

# Children and Families Information Booklet 2025



## Acknowledgement

We recognise the rich Aboriginal heritage of this country and acknowledge the Wurundjeri Willum Clan and Taungurung People as the Traditional Owners of lands within the City of Whittlesea.



## City of Whittlesea

9217 2170

[whittlesea.vic.gov.au](http://whittlesea.vic.gov.au)

[info@whittlesea.vic.gov.au](mailto:info@whittlesea.vic.gov.au)

The City of Whittlesea has maintained a long-held commitment to children and families in our community, by providing information on services and programs available within the municipality.

## Services and Programs for children and families

### Maternal and Child Health Service

[MCH@whittlesea.vic.gov.au](mailto:MCH@whittlesea.vic.gov.au)

### Immunisation Program

[immunisation@whittlesea.vic.gov.au](mailto:immunisation@whittlesea.vic.gov.au)

### Playgroups

[playgroups@whittlesea.vic.gov.au](mailto:playgroups@whittlesea.vic.gov.au)

### Family Day Care Program

[familydaycare@whittlesea.vic.gov.au](mailto:familydaycare@whittlesea.vic.gov.au)

### Kindergarten Central

#### Application Scheme

[keo@whittlesea.vic.gov.au](mailto:keo@whittlesea.vic.gov.au)

### Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD)

#### Outreach Program

[FET@whittlesea.vic.gov.au](mailto:FET@whittlesea.vic.gov.au)

### Training and Education Program

[familytraining@whittlesea.vic.gov.au](mailto:familytraining@whittlesea.vic.gov.au)

### City of Whittlesea Youth Service

[youth@whittlesea.vic.gov.au](mailto:youth@whittlesea.vic.gov.au)

### Yarra Plenty Regional Library

[ypmail@ypri.vic.gov.au](mailto:ypmail@ypri.vic.gov.au)

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# Maternal and Child Health Service

The MCH service is free for families living in the City of Whittlesea who have children aged newborn to school age.

Our multidisciplinary team includes Maternal and Child Health Nurses, Lactation Consultants and Early Childhood Professionals.

Appointments are offered where we consult on family health and wellbeing, child growth and development.

Our staff can provide parenting support and referral to other services. Additionally your child's immunisation status will be monitored to ensure it is up-to-date.

**Initially, a home visit is booked upon discharge from hospital followed by visits to a MCH Centre to follow up on your child's key age and developmental stages at the ages of:**

- 2 weeks
- 4 weeks
- 8 weeks
- 4 months
- 8 months
- 12 months
- 18 months
- 2 years
- 3.5 years

*It's recommended your child completes their 3.5 year assessment prior to commencing 4 year old kindergarten.*

## Enhanced Maternal and Child Health Service

The Enhanced MCH service provides additional outreach support to families experiencing significant early parenting difficulties.

The EMCH service partners with families to set goals that improves outcomes for the parent and child. Eligibility criteria is assessed and a referral is required.

## Drop in services No appointment required

- **Open Consultation Sessions**  
Drop in for further review in between your child's scheduled Key Age and Stage visits.
- **Breast Feeding Support**  
Consult with us for further support around breastfeeding and bottle feeding difficulties.

## Parenting programs

Many free programs are offered such as First Time Parent Groups, Sleep & Settling sessions and Food Information sessions. They are facilitated by health professionals and are adapted to suit the needs of families to further support their parenting roles.

## Deadly Boorais Deadly Families MCH Program at City of Whittlesea

This is a Universal MCH program specifically for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families.

The program objective is to support Aboriginal and Torres Strait families to better access MCH for support, parental guidance, and health checks for their children. DBDF seeks to provide flexibility in access, continuity of care, and improved cultural safety in the delivery of the MCH program. The program offers MCH consultations in the family's home, the MCH centres or another place of their choosing.

The DBDF team is composed of 3 MCHNs and 1 Aboriginal support worker. Families in the program experience continuity of care with usually one primary MCH nurse engaging with them. DBDF is able to deliver the complete MCH program for families, from birth till aged five years. An "OPEN SESSION" where families can drop in without a booking to see a MCH Nurse is available every Tuesday at Bubup Wilam in Thomastown.

For more information  
@ [dbdfmch@whittlesea.vic.gov.au](mailto:dbdfmch@whittlesea.vic.gov.au)  
☎ 0459 890 412

# Playgroups

Playgroups provide an opportunity for parents and carers to come together in a local space with their babies, toddlers and preschool age children.

It is a chance to assist children to learn through play, and connect with other families and services within the local community.

