leaving the area to attend childcare in Maroondah or Knox (462 children), than are coming into Yarra Ranges from Maroondah and Knox (255 children).

### **Key local geographic considerations or information relevant to Three-Year-Old Kindergarten and Pre-Prep**

A high number of Council-owned kindergarten facilities are land-locked, with no or limited capacity for expansion of infrastructure. Many are single room facilities, which can limit options for flexible program modelling.

## Urban Area

The Urban Area accounts for 53% of the Yarra Ranges population. Thus, demand for early years services in this area is high and likely to increase over the next ten years.

The community has good access to early years services and supports, having the largest number of Council-owned early years facilities, and the private sector having a significant footprint in kindergarten and childcare.

Anecdotal evidence suggests that families living in Mooroolbark prefer to access services south-east of Chirnside Park, to avoid having to cross Maroondah Highway.

## The Hills

The Hills area has varied access to early years services and supports, due to the topography of the area and small populations living in different townships. This means early years services are available in some areas but not in others.

The private sector has a modest footprint in the Hills, with services concentrated in Belgrave Heights, Monbulk, Tecoma and Upwey.

Anecdotal evidence suggests that families traveling towards the city for work prefer longer kindergarten opening hours.

## Upper Yarra

Upper Yarra also has varied access to early years services and supports, due to the small populations living in different townships. So early years services are available in some communities but not others.

The private sector has a modest footprint in Upper Yarra, with services concentrated in Woori Yallock and Yarra Junction.

## The Valley

Community access to early years services in the Valley is concentrated in Yarra Glen, Healesville and Badger Creek. This means that early years services are available in some communities and not in others.

The 'not for profit' and 'for profit' sector has a modest footprint in the Valley, with services concentrated in Yarra Glen and Healesville.

## Other information about the expansion of early childhood services

In assessing supply and demand for early childhood services across Yarra Ranges, in the following considerations should be taken into account:

- Kindergarten facilities are aging - 61% of buildings are more than 40 years old and will require significant investment to meet the current and future needs of the community. A number of sites have no or limited capacity for expansion of infrastructure. Thus, the upgrade or renewal of existing facilities to improve functionality, efficiency and accessibility is considered a critical priority for local infrastructure investments.
- Wherever practical, and when considered together with other key factors, it is the preference of Yarra Ranges Council that kindergarten services be delivered alongside, or co-located with, schools and other services and programs. This approach is supported by research evidence, which indicates that integrated early years hubs encourage greater community participation and

provide increased accessibility to essential services - particularly for more vulnerable community members.

- Areas with no projected unmet demand may experience over-supply, which could help offset under-supply in nearby suburbs during parts or all of the roll-out timeline.

## 4. Unmet demand estimates between 2025 - 2036 for Yarra Ranges Shire

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### 4.1 Purpose

As the BSBL reforms are rolled out and Victoria's population grows, demand for kindergarten and Pre-Prep places will increase significantly. While additional capacity will be needed to meet this demand, this will vary across the State and over time, due to differences in the capacity of existing services, growth trends and sector composition.

To identify where, when and how many additional kindergarten places are expected to be required over the roll-out in Yarra Ranges Shire, Yarra Ranges Shire Council and the department have developed:

1. a summary of the current provision of kindergarten within Yarra Ranges Shire (**Section 4.3**).
2. an estimate of kindergarten places that cannot be met through existing services for the 2025 - 2036 period, taking into account the additional demand that can be accommodated by optimising utilisation of existing services and infrastructure (**Section 4.4**).

Local governments and providers can use these published estimates to inform reform implementation activities such as service planning, kindergarten program expansion, infrastructure investments and Building Blocks funding applications in alignment with future demand over the roll-out.

### 4.2 Methodology

The estimated kindergarten places used in the following sections have been agreed between Yarra Ranges Shire Council and the department, and were informed by:

- demand projections developed by the department which draw on a range of inputs, including population forecasts and current enrolments
- the estimated capacity of existing and planned services in the LGA (Section 2)
- where applicable, modelling undertaken by Yarra Ranges Shire and service level information; and
- local knowledge and context provided by the local government (Section 3) that explains particular issues and trends in their area.

#### Kindergarten places explainer

The KISP measures a service's capacity to deliver funded kindergarten in terms of the number of **15-hour places** (referred to as "kindergarten places") available for Three-Year-Old kindergarten and Pre-Prep (noting that, by 2036, two kindergarten places will be required for one Pre-Prep enrolment). The number of kindergarten places is different from a service's licensed or approved places, which count the number of children permitted to attend the service at any one time under the license. Many services can enrol more children in their funded kindergarten program(s) than they have licensed

places for because they can run more than one kindergarten program per week. Kindergarten places are therefore a more accurate measure of service kindergarten capacity than licensed places.

