

# **Kindergarten Attendance Data Collection**

#### Information for families about attendance data collection for sessional kindergarten

Kindergartens collect attendance data when families sign their children in and out each day. Currently this might be done using paper sign in sheets or a digital system.

Beginning in 2025, kindergartens must report this data to the Victorian Department of Education. The department will use this information to support kindergarten attendance as part of the <a href="Preschool Reform Agreement">Preschool Reform Agreement</a>, so that all Victorian children receive the full learning and development benefits of a quality early childhood education.

### How will attendance data be collected?

Currently, kindergartens use either digital or paper-based systems for parents and carers to sign their children into and out of kindergarten each day.

To support information collection, we have launched a new system called Arrival to replace the paper-based systems used at some kindergartens. This means kindergartens will either use Arrival or their current digital system to collect attendance data.

To ensure that an authorised person is dropping off and collecting children from the service, Arrival will also record that person's:

- name
- mobile phone number
- relationship to the child.

If your child has missed a session, for example due to illness, you will be prompted to select a reason the next time you sign your child in.

The collection of this new information will have no impact on your child's place at kindergarten.

## How will my child's attendance information will be used?

The attendance data collected in Arrival will be reported to the department securely to help the department to plan supports for children and families

The department may also share de-identified attendance information, meaning your and your child's name will not be shared, in the following circumstances:

- to meet national reporting obligations. Some attendance information will be shared with the Australian Bureau of Statistics so that they can report on the numbers of children attending kindergarten in Australia each year
- to help academic researchers study part of the childcare or kindergarten system in Victoria.

## How will my information be kept safe and secure?

All information will be handled in accordance with the Department of Education's <u>Privacy Policy</u> and relevant privacy legislation including the Privacy and Data Protection Act 2014 (Vic) and the Health Records Act 2001 (Vic).

If you need to update or correct your personal information, please contact your kindergarten service.