The City of Whittlesea Playgroup Support and Development team can provide advice and support on:

- Finding and joining a local playgroup
- Starting a new playgroup
- Planning and running a playgroup
- Accessing Council's Supported Playgroup Program
- Joining the online Whittlesea Playgroup Network

For information about local playgroups:

- 📍 [whittlesea.vic.gov.au](http://whittlesea.vic.gov.au)
- ☎ 9217 2170
- @ [playgroups@whittlesea.vic.gov.au](mailto:playgroups@whittlesea.vic.gov.au)

**Pop up Playgroups will also be advertised on the City of Whittlesea website.**



Learn about our services

- ☎ 9217 2170
- 📧 [mch@whittlesea.vic.gov.au](mailto:mch@whittlesea.vic.gov.au)



Scan the QR code for more information about playgroups

# Immunisation

Immunisation is important to protect your children from preventable diseases. Vaccinations for the pre-school immunisation program commence at 6 weeks of age, and conclude at 4 years of age.

Under the 'No Jab, No Play' legislation, when enrolling your child, you are required to provide evidence that your child is:

- fully immunised for their age, or
- is on a vaccination catch-up program, or
- is unable to be fully immunised for medical reasons.

This evidence must be provided directly to your child's kindergarten or child care service to confirm their enrolment. Council does not require this evidence to be submitted with your kindergarten application.

Contact Council's immunisation service on:

 **9217 2170**  
 **immunisation@whittlesea.vic.gov.au**

For more information visit the website:

 **whittlesea.vic.gov.au/immunisation**



Scan the QR code for more information about Public immunisation sessions



# Book an immunisation appointment

## 1 Access VaxApp, our online immunisation platform



## 2 Check availability

Select by date or by venue. You can view our immunisation timetable above.

## 3 Sign in or register your account

The first time you use VaxApp you are required to register an account using an email address.

A Verification code will be sent to your email to complete the set up.

## 4 Setup your profile

Your personal profile needs to be completed before setting up the profile for any dependents.

Select 'Receiving a vaccine' if the vaccination is for yourself or 'Giving consent for someone else to receive a vaccine' for a dependent. Enter your personal details and 'Save'.

A Verification code will be sent to your email to complete the set up.

## 5 Select the person to be immunised

Select who you are booking an appointment for if required as well as any medical conditions relevant.

Select the immunisation you are booking in for (For example: 4 months, 12 months etc).

You can select additional immunisations as part of the step.

## 6 Confirm consent

Please ensure you read the Immunisation schedule, pre-immunisation information and side effect fact sheet prior to confirming your consent.

## 7 To book an appointment

Book a venue, date and time that is suitable.

You will receive an email confirmation of your appointment which allows you to manage any changes you wish to make.

Once this profile is completed, future bookings are made simply by logging onto your personal profile.

# Immunisation timetable 2025

## Venues and times

Please do not attend any earlier than the stated schedule.

The current schedule is:

- 6 weeks
- 4 months
- 6 months
- 12 months
- 18 months; and
- 4 years.



N/S (No Session) PH (Public Holiday)

VENUE	DAY SESSIONS	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
<b>DONNYBROOK</b> <b>Olivine Community Pavilion</b> 2 Cycad Avenue, Donnybrook	Friday, 10am – 12pm	N/S	7	7	4	2	6	4	1	5	3	7	5
<b>EPPING NORTH</b> <b>Galada Community Centre</b> 10A Forum Way, Epping North	Friday, 10am – 12pm	10	14	14	11	9	13	11	8	12	10	14	12
<b>SOUTH MORANG</b> <b>Civic Centre, South Morang</b> Fountain View Room 25 Ferres Boulevard, South Morang	Saturday, 10am – 12pm	11	8	15	12	10	14	12	9	13	11	8	13
<b>MERENDA</b> <b>Mernda Community Activity Centre</b> 70 Mernda Village Drive, Mernda	Monday, 12.30pm – 2.30pm	20	17	17	14	19	16	21	18	15	20	17	15
<b>THOMASTOWN</b> <b>Thomastown Library</b> 52 Main Street, Thomastown	Friday, 10am – 12pm	24	28	28	PH	23	27	25	22	19	24	28	PH
<b>MILL PARK</b> <b>Mill Park Leisure</b> 33 Morang Drive, South Morang	Wednesday, 12.30pm – 2.30pm	29	26	26	30	28	25	30	27	24	29	26	N/S
<b>EVENING SESSIONS</b>													
<b>EPPING NORTH</b> <b>Galada Community Centre</b> 10A Forum Way, Epping North	Tuesday, 5pm – 7pm	N/S	4	4	1	6	3	1	5	2	7	PH	2
<b>MERENDA</b> <b>Mernda Community Activity Centre</b> 70 Mernda Village Drive, Mernda	Wednesday, 5pm – 7pm	N/S	5	5	2	7	4	2	6	3	1	5	3
<b>THOMASTOWN</b> <b>Thomastown Library</b> 52 Main Street, Thomastown	Tuesday, 5pm – 7pm	14	11	11	8	13	10	8	12	9	14	11	9
<b>WOLLERT</b> <b>Kirrip Community Centre</b> De Rosi Boulevard, Wollert	Wednesday, 5pm – 7pm	15	19	19	16	21	18	16	20	17	15	19	17

## Whittlesea Family Day Care

Whittlesea Family Day Care is a registered service providing home based childcare for a small group of children, aged from 6 weeks to 12 years old. It is approved by the Australian Government and eligible for child care subsidy. It is also licensed by state governments.

