

When can my child start kindergarten?

In Victoria, all Aboriginal children can go to kindergarten if they turn three by 30 April in the year they start kindergarten.

Where can I find a kindergarten for my child?

Kindergarten programs are offered at standalone kindergarten services, most long day care centres, and some local schools.

To find a kindergarten program in your local area, use the **Find a service** link at education.vic.gov.au/koorie-kids-shine, call your local council, or speak to your local kindergarten service.



Enrol today

To find out more about kindergarten, visit:
www.education.vic.gov.au/koorie-kids-shine
or **contact:**

Ginni Puri
Kindergarten Engagement Officer
Kindergartenreferrals@wyndham.vic.gov.au
0436 015 166
Work Days: Monday - Friday

Koorie Kids Shine at Kindergarten





What is Koorie Kids Shine?

Koorie Kids Shine was launched by the Victorian Government to help promote participation by Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander children in kindergarten.

The Victorian Government supports kindergarten by making the cost of kindergarten free for up to 15 hours each week through the Early Start Kindergarten grant and the Kindergarten Fee Subsidy. Eligibility for these grants may differ depending on where your child attends kindergarten. Parents should discuss eligibility with the service.



What is kindergarten?

Kindergarten is a program where your child can have fun and learn through play and activities. Your child can socialise with other children, develop confidence, and build reading, writing and maths skills to help them get ready for school.

Kindergarten programs have a qualified teacher and run for 15 hours per week.



How much does kindergarten cost?

Free kindergarten

Aboriginal children aged three and four can access up to 15 hours of free kindergarten per week.

When attending a long day care centre, there might be some costs for any additional hours above the 15 hours of free kindergarten.

Families might be able to receive Commonwealth Government subsidies to cover some or all of these costs. For information about these subsidies, please contact Centrelink.



What happens at kindergarten?

At kindergarten, your child can:

- learn through play, art, music and dance
- learn to express themselves in a safe, inclusive and caring environment
- build skills and confidence to prepare them for school.

“ I sent my children to kinder because I wanted them to be ready for school. Kinder made them smart, proud, strong and resilient. Now they're sending their children too. ”

Aunty Esme

