Kindergarten Infrastructure and

Services Plan

City of Whittlesea

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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 City of Whittlesea

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 Whittlesea City Council and the Department to capture other services that are planned to open in the future.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Service Name | Project Type | Suburb | Total Licensed Capacity Proposed by project |
| Edgars Creek Community Centre | KGN | Wollert | 99 |
| Spring Street Kindergarten | KGN | Thomastown | 66 |
| Wollert East Community Centre | KGN | Wollert | 99 |
| Butterflies Child Care and Early Learning Centre | LDC | Doreen | 120 |
| Storyhouse Early Learning | LDC | Doreen | 120 |
| Wallaby Child Care Early Learning Centre | LDC | Wollert | 137 |



# 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**

The City of Whittlesea is in Melbourne’s northern suburbs, covering a land area of approximately 490 km2, about 20 kilometers from the Central Business District. It’s one of Victoria’s largest and fastest growing municipalities, with a population of nearly 240,000 in 2020, increasing to more than 380,000 by 2040.

Whittlesea is an Interface Council with over 70% of the municipality being rural but with most of the population residing in the urban areas. The urban areas are split between the established suburbs of Bundoora, Epping, Lalor, Mill Park and Thomastown, the recently developed precincts of South Morang, Mernda and Doreen on the municipality’s eastern boundary and on the western boundary, the new growth corridor stretching from Epping North and Wollert through to Donnybrook.

Significant growth has already commenced in Wollert (147 residents in 2017 to 30,921 in 2037) and Donnybrook (142 in 2017 – 49,169 in 2037). The rural areas of the municipality are characterised by farming, forested areas, large geographic spans between new growth suburbs and historic township communities including Whittlesea Township.[[1]](#footnote-2)

Large and rapid population growth presents several challenges including the timely provision of services, social and physical infrastructure (particularly transport infrastructure); fewer local employment opportunities; reduced housing affordability; and lower levels of social participation and cohesion.

Whittlesea’s key demographic features include[[2]](#footnote-3):

* A higher proportion of households consisting of couples with children compared to Greater Melbourne (GM) and larger proportions of two parent families with children in the developing areas of the municipality;
* More residents attending preschool, primary or secondary school in Whittlesea compared with the broader population of GM (16.9% and 15.6%, respectively);
* Proportionally more residents providing unpaid childcare in Whittlesea compared with GM (31% and 27.5%, respectively). The majority, 23.8% of all residents, were caring for their own children (profile.id);
* A SEIFA Index of Relative Socio-economic Disadvantage (IRSED) score of 991.0 for Whittlesea which is lower than for GM (1,018), ranked the 36th most disadvantaged municipality out of the Victorian LGA’s;
* A lower median individual weekly income for residents than that for GM ($1,441 and $1,539 respectively);
* Approximately 14.2% of households experience mortgage stress and 32.5% are experiencing rental stress compared to 11.2% and 27.4%, respectively, for GM;
* With respect to AEDC results for 2018:
* At a municipal level, 20.2% of children were assessed as vulnerable on one or more domains, and 9.5% on two or more domains. This is somewhat lower than Australian average and only very marginally higher than the Victorian average.
* Lalor, Thomastown, Epping and Bundoora continue to have a higher than average proportion of children assessed as vulnerable (over 22% for one or more domain). For Lalor and Thomastown, this is largely due to being assessed as vulnerable on the communication domain (affecting around 14% of children)

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

City of Whittlesea is not a direct service provider, instead engages not for profit providers to run sessional programs. Council maintains its 37 facilities and operates a central enrolment scheme. 60% of Council’s kindergartens are operated by a mix of early years management (EYM’s) providers, not for profit agencies, DET and Catholic schools. The remaining 40% are managed by volunteer committees of management.

In a recent survey conducted by Council, families indicated they preferred their child to access a funded kindergarten program in a sessional kindergarten service. This trend is reflected historically across the municipality, with on average 78% of four-year olds having accessed sessional kindergarten programs. However, the participation rate varies across precincts; from as low as 56% in Doreen, to as high as 108% in Mill Park, and 110% in the Whittlesea Township.

There appears to be a close correlation between sessional kindergarten participation rates, concession card rates and numbers of couples with children. In 2019, Doreen had the lowest participation rate at 56%, the lowest rate of concession card holders (27%) and the highest percentage of couples with children at 51% (well above the Greater Melbourne average rate of 33%). South Morang followed a similar trend.

Conversely, suburbs such as Thomastown, Lalor and Epping are characterised by higher participation rates, greater concession card holder rates and a larger percentage of single parent families.

In addition, Whittlesea will also see a growth in the number of higher density apartment developments including in the Mernda Town Centre and Epping Central Metropolitan Activity Centre.