The service provides flexible hours and small groups with planned programs focused on helping children develop a sense of confidence, connect with their community and develop social skills.

Family day care offers:

- full-time and part-time care
- outside school hours care
- school holiday care
- respite care.



Family day care educators are qualified early childhood education and care professionals.

All educators:

- have experience working in the sector
- provide a safe, hygienic, secure and smoke-free childcare environment
- hold a current first aid certificate, anaphylaxis and asthma training
- undertake a National Police Record Check and Working with Children Check
- provide developmentally appropriate programs for children
- represent the cultural diversity of the local community
- sub-contract to Council under an Educator Agreement

Family day care educators are supported by Council's Coordination Unit, who are responsible for approving, supporting, training and monitoring educators.

## Family Engagement Team

The Family Engagement Team is available to assist families in completing registration and enrolment forms for long day care and kindergarten, help identify and overcome barriers in accessing early childhood services and access family support services and programs.

### Services Provided by the Family Engagement Team

#### Registration and Enrolment Support:

Direct assistance with filling out necessary documentation for early childhood education programs.

#### Identifying Barriers:

Helping families and education services to recognise obstacles that may hinder access to services.

#### Support Services:

Guidance on connecting with various support services, including:

- Maternal Child Health
- Immunisation
- Family support services
- Material aid and financial counselling
- Family violence services
- Parent education/resources
- Library story times
- Community and supported playgroups

### Multicultural Support

The Multicultural Family Engagement Facilitators assist families from Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) backgrounds by providing translation help and support in completing registration documents for kindergarten, childcare, or primary school foundation year.



For more information about becoming a Family Day Care Educator or to enrol your child into one of our programs, scan the QR code or contact the Coordination Unit:

📞 9217 2170

✉️ [familydaycare@whittlesea.vic.gov.au](mailto:familydaycare@whittlesea.vic.gov.au)

🌐 [whittlesea.vic.gov.au/familydaycare](http://whittlesea.vic.gov.au/familydaycare)



For more information:

📞 9217 2170

✉️ [fet@whittlesea.vic.gov.au](mailto:fet@whittlesea.vic.gov.au)

🌐 [whittlesea.vic.gov.au](http://whittlesea.vic.gov.au)



## Raising Children and Young People Program

City of Whittlesea's Raising Children and Young People program is dedicated to supporting families, children and young people to build a child friendly city and community.

The program offers many topics and events to support parenting including:

- Parental Self Care
- Pop ups at local shopping centres and libraries
- Bringing up Kids Expo's
- Toilet Training
- Sleep Settling
- Circle of Security
- Tuning in to Teens

You can easily book by using the link provided for each session. We look forward to seeing you at sessions and events in 2025. For more information please contact the Education and Engagement Facilitator on:

- 📞 9217 2170
- ✉️ [familytraining@whittlesea.vic.gov.au](mailto:familytraining@whittlesea.vic.gov.au)
- 📍 [whittlesea.vic.gov.au/familytraining](https://whittlesea.vic.gov.au/familytraining)



ALL sessions and events are FREE to families.  
Scan the QR code for more information about this program

## City of Whittlesea Youth Service

You can find us at:

EDGE Youth Facility, Shop MM1,  
Westfield Plenty Valley  
415 McDonalds Road, Mill Park

We also work out in the community, in schools, community centres, libraries and other services to bring programs, activities and initiatives to where young people are.

Contact us to find out more about the opportunities available through the City of Whittlesea Youth team, or sign up to our Whittlesea Youth E-Newsletter to keep up to date with all our events and programs. Parents, we haven't forgotten about you, our E-Newsletter has a monthly parent spot where you can find great information relevant to parenting tweens/teens/young adults.

- 📞 9217 2170
- ✉️ [youth@whittlesea.vic.gov.au](mailto:youth@whittlesea.vic.gov.au)
- 📍 [whittlesea.vic.gov.au/youth](https://whittlesea.vic.gov.au/youth)
- 📘 [facebook.com/cityofwhittlesea](https://facebook.com/cityofwhittlesea)
- 📷 [@cityofwhittleseyouth](https://instagram.com/cityofwhittleseyouth)



Scan the QR code for more information about this program



## Yarra Plenty Regional Library Whittlesea Branches

The library offers Baby, Toddler, Bedtime, Preschool, Bilingual, Relaxed, and Weekend Storytimes.

