



Yarra Ranges Kindergartens Inc

Cluster Manager

Providing quality preschool services.

We currently offer 3 year old and 4 year old programs at:

Hayes Place, Belgrave; Meadowgate Dve, Chirnside Park;

Kelso St, Coldstream; Joy Ave, Mt Evelyn; Lancaster Rd, Mooroolbark;

Mathers Ave, Launching Place; Moore Cres, Millgrove; Leith Rd, Montrose;

Riverside Dve, Warburton and View St, Woori Yallock.

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We have been offering
quality Community
kindergarten programs since
1996.

How Kindergarten Will Benefit Your Child

Kindergarten programs are designed to develop children in the following key areas:

- social skills; playing with other children in a calm, sharing and rewarding way
- self-awareness; self-care as well as respect for others
- emotional skills; understanding feelings, self-regulation and empathy with others
- early literacy and pre-numeracy; such as imaginative play, stories and drawing plus mathematical concepts such as sorting, time and measurement
- joy for learning and group activities; such as talking, drawing and making things together with other children of their own development age
- interaction; ability to make new friends, share and negotiate
- confidence building; exposure to new ideas and courage to 'have a go'.

Kindergarten programming is deliberately play-based not academic. Our programs include free-play and intentional teaching experiences that ready children for primary school and the start of the academic part of their education.

Kindergarten also provides families with access to:

- support and assistance for children with special needs
- resources and links to community support services



Enrolment Information

At what age can I enrol my children for kindergarten?

Yarra Ranges Kindergartens Inc. accepts enrolments at all its kindergartens from birth.

Children less than four years of age

If a child is less than four years of age by 30 April in the year they are to attend a funded kindergarten program, the parents must first request departmental approval for early school entry for their child to attend school in the following year. Children turning 4yo between 1 January and 30 April are still eligible to attend even if they haven't turned 4 years of age at the beginning of the year.

Children less than three years of age

Children who turn three between 1 January and 30 April are eligible to attend 3yo kinder in that year but are not allowed to start until they have actually turned 3 years of age. This is a legal requirement of our licence with DEECD.

Eligibility Table

BORN BETWEEN:	3yo	4yo
1/5/10 and 30/4/11	2014	2015
1/5/11 and 30/4/12	2015	2016
1/5/12 and 30/4/13	2016	2017
1/5/13 and 30/4/14	2017	2018
1/5/14 and 30/4/15	2018	2019
1/5/15 and 30/4/16	2019	2020

Do I have to buy a uniform for my child?

Uniform items such as T-Shirts, Windcheaters and hats are available but not compulsory. Each kinder organises the ordering of uniforms differently. Your kinder will have information for you.

A wide brimmed hat that offers sun protection to the face, ears and neck is compulsory from the start of September to the end of April as part of our SunSmart/Sun Protection Policy.

Why can't I send chips, muesli bars and fruit juice to kinder?

Highly processed and packaged foods should be kept for home. A sandwich, fruit and water are great sources of energy and hydration for children at kinder. This fits into our Nutrition and Active Play Policy and what your children will be taught about healthy living. There is also a focus on reducing waste as part of caring for our environment and resources so parents are encouraged to use lunch- and snack-boxes instead of disposable plastic wrappings.

Do they still do kinder duty these days?

Yes! Family centred practice recognises that parents are children's first and most influential teachers so not only are parents welcome to help during sessions, family participation is very important both for the children and teaching staff. All parents will be encouraged to complete the Parent Helper roster.



Fee Information

Why are fees charged?

Fees & Funding

The Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (DEECD) provides per capita funding as a contribution toward the costs of providing a four-year-old kindergarten program. This funding covers approximately 65% of operation costs. Services meet the balance of costs through charging fees and fundraising activities.

Payment Options

- Payment of kinder fees is accepted via the fees box at each centre using cash, cheque, money order or credit card.
- Early payment of annual fees may result in the family receiving a discount! Annual fees would be due in March of your child's kinder year.
- Visa and MasterCard payments can be taken over the phone at the Administration office.
- Direct deposit into our Bendigo Bank account is also accepted and just needs the enrolling parent's name on the payment as a reference. Details are included on each invoice.
- We are always happy to offer payment plans if this makes it easier to ensure that you have your child's fees paid in full by September of the year of attendance.

Subsidies

Kindergarten Fee Subsidy (four-year-old programs only)

The Kindergarten Fee Subsidy is provided by DEECD and entitles eligible families of children in the funded 4yo program to a significant reduction in term fees.

There is no state government funding for 3yo programs so all families must pay fees. Without funding, there are also no fee subsidies for 3yo programs.

Other Charges

Enrolment Application Fee: This fee should accompany the enrolment application to ensure timely processing of the application.

Maintenance Deposit: an amount that is charged to each family attending to confirm acceptance of a kinder place. This deposit is redeemable after family participation in working bee or equivalent maintenance activities or events at kinder throughout the year.

Administration Fee: a levy charged per four year old family to help cover the cost of administration

Fundraising

Funding and fees cover operational costs. To maintain and upgrade the facilities of our centres, a range of fundraising and social activities will be offered to families. While participation in fundraising is voluntary, the support of every family is encouraged. Fundraising activities are also an opportunity for families and communities to come together.

