

BUILDING BLOCKS PARTNERSHIP STATEMENT OF INTENT

Mitchell Shire Council

Mitchell Shire Council and the Department of Education have committed to working in partnership to deliver infrastructure for up to 601 funded kindergarten places by 2028 to support the roll out of the Best Start, Best Life (BSBL) reforms.

To support this commitment, State Government has provided in-principle support to co-contribute up to \$23.47 million for early childhood infrastructure projects across the LGA, delivered by Council through to 2028.

This commitment follows work between the Department and Mitchell Shire Council to develop a Building Blocks Partnership Agreement, a forward plan for kindergarten infrastructure provision that will ensure all children in Mitchell have access to two years of funded kindergarten across the BSBL reform.

The announced projects in this package will see the State Government contribute up to \$12.97 million for two major kindergarten infrastructure projects, delivering up to 306 new funded kindergarten places by 2027.

Announced projects

Service name	SA2	Year online	Kindergarten places
Greater Beveridge Community Centre	Wallan	2026	68
Wallan East Integrated Family and Children's Centre	Wallan	2027	238

The approved-in-principle projects will see the State Government contribute up to \$10.5 million for two major kindergarten infrastructure projects, delivering up to 297 new funded kindergarten places by 2028.

Projects approved in-principle

SA2	Suburb	Year online	Kindergarten places
Wallan	Beveridge	2026	68
Seymour	Seymour	2027	238

For further information on childhood infrastructure projects in the Mitchell Shire Local Government Area please check the Statement of Intent for Melbourne Archdiocese Catholic Schools Early Years Education (MACSEYE)

<https://www.education.vic.gov.au/Documents/childhood/providers/funding/Statement-of-Intent-MACSEYE.pdf>

As part of the development of a Building Blocks Partnership Agreement, the Department and Council have signed a Building Blocks Partnership Memorandum of Understanding, which commits both parties, in-principle, to:

- commit to working together to plan and deliver infrastructure to support 15 hours of funded kindergarten for all three-year-old children and 30 hours of funded kindergarten for all four-year-old children across Victoria out to 2036
- supporting the creation of up to 601 new funded kindergarten places through co-investment
- an annual review of proposed projects, allowing project details (timings, scale, scope etc.) to be amended to reflect updated KISP data, enrolment data and local particulars.

This commitment is subject to:

- Council submitting projects to Building Blocks grants program to confirm project scope and readiness to access the agreed State Government funding contribution
- changing requirements as a result of altered market conditions/supply and demand patterns over time, which parties will monitor together as part of the annual Building Blocks Partnership Project Schedule review.

Building Block Partnership Agreements

Building Block Partnership Agreements are a strategic, in-principle agreement between State Government and councils and NFPs to deliver funded kindergarten places via infrastructure investment projects. A Building Blocks Partnership Agreement may only be signed once the associated KISP is signed and published. The primary objectives of Building Block Partnership Agreements are to:

1. Provide greater funding certainty for both State Government and partners about co-investment intentions in a forward pipeline of kindergarten infrastructure.
2. Support State Government and partners to forward plan their infrastructure budgets and deliver facilities in line with kindergarten enrolment growth.
3. Support the successful roll out of the reform by identifying projects that will facilitate the delivery of additional kindergarten capacity over a multi-year period.

The Building Blocks Partnership Agreements form part of the Victorian Government's BSBL Infrastructure Strategy.

Best Start, Best Life infrastructure funding

The state government has committed to rolling out the Best Start, Best Life reform across Victoria, which will support 15 hours of funded kindergarten for all three-year-old children and 30 hours of funded kindergarten for all four-year-old children across Victoria by 2036.

\$14 billion has been committed to support the Best Start, Best Life reform. This funding is used to co-invest in infrastructure with local councils, NFP kindergarten providers and other asset owners.