### Lalor Library

2A May Road, Lalor

☎ 9465 2353

### Mernda Library

180 Riverdale Boulevard, Mernda

☎ 9117 6116

### Mill Park Library

394 Plenty Road, Mill Park

☎ 9437 8189

### Thomastown Library

52 Main Street, Thomastown

☎ 9464 1864

### Whittlesea Library

57-61 Laurel Street, Whittlesea

☎ 9716 3028

### Galada Click & Collect Hub

10A Forum Way, Epping

☎ 9464 1864

### Kirrip Hub Click & Collect Service

135 De Rossi Boulevard, Wollert

☎ 03 9437 8189

### Mobile Library

Various locations, visit

📍 [ypri.vic.gov.au/  
locations/mobile-library](http://ypri.vic.gov.au/locations/mobile-library)

☎ 0419 883 159

Programs are subject to change, so please check the website [ypri.vic.gov.au](http://ypri.vic.gov.au) or at your local branch for current dates and times.



## Swimming pools and leisure centres

City of Whittlesea local pools and leisure centres offer something for everyone to assist with commencing or enhancing their health and wellbeing journey. The inclusive spaces offer learn-to-swim (from infants to adults), casual swimming, health club access, group fitness, spa and sauna facilities and outdoor play area.

Water safety is a skill for life and learn to swim classes are a fun way to build confidence and be safe both in and around water.

Lessons are available for:

- Infants with their parents – Children aged 6 months to 3 years
- Pre-schoolers – Children aged 3- 5 years
- Primary school aged children – Children aged 5 years and above
- Development Squad
- Adult swimming lessons

### Mill Park Leisure Centre

33 Morang Drive, Mill Park

☎ 03 8432 7600

📍 [millparkleisure.com.au](http://millparkleisure.com.au)

\*24/7 access gym available at MPL only

### Thomastown Recreation and Aquatic Centre

52-54 Main Street, Thomastown

☎ 03 9463 0700

📍 [trac.com.au](http://trac.com.au)

### Whittlesea Swim Centre

50 Walnut Street, Whittlesea

☎ 03 9716 2137

📍 [whittleseaswimcentre.com.au](http://whittleseaswimcentre.com.au)





# Kindergarten

## Two years of kindergarten for FREE!

Every child deserves the best start in life, and the City of Whittlesea is committed to providing just that. All children enrolled in a kindergarten program at a participating service are eligible for Free Kindergarten.

### Free Kindergarten supports families to access a kindergarten program by:

- providing a free 15-hour program to four-year-old children enrolled
- providing a free 5-to-15-hour program to three-year-old children (subject to the length of program offered)
- offsetting the funded kindergarten program component of parent fees for three and four-year-old children enrolled at a long day care service.

To explore the available timetables and programs, visit the Council's website for more information.

Department of Education will make Free Kinder payments to participating service providers, not directly to families.

### Interactions with Commonwealth Childcare Subsidy (CCS)

To maximise the financial benefits for families, long day care service providers will be required to apply the Free Kinder offset to each families' fees after CCS has been applied.



## Why is kindergarten important?

Through play, kindergarten provides a range of learning opportunities for children including:

- Gaining independence by making choices and doing things for themselves, engaging with adults and children for help and decision making
- Learning about language through talking, listening, singing, sharing stories and books
- Learning about socialising and how to get along with others through sharing equipment and playing and negotiating with other children
- Learning about numbers and number concepts by doing puzzles, building with blocks and through singing games.

Kindergarten is an educational program provided by qualified early childhood teachers and educators as per the National Quality Framework (NQF).

The teachers plan educational programs to meet children's needs and interests, and help to develop children's desire to learn, explore language, experiment and socialise.

Parents are acknowledged as children's first and most influential teachers. Kindergartens recognise this and encourage parents to be involved in their child's education by helping out during sessions, sharing skills, volunteering for working bees, fundraising and being involved in the management group.



To find out more you are encouraged to contact the kindergarten/s you are interested in. Contact details for kindergartens can be found on pages 22 and 23 of this booklet.

Child care centres within the municipality also provide kindergarten programs. You may apply directly to the service, see website for contact details:

[whittlesea.vic.gov.au/childcare](https://www.whittlesea.vic.gov.au/childcare)

# City of Whittlesea Kindergarten Application Scheme

## Key dates for 2025

Date	Important information	What happens next
<b>1 February 2025</b>	<p><b>Applications open:</b></p> <p>1 year prior to 3 year old attendance (3 yr old kindergarten in 2026)</p> <p>2 years prior to 4 year old attendance (4 yr old kindergarten in 2027)</p>	<p>Whittlesea accepts applications online, by email, in person and via post.</p> <p>An acknowledgment of your application will be sent by email or post within 2-8 weeks.</p>
<b>30 June 2025</b>	<p><b>Kindergarten applications received by 30 June</b> will be included in the first round offers for 2026.</p>	<p>Applications received after this date will be included in the second or subsequent round of offers.</p>
<b>July 2025</b>	<p><b>Round 1 offers</b> for 2026 Kindergarten will be sent to families.</p>	<p>Offers will be sent via email.</p> <p>If an email address is not provided, parents will be contacted by phone and/or mail.</p>
<b>August 2025</b>	<p><b>Round 2 offers</b> for 2026 Kindergarten will be sent to families.</p>	
<b>September 2025</b>	<p><b>Round 3 offers</b> for 2026 Kindergarten will be sent to families.</p>	
<b>October 2025</b>	<p>Offers are made weekly and continue as new applications are received.</p>	<p>Applications for 2026 do not close until November 2026.</p>
<b>From October 2025 onwards</b>	<p>Families will receive information from their accepted Kindergarten directly such as enrolment requirements, commencement procedures and session times.</p>	<p>Please make sure you keep your details up to date.</p> <p>If you require assistance, please contact the Kindergarten team via:</p> <p> <a href="mailto:keo@whittlesea.vic.gov.au">keo@whittlesea.vic.gov.au</a></p> <p> <b>9217 2170.</b></p>

