Kindergarten Infrastructure and

Services Plan

South Gippsland Shire

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# Introduction

## Reform context

In an Australian first, the Victorian Government has committed to implement Three-Year-Old Kindergarten for all children over a 10-year roll-out with a total investment of almost $5 billion, including $1.68 billion to support the infrastructure expansion required for the reform. This reform will add another year of universal funded kindergarten so that, by 2029, all children in Victoria will have access to two years of play-based learning through a funded kindergarten program.

## Purpose of KISPs

Three-Year-Old Kindergarten will require a large expansion of kindergarten across the State. The Government has invited all 79 Victorian Local Governments to discuss and agree upon a Kindergarten Infrastructure and Services Plan (KISP) for their Local Government Area (LGA).

Each KISP has been jointly developed with Local Government and published to estimate the growth in demand for kindergarten within the LGA. The KISPs will help all kindergarten providers meet demand and provide a clear picture of infrastructure need across the State.

While a KISP is not a funding document and does not define required infrastructure projects or commit any party to funding specific projects, it is expected that future investment requests through Building Blocks and funding decisions about Local Government and not-for-profit projects would align with the relevant KISP.

## How to use the KISP

Each KISP contains estimates of future kindergarten supply of, and demand for, Three and Four-Year-Old Kindergarten places against existing enrolment capacity. Not-for-profit and for-profit providers can use these estimates to inform their plans to expand kindergarten programs, establish new services or invest in new or extended facilities.

For example, KISPs provide demand estimates in terms of where, when and how much demand for kindergarten places will grow in an LGA. KISPs also estimate where and how many kindergarten places providers can accommodate in existing facilities before an area needs new infrastructure to meet demand. The estimates can be used to inform decisions about where and when expansions of kindergarten program capacity and the construction of new or extended facilities are needed to meet demand growth.

Where there is an agreed KISP for the LGA, the Local Government and not-for-profit kindergarten providers seeking co-investments through the Building Blocks Capacity Building stream must refer to, and align their proposed project with, the infrastructure need identified in the KISP.

## Structure of the KISP

Each KISP consists of the following sections:

* **Section 1**: A short introduction to the Three-Year-Old Kindergarten reform and the KISP.
* **Section 2**: A map of existing and planned Early Childhood Education and Care service locations.
* **Section 3**: Local knowledge and context relevant to the expansion of kindergarten services.
* **Section 4**: Funded kindergarten demand estimates.

## Disclaimer

All data presented in this document are estimates only and are based on the best information available to the Department and Local Government at the time. They are published on an as-is basis and are for informational purposes only. They are subject to adjustment in response to market forces and as new data and other relevant information becomes available. The data may under- or over-estimate both total demand in a given location or year and the capacity for new demand to be met by providers. As a result, operational and business decisions should not be made solely based on this document. Any use of this data is solely at the risk of the user. The Department and Local Government accept no responsibility for any loss or damage, either direct or incidental, that may result from the use of the data.

# Map of Early Childhood Education services in South Gippsland Shire

The map below shows the distribution of currently operating and new services that are planned to open in the future in the LGA and across its communities.

This map has been prepared using Departmental data, from both the National Quality Agenda IT System (NQAITS) and the Victorian School Building Authority (VSBA). Where applicable, this map has been refined by the South Gippsland Shire Council and the Department to capture other services that are planned to open in the future.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Service Name** | **Project type**  | **Suburb**  | **Total licensed capacity** |
| Leongatha Early learning Centre | Integrated Children's Centre | Leongatha | 121 |



# Local context

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## 3.1 Purpose

Local, place-based knowledge and context play an important role in supporting the implementation of Three-Year-Old Kindergarten across Victoria. This section of the KISP documents this knowledge and context and has informed the funded kindergarten enrolment estimates in Section 4.

## 3.2 Key considerations

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

South Gippsland Shire Council is located in coastal south eastern Victoria, approximately 100 kilometres south-east of Melbourne. The Shire is a rural, residential and tourist region covering an area of 3,308 square kilometres including extensive coastal areas and the spectacular Wilsons Promontory National Park.  South Gippsland is a peri-urban municipality, with the western half of the Shire, particularly Nyora, Korumburra and Leongatha experiencing increasing urban development generated by its proximity to South East Melbourne, housing affordability and country lifestyle options.