Kindergarten places have been presented as 15-hour places so that new Three-Year-Old Kindergarten places and the additional 15-hour places required for Pre-Prep can be easily compared to existing 15-hour Four-Year-Old Kindergarten places. This is because, when Three-Year-Old Kindergarten is fully rolled out in 2029, three-year-old children will have access to 15-hours of kindergarten. When Pre-Prep is fully rolled out in 2036, four-year-old children will have access to up to 30-hours of kindergarten, an increase of the current offering of 15-hours per week.

It is important to note that enrolments are not equivalent to 15-hour places. One 15-hour place can support a total of 15 hours of delivery per week split between one or more children, including but not limited to the following examples:

One 15-hour place (15 hours of delivery)		
<b>Example 1</b>	1 child	1 x 3YO attending 15 hours per week
<b>Example 2</b>	1 child	1 x 4YO attending 15 hours per week
<b>Example 3</b>	2 children	2 x 3YOs attending 7.5 hours per week
<b>Example 4</b>	3 children	3 x 3YOs attending 5 hours per week

Two 15-hour places can support a total of 30 hours of delivery per week split between one or more children, including but not limited to the following examples:

Two 15-hour places (30 hours of delivery)		
<b>Example 1</b>	1 child	1 x 4YO attending 30 hours per week
<b>Example 2</b>	2 children	2 x 3YOs attending 15 hours per week
<b>Example 3</b>	2 children	1 x 3YO, and 1 x 4YO both attending 15 hours per week
<b>Example 4</b>	3 children	2 x 3YOs attending 7.5 hours per week, and 1 x 4YO attending 15 hours per week

### Geographic boundaries used in the KISP

These estimates have been developed at an LGA and community level to show the overall forecast and variation within an area. The KISP defines community at the Statistical Area Level 2 (SA2), which is a medium-sized area which represents a community that interacts socially and economically, with an approximate population range of 3,000 to 25,000 people, and an average population of about 10,000 people. The KISP uses 2021 SA2 boundaries. More information is available at the [Australian Bureau of Statistics website](https://www.abs.gov.au/australian-bureau-of-statistics-website).

### Supply contributed by pipeline projects

Yarra Ranges Shire Council and the department have added any new places that will be made available through planned expansions of existing services or new services into estimates of existing supply, where this information is available. This may include projects being delivered by not-for-profit providers (including non-government schools) with support from the Victorian Government, planned Kindergartens on School Sites, and government-owned and operated early learning and childcare centres.

The KISP does not estimate how and when the broader sector will expand to meet the additional demand for kindergarten places that are estimated over the roll-out period.

### 4.3 Summary of current kindergarten provision

The figures below provide a summary of current kindergarten provision within the LGA and provide relevant context for the estimates of demand for funded kindergarten places included in Section 4.5. The data included in this section are largely drawn from:

- the department's Kindergarten Information Management System (KIMS), as at 2024.
- the National Quality Agenda IT System (NQAITS), as at August 2025.

Number of services by service type (NQAITS)	
Stand-alone kindergartens	45
Long day care centres (including services not currently delivering funded kindergarten)	40

Percentage of services by management type, LGA level (NQAITS)	
Type	Percentage
Local Government	1%
Private not for profit	58%
Private for profit	33%
Other	8%

Current kindergarten offering in Yarra Ranges Shire	
Three-Year-Old Kindergarten participation rate (KIMS):	89%
Four-Year-Old Kindergarten participation rate (KIMS):	95%
Number of services that offer a funded kindergarten program (KIMS):	83

### 4.4 Agreed estimates of demand for kindergarten places

The below estimates (**Table 1** onwards) have been developed by Yarra Ranges Shire Council and the department to illustrate the estimated:

1. Demand – the total number of kindergarten places expected to be required over the roll-out period to support the current provision of Four-Year-Old Kindergarten, the BSBL reforms, and population growth
2. Supply – the total number of kindergarten places that can be accommodated by existing services and infrastructure, and planned, State-supported services which are yet to open.
3. Unmet demand – kindergarten places that cannot be accommodated by optimising existing services and infrastructure (i.e. the shortfall between demand and supply).

### Interpreting the estimates

Infrastructure need in the LGA and its local communities is indicated by the bottom rows of the tables in this section (**Table 1** onwards): *Unmet demand*. If the number of kindergarten places in this row is above zero, it means that the area is estimated to need additional infrastructure capacity. Any type of provider – local government, not-for-profit (including non-government schools) or for-profit – can build this additional infrastructure.

Sub-SA2 factors may need to be considered to give a holistic picture of unmet demand. For example, in rural communities, one SA2 may contain several small towns, some with excess supply and some with unmet demand. At the SA2-level, demand may appear to be met because all supply and demand is considered in aggregate; however, it is not feasible to for families to drive long distances to access kindergarten capacity in another town. Sub-SA2 factors are covered in **Section 3: Local context**.