## Eligibility for kindergarten

### Three-year-old kindergarten

Children must turn three by 30 April in the year of attendance.

### Four-year-old kindergarten

Children must turn four by 30 April in the year of attendance.

Under the funding provided to kindergartens by the State Government all children are eligible for 1 year of funded 3 year old kindergarten and 1 year of 4 year old kindergarten.

Some children are eligible for a second year of funded kindergarten. This second year is only available at four year old kindergarten and is approved by your child's kindergarten teacher.

Parents/guardians need to consider the best time for their child to start kindergarten. Children reach developmental milestones at slightly different ages.

### Families with children born between January and April

can choose which year to start Three-Year-Old kindergarten. These children can start in the same year they turn three, or in the year they turn four years of age.

If you are unsure when your child will be ready to start kindergarten, talk to others who know your child and whose judgement you trust. This could include your local Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Nurse.

To establish which year your child is eligible to attend kindergarten and when applications open for that year, please refer to the table below.

**Due to staffing requirements, some services may ask that children start attending kindergarten only after their third birthday.** This may mean that some children may not start attending their kindergarten program until part-way into Term 1.

Date of birth range	Attend 3 year old kindergarten	Attend 4 year old kindergarten	Applications Open
1 May 2020 – 30 April 2021	2024	2025	Now open
1 May 2021 – 30 April 2022	2025	2026	Now open
1 May 2022 – 30 April 2023	2026	2027	1 February 2025
1 May 2023 – 30 April 2024	2027	2028	1 February 2026



## How to apply for kindergarten

### It's free to apply for kindergarten

#### Step 1

To submit an application, you need to:

**Apply online** via Parent Web Portal on Council's website:

[whittlesea.vic.gov.au/kinder](https://www.whittlesea.vic.gov.au/kinder)

Or a **kindergarten form** can be obtained from:

- [whittlesea.vic.gov.au/kinder](https://www.whittlesea.vic.gov.au/kinder)
- Kindergartens
- Maternal and Child Health Centres
- **Council Offices**  
25 Ferres Boulevard, South Morang  
8.30am-5pm (Mon-Fri)
- **Whittlesea Services Hub**  
63 Church Street, Whittlesea  
9.30am- 5pm (Mon-Fri)



Scan the QR code to apply online

#### Step 2

Fill in the personal details and nominate up to three kindergartens in order of preference.

#### Step 3

Attach the following documents to the application:

- **Proof of child's birth**  
(eg. A copy of birth certificate/ passport or Immunisation History Statement.
- **Proof of Parent's Address**  
(eg. copy of current driver's licence, or utility bill). Non-residents may choose to provide proof of primary childcare/education or employment within the municipality to prove connection to Council.

If this is not possible a signed Statutory Declaration stating your child care arrangements, employment or intention to move into the municipality will be accepted.

Non-residents without a link to Council will be considered after residents have been allocated places.

- **A copy of a Health Care Card/** eligible Concession/Refugee or Asylum Seeker visa etc (if applicable).

#### FREE TO APPLY FOR ALL FAMILIES

From 1 February 2024 there is no cost to apply for kindergarten.


\* Subject to change


#### Step 4

Submit your application:

 **Online**  
[whittlesea.vic.gov.au/kinder](https://www.whittlesea.vic.gov.au/kinder)

 **Email**  
[keo@whittlesea.vic.gov.au](mailto:keo@whittlesea.vic.gov.au)

 **Mail**  
Kindergarten Team  
City of Whittlesea, Locked Bag 1  
Bundoora, MDC 3083

 **In Person**  
**Council Offices**  
25 Ferres Boulevard,  
South Morang  
8.30am-5pm (Mon-Fri)

**Whittlesea Services Hub**  
63 Church Street, Whittlesea  
9.30am- 5pm (Mon-Fri)

#### Kinder is free for all children

It's FREE to apply for kindergarten and FREE to attend too.



## Confirmation of placement

**Kindergarten placement offers** will be made via email or mail, starting in the months of July and August in the year before your child is due to attend. These offers are made based on priority of access criteria set by Department of Education and then date of application.