### *Population*

South Gippsland Shire Council has a population of approximately 30,436 residents. This is expected to grow to just under 36,000 people by 2036, based on current estimates. The number of children aged between 0-5 years old is predicted to increase by 16% to 2,396 children in 2036 with 33% of households to include dependent children. The largest rise in the 0-5-year-old cohort is anticipated to occur in the Nyora area.

The major townships in South Gippsland are Leongatha, Korumburra, Mirboo North and Foster which are surrounded by smaller settlements. There is limited public transport within South Gippsland making it difficult for families to travel between towns to access services unless they have their own transport. This is particularly evident when families are unable to access a kindergarten place in their town and therefore are unable to attend kindergarten in another town.

Vulnerability and disadvantage within South Gippsland is detailed in the [Vulnerable Communities Profile](file:///C%3A/Users/shelley.fixter/Downloads/Vulnerable_Communities_South_Gippsland_9_April_2020.pdf) and shows 35% of children enrolled in Kindergarten met the DET Priority of Access guidelines. Korumburra is identified on the SEIFA index as the most disadvantaged area in South Gippsland ranking on the 19th percentile and is closely followed by Toora – Welshpool and surrounding areas who rank on the 22nd percentile. Aboriginal and Torres Straight Islanders make up 1% of South Gippsland’s population. The Australian Early Childhood Development Census for South Gippsland shows 24% of children are vulnerable on one domain and nearly 16% vulnerable on two domains which is significantly higher than both the State and Australian average.

### *COVID tree/sea changers*

A recent whitepaper [The Great Australian Population Shift](https://www.ripehouse.com.au/the-great-australian-population-shift/) (Ripehouse, 2020, page 5) captured three underpinning reasons why the pandemic could influence people’s preferred lifestyle and living location into the future:

* We are now far more willing to work from home
* We favour larger properties, with room to form a home base, grow veggies and spend time with the kids; and
* We may be happy to live further from key CBD locations, because we are not commuting every day

The whitepaper identifies the ‘golden circle’ of 2-3 hours from Melbourne, as a driver in population changes for LGA’s (Riphouse Advisory CEO Jacob Field). South Gippsland is within the ‘golden circle’ and anecdotally has seen an increase in people moving from urban areas to the municipality. What is not clear is the extent of this projected growth for South Gippsland and whether this will increase the numbers of preschool aged children.

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

*Fish Creek Kindergarten Upgrade*

The redevelopment of Fish Creek Kindergarten was completed in 2019. The upgrade increased the licenced capacity to 30 places, enhanced accessibility and improved the quality of the learning environment.

The project included:

* Bathroom upgrade and relocation of the toilets to separate from children's schoolbags and

lunchboxes and include an accessible toilet, children's toilet and change table,

* Ramps for strollers and wheelchair access,
* Kitchen upgrade to engage children in sustainable kitchen program,
* A new locker area,
* A new entrance space to promote family engagement,
* A new communal consulting room to provide private meeting space for families and

support services, and

* A new sensory alcove supporting children's mental health and wellbeing.

*Leongatha Early Learning Centre*

The Leongatha Early Learning Centre is a new early year’s facility currently under the design and construction phase. It is due to be operational in late 2022. The new facility will incorporate kindergarten, long day care, maternal and child health, supported playgroups and space for related family services in Leongatha.

The 121-place centre will provide at least 66 kindergarten places to cater for the unmet demand of three and four-year-old kindergarten and 55 places for long day care to meet the increasing demand of childcare within the town.

The integrated centre will provide a multidisciplinary approach with wraparound support from educators, supported playgroups, allied health and enhanced maternal child health ensuring vulnerable families have access to a range of services within the facility.

### *Quality and Capacity*

KISP modelling uses total licensed places to calculate total supply. Many kindergarten services set a lower group size than their licensed capacity, particularly for three-year-old children. According to the Mitchell Report Preschool- Two Years are Better Than One, group size for the delivery of a three-year-old preschool program should be consistent with existing practice and infrastructure of 20 to 22 children per group.

