Introduction

The Victorian Government's \$14 billion Best Start, Best Life reforms are the biggest changes to Victoria's early childhood education sector in a generation.

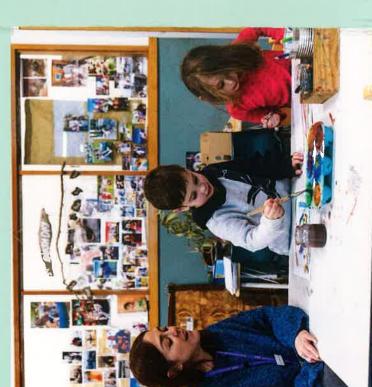
These reforms give Victorian children

- regardless of their life circumstances,
background or postcode – access to 2 years
of quality early learning before they start
primary school.

To find out more, go to vic.gov.au/best-start-best-life-reforms







Benefits of 2 years of early childhood education

When children access 2 years of quality early learning before school, it has many benefits, especially for those who need additional support.

Between the ages of 3 and 5, children learn important social and emotional skills. Kindergarten is a safe place for children to build these skills, their independence and concentration while forming positive relationships and making friends.

Studies show that children who attended 2 years of kindergarten had better development in language, pre-reading, and early number concepts.

Cost of Pre-Prep

Pre-Prep, like Four-Year-Old Kindergarten, will be free for children enrolled at participating standalone (sessional) kindergarten services across Victoria. Families who enrol their children at a long day care centre will receive a fee offset.

Learn more about Pre-Prep at vic.gov.au/pre-prep





Four-Year-Old Kinder is becoming Pre-Prep







Pre-Prep is rolling out

each week. gradually increasing from 15 to 30 hours Pre-Prep, with programs across Victoria Four-Year-Old Kindergarten is becoming

have access to 30 hours of Pre-Prep. By 2036, all 4-year-old children in Victoria will

2025 launch LGAs

2026 launch LGAs and priority groups

About Pre-Prep

benefits of early childhood education Pre-Prep programs will be play-based services. Like Four-Year-Old Kindergo Pre-Prep will be delivered in standalo hours mean even greater access to the led by qualified teachers. The additio (sessional) kindergartens and long do

Benefits for children

their learning and development. school gives more time for children to deepen Increased hours of learning in the year before

Pre-Prep can lead to: More hours of play-based learning in

- improved learning and social outcomes
- increased literacy and numeracy
- positive self-regulation and social skills

Glenelg Shire

Shire

Colac-Otway

Southern

Grampians

Shire

Indigo Shire

Moira Shire

City



Pre-Prep roll-out schedule

where they live in Victoria. An additional 12 regional LGAs will also start Pre-Prep in 2026 children who have had contact with Child Protection services will be eligible for Pre-Prep, no matter Pre-Prep started in 6 local government areas (LGAs) in 2025, and will gradually roll out across the state. In 2026, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children, children from a refugee background, and

n.	onal	ed and	arten,	one day care		
	 Yarriambiack Shire 	 Northern Grampians Shire 	 Murrindindi Shire 	 Hindmarsh Shire 	 Gannawarra Shire 	 Ararat Rural City
Pre-Prep becomes available across Victoria to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children, children from a refugee	 Loddon Shire 	 Horsham Rural City 	 East Gippsland Shire 	 Corangamite Shire 	 Buloke Shire 	 Benalla Rural City
	 Wodonga Rural City 	 Wangaratta Rural City 	 Strathbogie Shire 	 Pyrenees Shire 	 Mitchell Shire 	 Mansfield Shire

2028 launch LGAs and priority groups

or asylum seeker background and children who have had

contact with Child Protection services.

 Movne Shire
Ω Si
past Shire

Alpine Shire

Central

South

Goldfields Shire

2027 Iaunch LGAs

- **Baw Baw Shire**
- Gippsland Shire Campaspe Shire
- Golden Plains Shire
- Greater Shepparton City

Hepburn Shire

- Swan Hill Rural Latrobe City
- West Wimmera Shire

Moorabool Shire

- Mildura Rural City
- Mount Alexander Shire
- Queenscliff Borough
- Surf Coast Shire
- Warrnambool City **Towong Shire**
- Wellington Shire
- Macedon Ranges Shire

Commonwealth concession card and children from a who have (or have a parent or guardian who has) a multiple birth (triplets or more). Pre-Prep becomes available across Victoria to children

Find out when your child is eligible

when your child is eligible to attend Pre-Use the Pre-Prep calculator to find out Prep at vic.gov.au/pre-prep-calculator



to vic.gov.au/pre-prep information, please refer 2029 to 2036 and further For launch LGAs from