If too many people apply for a particular kindergarten, we may need to consider your second or third preference when making offers.

If no offer can be made for any of the selected preferences a waiting list letter will be sent advising you of your options.

## Waiting list

If there are no places available at any of your chosen preferences, you will have the option of considering a placement at another kindergarten or to be placed on a waiting list.

If you decline a kindergarten placement offer, you can choose to go onto a waiting list at a kindergarten of your choice.

Council will contact you in writing when a vacancy arises and are able to make an offer for one of your preferences. It is important to note that we cannot guarantee that a vacancy will arise at any of your nominated preferences.

Please note that if you accept an offer at a kindergarten your child cannot remain on a waiting list at a different kindergarten.

## Application changes

### Change of preferences, address or contact details

A parent web portal is available on [whittlesea.vic.gov.au/kinder](https://www.whittlesea.vic.gov.au/kinder) to view, apply and modify the status of your application or to change your kindergarten preferences.

To log in, use your child's first given name, surname, date of birth as well as your application ID. The first letter you receive from us will include your application ID.

If you don't have your application ID or if you want to change your contact details, email your request to [@keo@whittlesea.vic.gov.au](mailto:keo@whittlesea.vic.gov.au)

**Note: Any changes to your application will not affect your original application date.**

### Deferral from kindergarten

Deferring refers to the process where a child's original kindergarten application is postponed until the following year on the grounds that the child may not be ready for kindergarten.

An application may only be deferred before the child starts attending a 3 or 4 year old kindergarten program.

Deferment may be a suitable option for children whose skills and developmental level will improve with time, experience and the normal maturation process. An Early Childhood Educator or MCH nurse can assist in informing parents/guardians about a child's development.

Deferments can be submitted online or by emailing the details to [@keo@whittlesea.vic.gov.au](mailto:keo@whittlesea.vic.gov.au)



# Kindergartens – City of Whittlesea

## BUNDOORA 3083

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### Edward Street Preschool

1a Edward Street, Bundoora

☎ 0458 390 087

### McLeans Road Kindergarten

151 McLeans Road, Bundoora

☎ 8467 5600

## DONNYBROOK 3064

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### Eucalyptus Parade Kindergarten

38 Eucalyptus Parade, Donnybrook

☎ 8408 6762

### Murnong Kindergarten

181 Olivine Boulevard, Donnybrook

☎ 0400 919 510

## DOREEN 3754

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### Hazel Glen Kindergarten

65 Eminence Boulevard, Doreen

☎ 9717 7565

### Laurimar Kindergarten

110 Hazel Glen Drive, Doreen

☎ 9717 8056

### Orchard Road Kindergarten

121 Orchard Road, Doreen

☎ 1300 153 332

## EPPING 3076

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### Derby Meadows Preschool

(closing for redevelopment 2026/2027)

17 Winchester Avenue, Epping

☎ 9401 5426

### Epping Preschool

849 High Street, Epping

☎ 9401 1206

### Epping North Preschool

378 Findon Road, Epping

☎ 9408 8000

### Epping Views Kindergarten

15 Lyndarum Drive, Epping

☎ 8405 3227

### Galada Kindergarten

10A Forum Way, Epping

☎ 8457 0840

### Greenbrook Kindergarten

31 Lowalde Drive, Epping

☎ 9401 3083

### Meadowglen Primary

#### School Kindergarten

3 Pommel Crescent, Epping

☎ 9474 4861

### Oakbrook Kindergarten

36 Holroyd Drive, Epping

☎ 9401 1695

## LALOR 3075

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### Jacaranda Preschool – Kingsway Drive

90 Kingsway Drive, Lalor

☎ 9465 1993

### Jacaranda Preschool – Nebel Street

34 Nebel Street, Lalor

☎ 9464 4723

### Lalor East Preschool

186 Darebin Drive, Lalor

☎ 9465 7564

### Lalor Primary School Kindergarten

28 Maxwell Street, Lalor

☎ 9450 0986

### Vasey Park Preschool

15 Vasey Avenue, Lalor

☎ 9465 8835

## MERENDA 3754

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### Jindi Kindergarten and Extended Care

48 Breadalbane Avenue, Mernda

☎ 9717 0414

### Mernda South Kindergarten

2 Goulburn Street, Mernda

☎ 8371 0570

### Mernda Villages Kindergarten

70 Mernda Village Drive, Mernda

☎ 9717 6066

Please visit council's website for an up to date list of kindergartens.