Financial viability is also a driving factor for services when determining groups sizes and programming. In particular, stand-alone services work to the ratio of 2:22 with any enrolments above these ratio’s requiring additional staff and costs which in turn place financial pressure on the service. Most services require 26-27 enrolments to break even financially, if going over group sizes of 22. Service Providers also take into consideration the financial costs when offering different program models. Sessional kindergarten programs in stand-alone kindergartens also encounter financial pressure in order to deliver 7.5 -hour programs where additional staff are required to deliver the program due to rostering and other workplace requirements.

The Department of Education and Training is working closely with local service providers to implement programming models and approaches that will support the enrolment of three-year-old children and the needs of local families and communities, whilst at the same time ensuring the financial viability of services.

Long Day Care centres who offer an integrated kindergarten program generally do not offer free kindergarten to health care/pension card holders. Instead they charge a daily rate with families needing to claim the childcare subsidy to reduce their fees. This places undue financial pressure on families who in some cases withdraw from kindergarten due to costs. Long Day Care centres also need to ensure a viable level of long day places are available to meet community needs. This is particularly evident where there’s only one integrated long day care and kindergarten centre in a town and the needs of families requiring long day care to work need to be balanced with the delivery of a kindergarten program. This can often result in limited kindergarten places available at the centre. This is particularly evident in the township of Foster.

South Gippsland has ageing kindergarten infrastructure across the region with many buildings aged over 40 years. This presents challenges with the current design layout of some services limiting flexibility of use and cost effectiveness of maintaining ageing infrastructure.

**Key local geographic considerations or information relevant to Three-Year-Old Kindergarten**

South Gippsland Shire Council has adopted a strategic planning approach to early years infrastructure based on three distinct kindergarten service regions: Western, Central and Eastern.

**Western Region**:

* Karmai Community Children’s Centre,
* Loch and District Pre-School, and
* Poowong Uniting Kindergarten.

**Central Region**:

* Mirboo North Early Learning Centre
* Meeniyan Kindergarten.
* Leongatha Children’s Centre
* Leongatha Community Pre-Schools (Allora and Hassett Street)
* Brown Street Children’s Centre
* Chairo Christian School, and
* Leongatha Early Learning Centre (construction to be complete in late 2022)

**Eastern Region**:

* Fish Creek Kindergarten
* Prom Coast Centres for Children, Foster
* Toora Kindergarten, and
* Welshpool Kindergarten.

These regions differ from the dataset of Statistical Area 2 (SA2) utilised in the KISP. In the KISP SA2, Meeniyan Kindergarten is included within SA2 Foster, whereas the approach adopted by South Gippsland Shire Council early years strategic planning includes Meeniyan Kindergarten in its central region or SA2 Leongatha.

The western region shows high growth driven by tree change, proximity to Melbourne, housing affordability and significant areas of residential development particularly in Nyora and Korumburra. A planning permit to build a private 90 place Long Day Care Centre has been received by Council, however there is no time scale for this project at present.

The central region shows increasing level of demand similar to the western region. Chairo Christian School offers a kindergarten program; however, this program is not accessible to the general community due to specific entry requirements and high costs associated with attending a program at the independent school. The construction of the Leongatha Early Learning Centre will assist in catering for the increased demand in the region.

The eastern region has significant levels of surplus capacity in Toora and Welshpool however, this capacity cannot be accessed by families in other areas due to distance and travel times and should not be used to determine demand/capacity across the Shire. As a result, planning for future capacity and demand, should not take into account any surplus capacity in Toora and Welshpool.

There are also geographic factors affecting travel patterns and options. The distance between kindergartens in South Gippsland means that in many cases it is not appropriate or feasible for families who are unable to access kindergarten in their own town to utilise vacancies at another kindergarten. In addition, no inter-town or intra-town public transport is available anywhere in South Gippsland Shire with the exception of a V-line coach limited to the South Gippsland Highway.

South Gippsland generally has a good distribution of kindergarten services across the Shire. This allows equitable access to kindergarten mitigating extensive travel and barriers for children to participate in kindergarten with the exception of Tarwin Lower/Venus Bay district. Many families in this locality are required to travel over an hour for a round trip to attend the closest kindergarten. This region is now transforming from a coastal holiday village to a more permanent community.

South Gippsland Shire Council borders 5 LGA’s including:

* Cardinia Shire Council
* Baw Baw Shire Council
* Latrobe City Council
* Wellington Shire Council, and
* Bass Coast Shire Council.

