

The Best Start For Every Victorian Child

**Best Start
Best Life**



The Andrews Labor Government has announced a \$9 billion commitment to overhaul early childhood education and care in Victoria to help children thrive, save families money and support women to return to the workforce.

This record commitment is part of the ongoing reform to early years education in Victoria to support every child to get the best start for the best life.

The announcement means:

- From 2023, free kindergarten programs will be available for all three and four year old children at participating services in Victoria
- By 2032, Four-Year-Old Kinder will transition to Pre-Prep – increasing to a 30-hour a week program of play-based learning for every four-year-old child in Victoria. Pre-Prep will continue to be delivered through both standalone kindergarten services and long day care centres and will be progressively rolled-out across the decade.
- 50 Victorian government-owned and affordable childcare centres will be established. These centres will be built in locations across Victoria that have unmet demand and will make it easier for families to access childcare.
- The Victorian Pre-Prep Taskforce will be established in the coming weeks and will consult staff, unions, early childhood experts, local governments, kinder and long day care providers and other stakeholders to inform the design and implementation of all parts of this exciting agenda.

These reforms build on the existing Three-Year-Old Kindergarten program, which will continue as planned, with no change to its funding or roll-out schedule.

Five to 15 hours a week of government-funded Three-Year-Old programs are already available to families across the state – and from next year, it will be free at participating services.

For more information,

visit: www.vic.gov.au/give-your-child-the-best-start-in-life