## MILL PARK 3082

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### Blossom Park Kindergarten

59 Azalea Avenue, Mill Park

☎ 9404 4787

### Centenary Drive Kindergarten

68 Centenary Drive, Mill Park

☎ 9436 7671

### Mill Park Preschool

Rear 7 Mill Park Drive, Mill Park

☎ 9404 2623

### Roycroft Kindergarten

114 Roycroft Avenue, Mill Park

☎ 9404 4369

### Stables Kindergarten

284 Childs Road, Mill Park (2025 term 1 & 2)

152 Mill Park Drive, Mill Park (from term 3)

☎ 9404 1419

### The Heights Kindergarten

31 Morang Drive, Mill Park

☎ 9436 7744

## SOUTH MORANG 3752

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### Mill Park Lakes Preschool

280 Gordons Road, South Morang

☎ 9437 9412

### South Morang Preschool – Reid Street

75 Reid Street, South Morang

☎ 9404 1855

### South Morang Preschool – Riverside

8 Doreen Rogen Way, South Morang

☎ 9436 6398

### The Lakes South Morang Kindergarten

(opening 2026)

275 Gordons Road, South Morang

## THOMASTOWN 3074

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### Barry Road Preschool

32 Barry Road, Thomastown

☎ 9465 0043

### Dalton Road Kindergarten

(closing for redevelopment 2026/2027)

145A Dalton Road, Thomastown

☎ 9465 4940

### Harbard Street Kindergarten

1 Gladstone Street, Thomastown

☎ 9465 8693

### Spring Street Kindergarten

16 Spring Street, Thomastown

☎ 9465 2092

### Thomastown West Kindergarten

127 Edgars Road, Thomastown

☎ 9465 4923

## WHITTLESEA 3757

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### Laurel Street Kindergarten – Sparkways

57-61 Laurel Street, Whittlesea

☎ 9716 2153

### Whittlesea Preschool

92 Church Street, Whittlesea

☎ 9716 2405

## WOLLERT 3750

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### Barrawang Primary School

#### Kindergarten

1 Islington Street, Wollert

☎ 9474 4862

### Ganbu Gulinj Kindergarten

55 Macedon Parade, Wollert

☎ 9407 7200

### Kirrip Kindergarten

135 De Rossi Boulevard, Wollert

☎ 8408 6760

### Korin Korin Kindergarten

20 Champions Parade, Wollert

☎ 9409 1723

### Wirrigirri Primary School Kindergarten

(opening 2026)

120 Saltlake Boulevard, Wollert

## Early Start Kindergarten

Early Start Kindergarten (ESK) provides eligible children with 15 hours of free kindergarten per week for two years before starting school.

To be eligible, your child must be three by 30 April in the year they start kindergarten and:

- Child is from a refugee or asylum seeker background, or
- Identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander, or
- Your family has been supported by Child Protection or referred by The Orange Door (for parenting support).

Apply for ESK by submitting a kindergarten application form and selecting the option for Early Start Kindergarten.

For more information contact Council's Kindergarten team or visit Early Start Kindergarten

[education.vic.gov.au](https://education.vic.gov.au)

## Aboriginal children and their families

**Bubup Wilam Aboriginal Child and Family Centre** is a thriving Aboriginal family-based early childhood centre offering education and care programs (including kindergarten).

The Centre's focus in partnership with families, is to create strong foundations for lifelong learning, health and wellbeing for Aboriginal children. Bubup Wilam emphasises the child's cultural, emotional and educational rights and needs in a culturally rich and supportive environment.

Bubup Wilam Aboriginal Child and Family Centre is located at 76 Main Street, Thomastown.

To enrol your child or for more information contact the Centre on [8459 4800](tel:84594800).



## Children with additional needs

If your child has additional needs, you can indicate this when completing the Application Form. Additional needs could include developmental delay, a chronic medical condition, illness, allergy or individual family circumstance.

If your child has a diagnosed disability, or if you are accessing early childhood intervention services, NDIS or are on a waiting list for these services, please include this information on the application form.

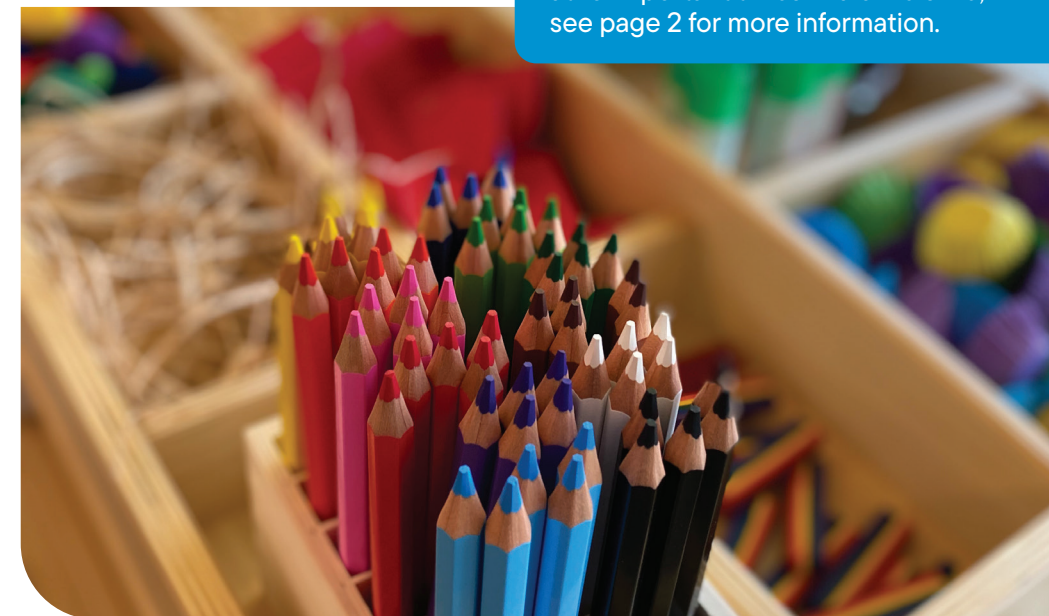
The information is important so that the early childhood service may apply for additional resources to support your child or family circumstance, as required.