Approximately 9% of enrolments in South Gippsland kindergartens are from families residing in these neighbouring councils. This is particularly evident where the South Gippsland kindergarten is the closest to their home and also feeds into the Primary and Secondary School systems.

**Other information about the expansion of early childhood services**

Council is in the process of developing an Early Years Infrastructure Strategy to guide the future infrastructure needs of the municipality. One key factor of the strategy apart from demand and capacity challenges is, many of our stand-alone kindergartens are operating out of ageing buildings that are nearing the end of their life cycle and are no longer fit for purpose. With the introduction of Three-Year-Old kindergarten, these buildings are now operating on a full-time five day a week basis, increasing the need for space for educators to do their planning and storage of resources. In addition, building maintenance and modifications to meet these requirements is becoming an ongoing financial challenge for both services and Council.

Central to the Infrastructure Strategy will be the following key principles:

* Equitable access to services –all communities having access to kindergarten, all communities have access to quality kindergarten experiences, and where possible all communities have access to a choice of sessional or integrated kindergarten services.
* Planning for kindergarten demand and capacity should be undertaken on a district and community of interest basis where possible.
* Planning should provide sufficient capacity to satisfy anticipated existing and future demand.
* Future proofing against unanticipated increases in demand and measures that may reduce capacity.
* Compliance with relevant legislation, standards and codes.
* Providing generous sized outdoor play areas.
* Safe, fit for purpose, functional and flexible facilities.
* Optimal usage and viability.
* Accessibility to children and parents with disabilities and other additional needs.

The draft priorities in the Early Years Infrastructure Strategy identifies infrastructure needs, approximate costs and timelines for South Gippsland region to maintain service levels to provide 15 hours of three and four-year-old kindergarten within the municipality. These priorities are indicative only at this stage and will be subject to annual review. Following further consultation, Council will be asked to consider these priorities in mid-2021.

# Funded kindergarten enrolment estimates between 2021-29 for South Gippsland Shire

## 4.1 Purpose

As Three-Year-Old Kindergarten is rolled-out and Victoria’s population grows, demand for both Three and Four-Year-Old Kindergarten 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 over the roll-out in South Gippsland Shire, South Gippsland Shire Council and the Department have developed:

1. A summary of the current provision of kindergarten within the LGA (**Section 4.3**).
2. An approach to optimising the utilisation of existing services and infrastructure through ‘change management’ strategies that South Gippsland Shire Council and the Department will support to help meet additional demand in the LGA (**Section 4.4**).
3. An estimate of the Three and Four-Year-Old kindergarten places that cannot be met through existing services for the 2021-29 period, taking into account the additional demand that can be accommodated by optimising utilisation of existing services and infrastructure through point 2, above (**Section 4.5**).

Local Government 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 10-year roll-out.

## 4.2 Methodology

The estimated Three and Four-Year-Old Kindergarten places used in the following sections have been agreed between South Gippsland Shire Council and the Department, and were informed by:

* Estimates developed by the Department which draw on a range of inputs, including population forecasts, current enrolments and results from the Kindergarten Capacity Assessment Program (KCAP), conducted in 2019.
* The estimated capacity of new services that are planned to open in the LGA (Section 2)
* Local knowledge and context provided by the Local Government (Section 3) that explains particular issues and trends in their area.
* The approach to optimising utilisation of existing services in the LGA (Section 4.4), and
* Other sources, such as modelling undertaken by Local Governments and local data.

The KISP measures a service’s capacity to deliver funded kindergarten in terms of the number of children it could enrol in Three and Four-Year-Old Kindergarten. The number of funded 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.

Three-Year-Old Kindergarten places have been presented as 15-hour places so they can be easily compared to Four-Year-Old Kindergarten places. Moreover, when Three-Year-Old Kindergarten is fully rolled-out in 2029, every three-year-old child will have access to 15-hours of kindergarten.

From 2023 all providers will have flexibility to determine how many hours of funded Three-Year-Old Kindergarten they deliver per week, with a minimum of five hours and a maximum of 15-hours funded pro-rata. It is expected that hours offered will vary. Given this variation, **it is important to be aware that during the transition to all three-year-old children receiving 15-hours of funded kindergarten per week in 2029,** **the 15‑hour places presented in this report may represent multiple three-year-old places that individually receive less than 15-hours of kindergarten per week.**

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, which is medium-sized areas which represent a community that interacts socially and economically, with a population range of 3,000 to 25,000 people, and an average population of about 10,000 people.