**Table 1: Estimated kindergarten places required between 2025 - 2036 in Yarra Ranges Shire**

Yarra Ranges Shire estimates	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035	2036
Demand for kindergarten places	3,423	3,695	3,799	4,031	4,039	4,096	4,068	4,041	4,028	4,430	4,830	5,544
Unmet demand	54	78	70	129	130	147	134	123	123	266	509	1,004

### Community estimates

**Table 2-A: Estimated kindergarten places required between 2025 - 2036 in Belgrave - Selby**

Belgrave - Selby estimates	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035	2036
Demand for kindergarten	217	230	227	235	231	231	229	227	226	246	265	299
Kindergarten supply	423	423	423	425	425	425	425	425	425	430	430	430
Unmet demand	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

**Table 2-B: Estimated kindergarten places required between 2025 - 2036 in Chirnside Park**

<b>Chirnside Park estimates</b>	<b>2025</b>	<b>2026</b>	<b>2027</b>	<b>2028</b>	<b>2029</b>	<b>2030</b>	<b>2031</b>	<b>2032</b>	<b>2033</b>	<b>2034</b>	<b>2035</b>	<b>2036</b>
Demand for kindergarten	296	311	317	338	340	347	345	345	347	384	422	486
Kindergarten supply	371	371	371	378	378	378	378	378	378	393	393	393
Unmet demand	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	29	93

**Table 2-C: Estimated kindergarten places required between 2025 - 2036 in Healesville – Yarra Glen**

<b>Healesville - Yarra Glen estimates</b>	<b>2025</b>	<b>2026</b>	<b>2027</b>	<b>2028</b>	<b>2029</b>	<b>2030</b>	<b>2031</b>	<b>2032</b>	<b>2033</b>	<b>2034</b>	<b>2035</b>	<b>2036</b>
Demand for kindergarten	267	292	295	314	315	318	316	313	312	342	372	424
Kindergarten supply	422	422	422	429	429	429	429	429	429	443	443	443
Unmet demand	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

**Table 2-D: Estimated kindergarten places required between 2025 - 2036 in Kilsyth**

<b>Kilsyth estimates</b>	<b>2025</b>	<b>2026</b>	<b>2027</b>	<b>2028</b>	<b>2029</b>	<b>2030</b>	<b>2031</b>	<b>2032</b>	<b>2033</b>	<b>2034</b>	<b>2035</b>	<b>2036</b>
Demand for kindergarten	245	276	275	298	297	301	300	297	295	329	363	424
Kindergarten supply	273	273	273	279	279	279	279	279	279	290	290	290
Unmet demand	0	3	2	19	18	23	21	19	17	39	73	134

**Table 2-E: Estimated kindergarten places required between 2025 - 2036 in Lilydale - Coldstream**

<b>Lilydale - Coldstream estimates</b>	<b>2025</b>	<b>2026</b>	<b>2027</b>	<b>2028</b>	<b>2029</b>	<b>2030</b>	<b>2031</b>	<b>2032</b>	<b>2033</b>	<b>2034</b>	<b>2035</b>	<b>2036</b>
Demand for kindergarten	427	468	487	531	548	569	579	589	598	669	738	859
Kindergarten supply	577	577	577	590	590	590	590	590	590	617	617	617
Unmet demand	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	51	121	241

**Table 2-F: Estimated kindergarten places required between 2025 - 2036 in Monbulk - Silvan**

<b>Monbulk - Silvan estimates</b>	<b>2025</b>	<b>2026</b>	<b>2027</b>	<b>2028</b>	<b>2029</b>	<b>2030</b>	<b>2031</b>	<b>2032</b>	<b>2033</b>	<b>2034</b>	<b>2035</b>	<b>2036</b>
Demand for kindergarten	75	70	71	76	76	78	76	76	75	87	98	115
Kindergarten supply	105	105	105	105	105	105	105	105	105	107	107	107
Unmet demand	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8

**Table 2-G: Estimated kindergarten places required between 2025 - 2036 in Montrose**

<b>Montrose estimates</b>	<b>2025</b>	<b>2026</b>	<b>2027</b>	<b>2028</b>	<b>2029</b>	<b>2030</b>	<b>2031</b>	<b>2032</b>	<b>2033</b>	<b>2034</b>	<b>2035</b>	<b>2036</b>
Demand for kindergarten	204	212	221	233	231	232	229	226	223	240	258	292
Kindergarten supply	174	174	174	177	177	177	177	177	177	183	183	183
Unmet demand	29	37	47	56	54	54	52	49	46	58	75	109

