



City of
KINGSTON

Central enrolment scheme for four-year-old sessional kindergarten *parent handbook*



Kingston Council has developed this handbook to introduce the central enrolment scheme for four-year-old sessional kindergarten application processes and help you understand the steps you need to take to get your children registered.

OUR VISION:

A community in which all families thrive; where children and young people are seen, heard and celebrated.

What is four-year-old sessional kindergarten?

Four-year-old sessional kindergarten (sometimes called 'funded kindergarten', 'preschool' or 'early years education') is a one year early education program for children in the year before they start primary school.

In Victoria, kindergarten is not compulsory but the kindergarten experience gives your child important opportunities to learn, make friends and develop skills through a play-based curriculum.

Four-year-old sessional kindergarten also helps prepare your child for their transition to primary school.

Kindergarten programs are developed and delivered in line with the *National Early Years Learning Framework*, *Victorian Early Years Learning and Development Framework* and the *National Education and Care Legislation*. This ensures your child is offered a high quality program which meets their needs.

Where is it offered?

Four-year-old sessional kindergarten is offered in community kindergartens, child care centres, children's centres and schools. It is managed by volunteer committees and not-for-profit early years managers, schools or private providers.

Is my child eligible?

To be eligible for four-year-old sessional kindergarten children must be four years of age or older by 30 April in the year they start kindergarten.

What does it cost?

The Victorian State Government subsidises places for eligible children to attend one year of four-year-old sessional kindergarten. An additional subsidy is available to eligible families to provide free or low cost kindergarten. For more information, visit [education.vic.gov.au](https://www.education.vic.gov.au)

Families not eligible for this subsidy will be required to pay an attendance fee, set by each kindergarten to cover the 'gap' between the Government subsidy and the cost of running the program.

What is the central enrolment scheme for four-year-old sessional kindergarten?

Council is committed to facilitating an equitable application and allocation process for families to access high quality early education services for children.

Through the central enrolment scheme for four-year-old sessional kindergarten, families can identify their three local kindergartens of choice and participate in the allocation process.

This provides a pathway for children to access kindergartens in their local area and ensures a streamlined, transparent and fair allocation process.

What can you expect from the central enrolment scheme?

Council recognises that supporting the healthy development of children has significant long term benefits for building strong, resilient communities.

The central enrolment scheme for four-year-old sessional kindergarten is provided on behalf of participating committee, early years managers and Council managed kindergarten service providers within Kingston.

The scheme aims to:

- ✓ ensure the maximum number of children receive their kindergarten preference
- ✓ provide a transparent and equitable allocation process
- ✓ support the enrolment and provision of four-year-old sessional kindergarten places
- ✓ maintain relevant data to ensure the effective future planning of services

There are three formal allocation rounds conducted in July and August each year.

What is the allocation priority?

In accordance with State Government guidelines, children are eligible for allocation priority if they are at risk of abuse or neglect (including children in out of home care), are Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander, are an asylum seeker or refugee, are eligible for Kindergarten Fee Subsidy, have an additional need, are eligible for a second year of funded kindergarten or have delayed their kindergarten year.

Allocation priority will be subject to resident and non resident criteria, outlined in the allocation criteria on the opposite page.

What are the allocation criteria?

There are six levels of criteria for the allocation of four-year-old sessional kindergarten:

Level 1

Residents of the City of Kingston, who live within a 2km radius of the service of their first preference **and** have a prior connection to the service.

Level 2

Residents of the City of Kingston, who live within a 2km radius of the service of their first preference **or** have a prior connection to the service.

Level 3

Residents of the City of Kingston.

Level 4

Non-residents of the City of Kingston who live within a 2km radius of the service of their first preference **and** have a prior connection to the service or to the City of Kingston.

Level 5

Non-residents of the City of Kingston who live within a 2km radius of the service of their first preference **or** have a prior connection to the service or to the City of Kingston.

Level 6

Non-residents of the City of Kingston.

How does the allocation radius work?