Some of these developments will see delivery of large, self-sufficient, apartment complexes inclusive of retail, health and childcare facilities.

With respect to long day care centres (LDC), aside from three, not for profit, community run centres operating from Council owned facilities since the 1980’s, the LDC provision is addressed predominantly by the private sector.

Between 2014-2017, Whittlesea saw a 456% increase in the number of town planning applications for childcare centre developments, across all suburbs, equating to a 100% increase in proposed approved capacity. Between April 2019 and July 2020:

* eleven new centres opened;
* another three are due to open by the end of 2020;
* two have a building permit pending;
* 13 have planning approval for development; and
* a further four planning submissions have recently been made.

Council community infrastructure sites are facing competing pressures to meet diverse needs including; social support services, affordable housing, increased kindergarten capacity, flexible co-working spaces, social enterprise opportunities, etc. All these competing demands for space are likely to influence the supply of early childhood services.

Developers in growth areas are increasingly seeking creative solutions to protect retailer’s market share by aiming to integrate community infrastructure into retail spaces. The focus is on health, well-being and social spaces to promote community use and interaction. One unique model being proposed by a developer in Wollert, is for Council to provide the kindergarten facility on the second floor of the retail centre.

Shared master planning of community facilities and/or kindergartens on school sites will also influence appropriate supply of early childhood services.

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

On average, two thirds of families choose kindergartens in the suburb of their residence except for one Thomastown kindergarten on the boundary of Thomastown and Lalor; in that case 34% of families are from Thomastown and 47% are from Lalor. This pattern reflects families wanting to be close to home, close to primary schools for dropping off older children, and remaining close to their local community.

The Whittlesea municipality is serviced by only two north/south roads and currently limited roads travelling east/west which impacts the community’s ability to travel freely, typically resulting in residents migrating north but needing to travel south to access services.

Although the eastern growth corridor of South Morang, Mernda and Doreen is almost at full build out, it is only now seeing the full duplication of Plenty Road, approximately 15 years after development in the area commenced.

The Epping North, Wollert and Donnybrook growth corridor, on the western boundary of Whittlesea, is experiencing a lag in road duplication which results in heavy traffic and creates a critical issue for Donnybrook families needing access to work and services.

In addition, the Outer Metropolitan/E6, a 100km long high-speed transport link, will be a key connection for the residential growth areas up to Donnybrook, however its long-awaited construction is still subject to future funding considerations.

Road construction inconsistencies due to multiple development fronts, and landowners choosing not to sell, impact access to public land for schools and community facilities, compromising walkability catchments and resulting in delayed provision of infrastructure. This in turn results in increased pressure on existing services until the landowners sell or the land is compulsorily acquired.

In addition, developers bringing on development fronts out of sequence, fluctuating land sales due to economic impacts may further delay access to the community centre land for many years after the first residents move in. Typically, development fronts commence on major arterial roads however community centre land sites are set further back in the estate, adding more complexity to planning kindergarten demand and supply timing.

Public Transport options are also limited in new growth suburbs and lag in line with trigger points, disadvantaging the early residents. Public Transport options are typically limited to buses with delivery of the rail network not guaranteed, or often delivered many decades usually following extensive community advocacy.

*Municipal boundary challenges*

The suburb of Doreen is split across City of Whittlesea and Nillumbik Shire and consequently, families lodging kindergarten applications in both municipalities complicate the enrolment planning process in each LGA. In addition, the south east corner of Doreen is geographically constrained by both Plenty River on the west, Plenty Gorge on the south and only two key arterial roads – Bridge Inn Road and Yan Yean Road.

Bundoora is also jointly located in 3 LGAs – bounded by the City of Whittlesea and Councils of Darebin and Banyule. Council does prioritise its residents however have also been able to accommodate families from Banyule and Darebin, who have preferred McLeans Road Kindergarten and/or Edward Street Preschool over centres in their own municipalities.

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

In 2017, Council had developed an infrastructure plan to upgrade and redevelop centres in the LGA’s established suburbs in line with increasing four-year-old population growth. A review of that plan will be undertaken post the KISP adoption.

The first project that has been delivered under the plan is the double room Thomastown Primary School Kindergarten (now known as Spring Street Kindergarten) which will commence operations in 2021.

The second project is the McLeans Road Kindergarten redevelopment in Bundoora, currently under construction and due to open 2022.

Within the Epping North, Wollert and Donnybrook State Government Gazetted Precinct Structure Plans (PSPs), multiple kindergarten facilities are planned to be delivered between 2022 and 2040+.