## 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 Kindergarten Capacity Assessment Program (KCAP), collected between June and October 2019.
* The Department’s Kindergarten Information Management System (KIMS), as at 2019.
* The Department’s Quality and Regulatory Division (QARD) monitoring data, as at 2019.
* The National Quality Agenda IT System (NQAITS), as at Mar 2021.
* The Victorian Child and Adolescent Monitoring System (VCAMS), as at 2018.

Please note that, because these sources were collected at different points, this may result in slightly different totals appearing in the below data.

|  |
| --- |
|  Number of services by service type (NQAITs, 2021) |
| Stand-alone kindergartens | 9 |
| Long day care centres  | 5 |

|  |
| --- |
| Percentage of services by management type, LGA level (NQAITs, 2021) |
| ***Type*** | ***Percentage***  |
| Local Government | 0% |
| Private not for profit | 86% |
| Private for profit | 7% |
| Other | 7% |

|  |
| --- |
| Current kindergarten offering |
| Four-Year-Old Kindergarten participation rate (VCAMS, 2018): | 93% |
| Number of services that offer a funded kindergarten program (DET, 2019): | 12 |
| Number of services that offer an unfunded Three-Year-Old Kindergarten program (DET, 2019): | 9 |

## 4.4 Approach to optimising the use of existing services and infrastructure

**Change management strategies to optimise existing** **services and infrastructure**

Children can often be accommodated through existing spare places and by services ‘unlocking’ unused capacity. As the experience of providers in the 2020 Three-Year-Old Kindergarten roll-out LGAs shows, while the optimisation of existing services can be challenging, it is highly time- and cost-effective compared to building new capacity through infrastructure projects. It also helps target infrastructure investment to the places that need it most and avoids over-supplying the local market.

South Gippsland Shire Council and the Department will support providers and services to maximise their kindergarten places through the following change management activities and practices:

* Increasing the capacity of any Local Government operated services by:
	+ Running additional programs.
	+ Using different timetables, including running 7.5-hour days.
	+ Changing the delivery model, such as introducing rotational models or mixed-age groups.
	+ Having degree-qualified kindergarten teachers leading integrated kindergarten programs in long day care settings.
* Encouraging and supporting other providers and services in the LGA to undertake change management.

South Gippsland Shire Council and the Department have estimated how many Three and Four-Year-Old Kindergarten places can be accommodated through existing services in the LGA (**Table 1**). Both parties are committed to helping providers and services offer these kindergarten places before progressing to funded infrastructure solutions to meet demand. This commitment is reflected in the LGA and community level estimates below (**Table 2** onwards), which assume that demand will be met first through existing services and second through additional infrastructure. Note that in some cases the number of kindergarten places that can be offered through existing services may exceed demand for kindergarten places.

**Table 1: Total estimated funded kindergarten places that can be offered by optimising existing services and infrastructure across the LGA, between 2021-29 (presented in 15-hour equivalent places)**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **2021** | **2022** | **2023** | **2024** | **2025** | **2026** | **2027** | **2028** | **2029** |
| Estimated existing supply of kindergarten places\* | 645 | 763 | 763 | 763 | 763 | 763 | 763 | 763 | 763 |

*\**This may be higher than current three and four-year-old enrolments as it includes any spare places that are currently available or could be generated by making some minor adjustments to programming approaches.

## 4.5 Agreed estimates of demand for funded kindergarten places that cannot be met through existing services and infrastructure

The below estimates (**Table 2** onwards) have been developed by South Gippsland Shire Council and the Department to illustrate the estimated:

1. Total number of Three and Four-Year-Old Kindergarten places expected over the roll-out period.
2. Three and Four-Year-Old Kindergarten places that cannot be accommodated by optimising existing services and infrastructure over the roll-out period.

These estimates have been developed to reflect that the increase in demand for Three-Year-Old Kindergarten places will be gradual.