For more information about services available for children with a disability contact the Whittlesea Preschool Field Officer (PSFO) based at Uniting Northwest via:

[@psfo.northwest@vt.uniting.org](mailto:psfo.northwest@vt.uniting.org)  
[9351 3600](tel:93513600)

If you are unsure if your child has additional needs and would like further information, please contact your local health professional, or speak with your child's Maternal and Child Health Nurse.

Maternal and Child Health nurses are registered nurses, who provide free developmental assessments at 10 important times in a child's life; see page 2 for more information.



## Second year of 4 year old kindergarten

During four-year-old kindergarten, your early childhood teacher will assess your child, plan for their move to school and identify any developmental areas that may need particular attention.

Some children may need a second year of kindergarten.

There are guidelines that early childhood teachers will follow to assess your child's eligibility for a second year of kindergarten. This helps the teacher identify your child's needs and goals.

The learning and development areas assessed by early childhood teachers include:

- **identity** – the child's sense of identity
- **community** – the child's connection with and contribution to their world
- **wellbeing** – the child's sense of wellbeing
- **learning** – the child's confidence and involvement in learning
- **communication** – the child's communication

other factors may also be considered.



### FIND A KINDER PROGRAM (DE)

Shares a map to help you find a kindergarten program near you.

## Your involvement

It's important that you and the teacher work together to achieve the best outcome for your child.

With your consent, the teacher will:

- complete the assessment of your child
- meet with you to discuss this assessment
- develop a Term 3 Learning and Development Plan for your child, if delays in your child's development are identified
- get the support of other early childhood development professionals as needed.

## Annual Kindergarten Open Event

At least once a year Kindergartens across the municipality will showcase the quality 3 and 4 year old programs they offer by inviting families to attend an open day/night. For dates, visit Council's website.

This is a good opportunity to visit some of your local kindergartens, speak to staff, see the programs on offer and meet other families and the wider community.

Some kindergartens offer additional open days or tours. You are welcome to contact your local kindergarten to enquire.

## Kindergarten programs in Child Care Centres

A kindergarten program can take place in a child care centre (also known as a long day care centre).

Child care centres with a funded kindergarten program will display a kindergarten certificate and have a qualified early childhood teacher.

To apply for a placement in a child care centre contact the centre directly.

If you would like a full list of child care centres that offer a kindergarten program visit Council's website:

 [whittlesea.vic.gov.au/childcare](http://whittlesea.vic.gov.au/childcare)



## Preschool Dental Service

It is recommended for children to visit a dentist starting from one year of age. The Preschool Dental Clinic is a child friendly environment that provides high quality children's dentistry and up to date information on dental health.

The service encourages a family oriented and supportive approach to dental care.

There is no waiting list for children and any child is eligible to attend prior to school entry.

The cost is free for concession card holders and minimal for non concession card holders.

For more information or to make an appointment:

- **Northern Hospital**  
187 Cooper Street, Epping  
☎ **1300 234 263**
- **Whittlesea Centre**  
40-42 Walnut Street, Whittlesea  
☎ **9716 9444**

## Privacy

Information regarding your child's kindergarten placement can only be discussed with the parent/guardian listed on the application (the applicant). Council will not disclose information to anyone else unless approved by the applicant.

The City of Whittlesea is committed to the responsible collection and handling of personal information.

Council's Information Privacy Policy is available on request and can be viewed on Council's website.

Council collects and uses personal information to provide you with the services you require.

If at any time you wish to access your personal information, or have a complaint in relation to privacy, please contact Council on ☎ **9217 2170**.





## Contact City of Whittlesea

 03 9217 2170

 [info@whittlesea.vic.gov.au](mailto:info@whittlesea.vic.gov.au)

### Postal address

Locked Bag 1, Bundoora MDC VIC 3083

### Council offices

25 Ferres Boulevard

South Morang VIC 3752

Monday-Friday, 8.30am-5pm

### Whittlesea Services Hub

63 Church Street

Whittlesea VIC 3757

Monday-Friday, 9.30am-5pm



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**City of  
Whittlesea**

[whittlesea.vic.gov.au](http://whittlesea.vic.gov.au)



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