Starting kindergarten is an important step for your child and family. When choosing a four year old kindergarten, there are some things you might like to know:

- The 2km radius **does not act as a zone** and all children are invited to submit their enrolment application for any kindergarten of their choice.
- The distance between your home and the kindergarten is measured in a straight line (as the crow flies) within the 2km radius.
- If you are not sure if you live within a 2km radius of your preferred kindergarten, go to [📧 kingston.vic.gov.au/kingergarten](https://kingston.vic.gov.au/kingergarten)
- Application does not guarantee kindergarten placement.

How do families apply to register with the central enrolment scheme for four-year-old sessional kindergarten?



Step 1

Visit kindergarten services and decide on the kindergarten that best meets your needs.



Step 2

Complete the online Enrolment Application Form at [📧 kingston.vic.gov.au/kingergarten](https://kingston.vic.gov.au/kingergarten)



Step 3

Submit your online Enrolment Application Form from 1 May in the year prior to your child attending kindergarten.



Allocation begins mid July.

If you receive an offer you must contact the kindergarten within five working days to confirm your place.

If your child is not allocated a place in any of the three initial allocation rounds the Central Enrolment Officer will contact you directly to discuss your options.

Where can you find out more?

For more information, online application and alteration forms, visit

 kingston.vic.gov.au/kindergarten

or contact the Central Enrolment Officer on

 9581 4851

Information is also available at your local Maternal & Child Health Centre or City of Kingston Library, or from one of the participating kindergartens listed on the back of this brochure.

How to submit your forms

Forms can be submitted online or in person to City of Kingston Customer Service Centres in Cheltenham or Chelsea.

-  For more information about unfunded (three year old) kindergarten please contact your local kindergarten directly.

Participating kindergartens

Acacia Avenue Preschool

35 Acacia Avenue
Mentone
☎ 9583 8133

Aspendale Gardens Preschool

103-105 Kearney Drive
☎ 9587 6060

Aspendale North Kindergarten

13 Connewarra Avenue
☎ 9580 7976

Bonbeach Preschool

29-63 Breeze Street
☎ 9776 3077

Bruthen Street Kindergarten

2 Bruthen Street
Moorabbin
☎ 9555 5384

Carrum Family & Children's Centre

24A Graham Road
☎ 9581 3000

Chelsea Kindergarten

36 Glenola Rd
☎ 9772 2788

Chelsea Heights Kindergarten

29 Third Avenue
☎ 9772 8080

Clayton South Kindergarten

11-15 Narrumburn Road
☎ 9551 4914

Edithvale Family & Children's Centre

122 Edithvale Rd
☎ 8782 1200

Edithvale Preschool

29 Fraser Avenue
☎ 9772 3136

Elonera Preschool

85 Davey Street
Parkdale
☎ 9580 2193

Evesham Road Kindergarten

75 Evesham Road
Cheltenham
☎ 9583 6158

Farm Road Preschool

47 Farm Road
Cheltenham
☎ 9584 2328

Highett Preschool

3 Station Street
☎ 9555 8441

Jacks Avenue Kindergarten

67 Jacks Avenue
Dingley
☎ 9551 2425

Marcus Road Kindergarten

37 Marcus Road
Dingley
☎ 9551 1209

Mentone Preschool

6 Station Street
☎ 9583 4422

Mordialloc Preschool

26 Park Street
☎ 9580 5935

Nola Barber Kindergarten

151 Station Street
Aspendale
☎ 9580 1549

North Cheltenham Preschool

71 Argus Street
Cheltenham
☎ 9583 7066

Parkdale Family & Children's Centre

122 Warren Road
Parkdale
☎ 8586 0900

Parkdale Preschool

14 Alameda Place
☎ 9580 1155

Patterson Lakes Kindergarten

189 Gladesville Blvd
☎ 9772 3613

Sundowner Kindergarten

19-21 Jacobs Drive
Clayton South
☎ 9551 7851

Washington Drive Preschool

3 Washington Drive
Oakleigh South
☎ 570 6565

Westall Family & Children's Centre

35 Fairbank Rd
Clayton South
☎ 9546 7252
(previously the Westall Kindergarten)