Shenstone Park PSP, just south of Donnybrook PSP, is due to be gazetted in 2021. It is a much smaller PSP with a double room kindergarten integrated within a community centre, due to be delivered mid 2020’s.

As mentioned above, Council does not provide LDC infrastructure; it is addressed by the private market. With the opening of 14 centres between early 2019 and late 2020, nineteen planning applications remain active. It is not clear how many of those will eventually be delivered. With the KISP due for review in two years’ time, updated information will be available with respect to the volume of proposed LDC centres.

The budget impact of rate capping/defaulting, the post COVID-19 environment, the new Council’s expenditure and community service priorities is unknown at this stage and will be further detailed in the KISP’s second year review.

# Funded kindergarten enrolment estimates between 2021-29 for City of Whittlesea

## 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 City of Whittlesea, Whittlesea City 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 Whittlesea City 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 Whittlesea City 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 April 2020.
* 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, 2020) | |
| Stand-alone kindergartens | 32 |
| Long day care centres | 54 |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Percentage of services by management type, LGA level (NQAITs, 2020) | |
| ***Type*** | ***Percentage*** |
| Local Government | 0% |
| Private not for profit | 55% |
| Private for profit | 43% |
| Other | 2% |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Current kindergarten offering | |
| Four-Year-Old Kindergarten participation rate (VCAMS, 2018): | 92% |
| Number of services that offer a funded kindergarten program (DET, 2019): | 70 |
| Number of services that offer an unfunded Three-Year-Old Kindergarten program (DET, 2019): | 32 |



## 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.

Whittlesea City 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.

Whittlesea City 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\* | 6,975 | 7,237 | 7,237 | 7,237 | 7,237 | 7,237 | 7,237 | 7,237 | 7,237 |
| Total three and four-year-old places that can be accommodated by optimising existing services\*\* | 7,480 | 7,793 | 7,793 | 7,793 | 7,793 | 7,793 | 7,793 | 7,793 | 7,793 |

*\**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.

\*\*The likely expansion of services and kindergarten places in response to population growth (i.e. growth in demand not generated by the Three-Year-Old Kindergarten Reform that would likely occur) is not accounted for in these estimates.

## 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 Whittlesea City 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, Whittlesea City 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: 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) | 3,438 | 4,438 | 5,200 | 5,777 | 6,294 | 7,114 | 7,600 | 8,101 | 8,728 |
| Total kindergarten places that cannot be accommodated by existing services | 0 | 0 | 53 | 138 | 240 | 681 | 1,225 | 1,583 | 2,022 |

**Community estimates**

**Table 3-17: Estimated three and four-year-old kindergarten places between 2021-29 (presented in 15-hour equivalent places)**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Bundoora - North estimates** | **2021** | **2022** | **2023** | **2024** | **2025** | **2026** | **2027** | **2028** | **2029** |
| Total estimated demand for kindergarten places (three and four-year-old children) | 1 | 22 | 43 | 62 | 89 | 103 | 89 | 102 | 118 |
| Total kindergarten places that cannot be accommodated by existing services | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Bundoora - West estimates** | **2021** | **2022** | **2023** | **2024** | **2025** | **2026** | **2027** | **2028** | **2029** |
| Total estimated demand for kindergarten places (three and four-year-old children) | 100 | 120 | 140 | 155 | 171 | 184 | 184 | 194 | 206 |
| Total kindergarten places that cannot be accommodated by existing services | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Doreen estimates** | **2021** | **2022** | **2023** | **2024** | **2025** | **2026** | **2027** | **2028** | **2029** |
| Total estimated demand for kindergarten places (three and four-year-old children) | 509 | 640 | 744 | 816 | 890 | 957 | 952 | 978 | 1,015 |
| Total kindergarten places that cannot be accommodated by existing services | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Epping - East estimates** | **2021** | **2022** | **2023** | **2024** | **2025** | **2026** | **2027** | **2028** | **2029** |
| Total estimated demand for kindergarten places (three and four-year-old children) | 150 | 199 | 223 | 237 | 249 | 286 | 348 | 372 | 403 |
| Total kindergarten places that cannot be accommodated by existing services | 0 | 0 | 10 | 24 | 36 | 72 | 134 | 159 | 190 |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Epping - South estimates** | **2021** | **2022** | **2023** | **2024** | **2025** | **2026** | **2027** | **2028** | **2029** |
| Total estimated demand for kindergarten places (three and four-year-old children) | 134 | 159 | 185 | 207 | 240 | 251 | 219 | 227 | 237 |
| Total kindergarten places that cannot be accommodated by existing services | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Epping - West estimates** | **2021** | **2022** | **2023** | **2024** | **2025** | **2026** | **2027** | **2028** | **2029** |
| Total estimated demand for kindergarten places (three and four-year-old children) | 479 | 535 | 574 | 603 | 636 | 655 | 634 | 643 | 655 |
| Total kindergarten places that cannot be accommodated by existing services | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Lalor estimates** | **2021** | **2022** | **2023** | **2024** | **2025** | **2026** | **2027** | **2028** | **2029** |
| Total estimated demand for kindergarten places (three and four-year-old children) | 297 | 389 | 434 | 461 | 485 | 593 | 674 | 719 | 775 |
| Total kindergarten places that cannot be accommodated by existing services | 0 | 0 | 0 | 6 | 30 | 138 | 219 | 264 | 320 |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Mernda estimates** | **2021** | **2022** | **2023** | **2024** | **2025** | **2026** | **2027** | **2028** | **2029** |
| Total estimated demand for kindergarten places (three and four-year-old children) | 407 | 537 | 634 | 700 | 759 | 827 | 845 | 867 | 897 |
| Total kindergarten places that cannot be accommodated by existing services | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

