

Three-Year-Old Kindergarten

3-YEAR-OLD KINDER
Best Start
Best Life

To dream big, our kids need the best start in life



The Victorian Government is investing almost \$5 billion over the decade to introduce universal funded Three-Year-Old Kindergarten – and it’s now available across the state.

This means that all Victorian children can go to Three-Year-Old Kindergarten for two years.

Taking part in a quality kindergarten program from the age of three boosts children’s learning, development, health and wellbeing outcomes.

Young children learn about the world around them through play

Young children learn best by playing. At Three-Year-Old Kindergarten, children can build their language skills and learn about numbers.

Children will also learn how to share, listen and get along with others. Kindergarten can also be called Kinder.

All children in Victoria have access to two years of funded Kindergarten

From 2022, all Victorian children can access funded Kinder for 5 hours per week. By 2029, all Victorian children can access funded Kinder for 15 hours per week.

Teachers and educators lead Kinder programs.

Children can go to Kinder at a standalone Kinder or Long Day Care.

Young children learn by playing
They learn how to share, listen and get along with others.
In Kinder, children can build their language skills and learn about numbers.
Teachers and educators help children become curious, creative and confident.

Different types of Kinder:

Standalone Kinder	Kinder Programs Children go here on set days and times
Long Day Care	Kindergarten Programs Children go to Kinder here as part of Long Day Care
	Education and Care Long Day Care is for children between 0 and 6 years old

All funded Kinders must meet safety and quality guidelines set by the Victorian Government.

Long Day Centre offers a full day of paid care and a funded Kinder program.

A standalone Kinder only runs on set days and times.

You can decide what works best for you and your family

How to enrol your child in a Three-Year-Old Kindergarten

You can visit your local Kinder to see how it works.

This website can also help:

education.vic.gov.au/choose-kinder

This website has information about the quality of a Kinder: www.startingblocks.gov.au

When to start Three-Year-Old Kinder

You can enrol your child one year before Kinder starts. It's good to start thinking about it when your child turns 2 years old.

You can choose when the child starts Kinder.

If your child was born between 1 January and 30 April they can go to Kinder in the year they turn 3 years old or in the year they turn 4 years old.

If your child was born between 1 May and 31 December they can go to Kinder in the year they turn 4 years old

Children may not be able to attend until they turn three in programs where the service is unable to meet the educator to child ratio for children who are two years of age.

When can I send my child to Kinder?

Date child is born	Comments	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
From 21 Dec 2016 to 30 April 2017	Your child can start school in 2022 or 2023	3-Year-Old Kindergarten	4-Year-Old Kindergarten	Prep	Grade 1	Grade 2
			3-Year-Old Kindergarten	4-Year-Old Kindergarten	Prep	Grade 1
From 1 May to 20 Dec 2017*			3-Year-Old Kindergarten	4-Year-Old Kindergarten	Prep	Grade 1
From 21 Dec 2017 to 30 April 2018	Your child can start school in 2023 or 2024		3-Year-Old Kindergarten	4-Year-Old Kindergarten	Prep	Grade 1
				3-Year-Old Kindergarten	4-Year-Old Kindergarten	Prep
From 1 May to 20 Dec 2018*				3-Year-Old Kindergarten	4-Year-Old Kindergarten	Prep

* Please discuss this date with your child's school

Who do I ask questions about Kinder?

- Your local Kinder or Long Day Care
 - Your local council
 - Your maternal and child care nurse
 - Call Parentline on 13 22 89 Parentline is part of the Department of Health (DH)
 - Email 3yo.kindergarten@education.vic.gov.au
- Go to www.vic.gov.au/kinder