**Table 2-H: Estimated kindergarten places required between 2025 - 2036 in Mooroolbark**

<b>Mooroolbark estimates</b>	<b>2025</b>	<b>2026</b>	<b>2027</b>	<b>2028</b>	<b>2029</b>	<b>2030</b>	<b>2031</b>	<b>2032</b>	<b>2033</b>	<b>2034</b>	<b>2035</b>	<b>2036</b>
Demand for kindergarten	599	642	672	713	717	727	720	714	711	779	846	967
Kindergarten supply	651	651	651	658	658	658	658	658	658	672	672	672
Unmet demand	0	0	21	54	58	69	62	56	53	107	174	295

**Table 2-I: Estimated kindergarten places required between 2025 - 2036 in Mount Dandenong - Olinda**

<b>Mount Dandenong - Olinda estimates</b>	<b>2025</b>	<b>2026</b>	<b>2027</b>	<b>2028</b>	<b>2029</b>	<b>2030</b>	<b>2031</b>	<b>2032</b>	<b>2033</b>	<b>2034</b>	<b>2035</b>	<b>2036</b>
Demand for kindergarten	161	167	175	183	183	184	182	179	178	194	213	244
Kindergarten supply	283	283	283	283	283	283	283	283	283	283	283	283
Unmet demand	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

**Table 2-J: Estimated kindergarten places required between 2025 - 2036 in Mount Evelyn**

<b>Mount Evelyn estimates</b>	<b>2025</b>	<b>2026</b>	<b>2027</b>	<b>2028</b>	<b>2029</b>	<b>2030</b>	<b>2031</b>	<b>2032</b>	<b>2033</b>	<b>2034</b>	<b>2035</b>	<b>2036</b>
Demand for kindergarten	291	315	332	347	346	349	346	341	338	365	390	441
Kindergarten supply	345	345	345	348	348	348	348	348	348	354	354	354
Unmet demand	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	11	36	87

**Table 2-K: Estimated kindergarten places required between 2025 - 2036 in Upper Yarra Valley**

<b>Upper Yarra Valley estimates</b>	<b>2025</b>	<b>2026</b>	<b>2027</b>	<b>2028</b>	<b>2029</b>	<b>2030</b>	<b>2031</b>	<b>2032</b>	<b>2033</b>	<b>2034</b>	<b>2035</b>	<b>2036</b>
Demand for kindergarten	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kindergarten supply	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Unmet demand	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

**Table 2-L: Estimated kindergarten places required between 2025 - 2036 in Upwey - Tecoma**

<b>Upwey - Tecoma estimates</b>	<b>2025</b>	<b>2026</b>	<b>2027</b>	<b>2028</b>	<b>2029</b>	<b>2030</b>	<b>2031</b>	<b>2032</b>	<b>2033</b>	<b>2034</b>	<b>2035</b>	<b>2036</b>
Demand for kindergarten	219	241	244	258	257	258	253	249	246	267	286	326
Kindergarten supply	277	277	277	281	281	281	281	281	281	289	289	289
Unmet demand	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	36

**Table 2-M: Estimated kindergarten places required between 2025 - 2036 in Wandin - Seville**

<b>Wandin - Seville estimates</b>	<b>2025</b>	<b>2026</b>	<b>2027</b>	<b>2028</b>	<b>2029</b>	<b>2030</b>	<b>2031</b>	<b>2032</b>	<b>2033</b>	<b>2034</b>	<b>2035</b>	<b>2036</b>
Demand for kindergarten	118	131	132	142	140	141	140	138	136	153	171	202
Kindergarten supply	94	94	212	212	212	212	212	212	212	212	212	212
Unmet demand	25	38	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

**Table 2-N: Estimated kindergarten places required between 2025 - 2036 in Yarra Valley**

<b>Yarra Valley estimates</b>	<b>2025</b>	<b>2026</b>	<b>2027</b>	<b>2028</b>	<b>2029</b>	<b>2030</b>	<b>2031</b>	<b>2032</b>	<b>2033</b>	<b>2034</b>	<b>2035</b>	<b>2036</b>
Demand for kindergarten	303	340	350	363	359	360	354	347	341	374	407	466
Kindergarten supply	529	529	529	533	533	533	588	588	588	599	599	599
Unmet demand	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

## 5. Authorisation

The Outer Eastern Melbourne Area Executive Director, Mr Clayton Sturzaker, of the Department of Education and the Director Communities, Leanne Hurst, of Yarra Ranges Council endorse this Kindergarten Infrastructure and Services Plan (KISP) for Yarra Ranges Shire Council by signing on 23 /09/ 2025

This KISP is not intended to create legal relations or constitute a legally binding contractual agreement between the parties. The parties may review this KISP in 2028 to publish a new version that will replace the previous version.

Signed for and on behalf and with the authority of Yarra Ranges Shire Council.



.....

Signature

Name: ...Leanne Hurst.....

Title: ... Director Communities.....

Signed for and on behalf and with the authority of the Department of Education



Signature

Name: Clayton Sturzaker

Title: Executive Director, Outer East, Department of Education