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| **Mill Park - North estimates** | **2021** | **2022** | **2023** | **2024** | **2025** | **2026** | **2027** | **2028** | **2029** |
| Total estimated demand for kindergarten places (three and four-year-old children) | 267 | 316 | 365 | 401 | 447 | 473 | 452 | 469 | 491 |
| Total kindergarten places that cannot be accommodated by existing services | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

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| **Mill Park – South estimates** | **2021** | **2022** | **2023** | **2024** | **2025** | **2026** | **2027** | **2028** | **2029** |
| Total estimated demand for kindergarten places (three and four-year-old children) | 166 | 200 | 201 | 206 | 211 | 235 | 284 | 295 | 308 |
| Total kindergarten places that cannot be accommodated by existing services | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 50 | 61 | 75 |

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| **South Morang (North) estimates** | **2021** | **2022** | **2023** | **2024** | **2025** | **2026** | **2027** | **2028** | **2029** |
| Total estimated demand for kindergarten places (three and four-year-old children) | 127 | 184 | 228 | 260 | 286 | 292 | 364 | 399 | 443 |
| Total kindergarten places that cannot be accommodated by existing services | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 48 | 83 | 127 |

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| **South Morang (South) estimates** | **2021** | **2022** | **2023** | **2024** | **2025** | **2026** | **2027** | **2028** | **2029** |
| Total estimated demand for kindergarten places (three and four-year-old children) | 198 | 230 | 264 | 289 | 322 | 339 | 321 | 334 | 351 |
| Total kindergarten places that cannot be accommodated by existing services | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

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| **Thomastown estimates** | **2021** | **2022** | **2023** | **2024** | **2025** | **2026** | **2027** | **2028** | **2029** |
| Total estimated demand for kindergarten places (three and four-year-old children) | 261 | 332 | 387 | 425 | 462 | 498 | 509 | 534 | 566 |
| Total kindergarten places that cannot be accommodated by existing services | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Whittlesea estimates** | **2021** | **2022** | **2023** | **2024** | **2025** | **2026** | **2027** | **2028** | **2029** |
| Total estimated demand for kindergarten places (three and four-year-old children) | 117 | 197 | 261 | 326 | 392 | 536 | 692 | 818 | 964 |
| Total kindergarten places that cannot be accommodated by existing services | 0 | 0 | 44 | 109 | 175 | 319 | 475 | 600 | 747 |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
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| **Wollert estimates** | **2021** | **2022** | **2023** | **2024** | **2025** | **2026** | **2027** | **2028** | **2029** |
| Total estimated demand for kindergarten places (three and four-year-old children) | 224 | 378 | 516 | 631 | 655 | 885 | 1,033 | 1,151 | 1,298 |
| Total kindergarten places that cannot be accommodated by existing services | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 150 | 298 | 416 | 563 |

# Authorisation

The Area Executive Director (North East Melbourne) of the Department of Education and Training and the Chief Executive of Whittlesea City Council endorse this Kindergarten Services and Infrastructure Plan (KISP) for City of Whittlesea by signing on 04 / 05 / 2021.

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 2022 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 Whittlesea City Council**

Signature Witness Signature

Name: Craig Lloyd  
  
Title: Chief Executive Officer  
  
Address: Locked Bag 1, Bundoora MDC, VIC 3083

**Signed by Area Executive Director (North East Melbourne), Department of Education and Training**

Signature Witness Signature

Name: Stacey Gabriel

Title: Area Executive Director (North East Melbourne)

Address: PO Box 71, Greensborough, VIC 3088

1. Community Wellbeing Indicators Report 2017 [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. Place Profiles, August 2018 [↑](#footnote-ref-3)