In estimating how many Three and Four-Year-Old Kindergarten places cannot be accommodated by existing services and infrastructure, South Gippsland Shire Council and the Department have taken into account 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 Local Government owned services being developed and planned Kindergartens on School Sites.

These estimates do not, however, 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.

Infrastructure need in the LGA and its local communities is indicated by the bottom rows of the tables in this section (**Table 2** onwards): ‘Total kindergarten places that cannot be accommodated by existing services’. For example, if the number of kindergarten places for the LGA or a community is above zero in this row, it means that the area is estimated to need additional infrastructure (noting that further optimisation which avoids the need for additional infrastructure may be possible). Any type of provider – Local Government, not-for-profit or for-profit – can build this additional infrastructure. If this row shows all zeros, it means that there is no estimated need for additional infrastructure in the area.

Local Government and not-for-profit kindergarten providers must refer to the estimates in this section when applying through the Building Blocks Capacity Building Grants stream for Government funding. Under this stream, projects must be in a community where there is infrastructure need as shown in the community’s table of estimated demand for kindergarten places (i.e. there are numbers in the bottom row above zero). Projects in LGAs or communities where demand can be met through existing services (i.e. the bottom row shows all zeros) are not eligible for funding under this stream.

**LGA estimates**

**Table 2: Total estimated three and four-year-old kindergarten places between 2021-29 (presented in 15-hour equivalent places)**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **LGA level estimates** | **2021** | **2022** | **2023** | **2024** | **2025** | **2026** | **2027** | **2028** | **2029** |
| Total estimated demand for kindergarten places (three and four-year-old children) | 632 | 648 | 651 | 655 | 656 | 692 | 694 | 697 | 701 |
| Total kindergarten places that cannot be accommodated by existing services | 7 | 13 | 15 | 17 | 18 | 32 | 33 | 36 | 38 |

**Community estimates**

**Table 3-6: Total estimated three and four-year-old kindergarten places between 2021-29 (presented in 15-hour equivalent places)**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Foster estimates**  | **2021** | **2022** | **2023** | **2024** | **2025** | **2026** | **2027** | **2028** | **2029** |
| Total estimated demand for kindergarten places (three and four-year-old children) | 161 | 164 | 165 | 164 | 164 | 172 | 173 | 172 | 172 |
| Total kindergarten places that cannot be accommodated by existing services | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Korumburra estimates**  | **2021** | **2022** | **2023** | **2024** | **2025** | **2026** | **2027** | **2028** | **2029** |
| Total estimated demand for kindergarten places (three and four-year-old children) | 206 | 212 | 214 | 216 | 217 | 231 | 233 | 235 | 237 |
| Total kindergarten places that cannot be accommodated by existing services | 7 | 13 | 15 | 17 | 18 | 32 | 33 | 36 | 38 |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Leongatha estimates**  | **2021** | **2022** | **2023** | **2024** | **2025** | **2026** | **2027** | **2028** | **2029** |
| Total estimated demand for kindergarten places (three and four-year-old children) | 266 | 272 | 273 | 274 | 275 | 288 | 289 | 291 | 292 |
| Total kindergarten places that cannot be accommodated by existing services | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Wilsons Promontory estimates**  | **2021** | **2022** | **2023** | **2024** | **2025** | **2026** | **2027** | **2028** | **2029** |
| Total estimated demand for kindergarten places (three and four-year-old children) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total kindergarten places that cannot be accommodated by existing services | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

# Authorisation

The Area Executive Director (Inner Gippsland) of the Department of Education and Training and the Chief Executive of South Gippsland Shire Council endorse this Kindergarten Services and Infrastructure Plan (KISP) for South Gippsland Shire by signing on ………. / ………. / ……….

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 2024 to publish a new version that will replace the previous version.

An out-of-cycle review may be triggered if both parties agree that there has been a change in relevant data, information or the local early childhood sector that significantly affects the reliability of a KISP’s estimates for planning purposes.

**Signed for and on behalf and with the authority of South Gippsland Shire Council**

…………………………………… …………………………………

Signature Witness Signature

Name: Kerryn Ellis

Title: Chief Executive Officer

Address: 9 Smith St, Leongatha, Vic, 3953

**Signed by Area Executive Director (Inner Gippsland), Department of Education and Training**

…………………………………… …………………………………

Signature Witness Signature

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