

Getting ready for primary school

The Department of Education and Training



Easy English



Hard words

This book has some hard words.

The first time we write a hard word

- the word is in **blue**
- we write what the hard word means.

You can get help with this book



You can get someone to help you

- read this book
- know what this book is about



- find more information.

About this book

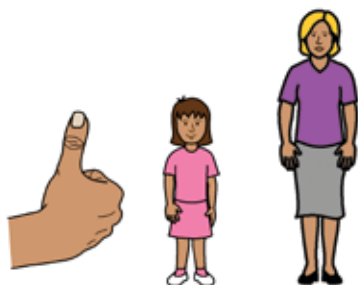


Education
and Training

This book is written by the Department of Education and Training.



This book is about how we can help your child with disability start primary school.



We want to make starting primary school easy for your child and you.

Program support groups



Your child's kindergarten teacher will

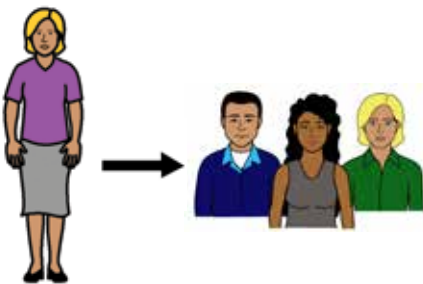
- work with you in the year before your child starts school

- set up a plan with you as part of your child's **program support group**.



A program support group is a group of people who plan ways to help your child.

The group helps your child from when they start kindergarten until they move to school.



You can be part of the group.



The plan might include information about

- tools to help your child learn in class
- reports to give the school about your child



- primary school **student support groups**

- **reasonable adjustments.**



A student support group is a group of people who plan ways to help your child with disability.

The student support group meet in term 1 the year your child starts school.



Reasonable adjustments means changes that balance the needs of all students and teachers.



Make a plan

A plan makes it easier for your child to start school.



You can change the plan at any time.

Group meetings



You might have a kindergarten to primary school group meeting.

Everyone at the meeting will make plans for your child to move to school.

The meeting will happen in term 3 the year **before** your child starts primary school.



People in the meeting might include

- parents or carers



- kindergarten teachers

- primary school teachers



- the school principal

- other people who work with
your child

- a support person if you need one.



A support person can help you tell us what you want.



A support person can be

- a friend



- a family member

- someone you trust in the community.

What you can talk about at the meeting

At the meeting you can talk about your child.

For example, things your child



- is good at



- likes doing



- needs help with.



You can talk about

- things that help your child learn



- ways to support your child at school
 - for example, reasonable adjustments

- programs or **funding** to help your child in primary school.



Funding is money to help the school pay for disability supports.

Help you might get



To find out about supports for your child talk to

- your kindergarten teacher
- your new primary school.



Government schools might have supports like

- money to help students with disability



- **student support services.**

Student support services are services from

allied health professionals.



Allied health professionals are experts such as

- speech pathologists

- social workers

- psychologists.



More information

For more information contact
the Department of Education and Training.



Find a Department of Education and Training office

Website

[www.education.vic.gov.au/about/
contact/Pages/regions.aspx](http://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/contact/Pages/regions.aspx)

More information about starting school

Website

[www.education.vic.gov.au/parents/
additional-needs/Pages/disability-
starting-primary.aspx](http://www.education.vic.gov.au/parents/additional-needs/Pages/disability-starting-primary.aspx)

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Scope's Communication and Inclusion Resource Centre

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