

Selection Criteria

4-Year-Old Kindergarten Program

Eligibility

- All children must meet 'No Jab, No Play' Legislation requirements;
- Turn 4 years of age by 30th April in the year that they attend 4-Year-Old Kindergarten; or
- Receive funding for a 2nd year of 4-Year-Old Kindergarten; or
- Were eligible to attend the previous year but deferred or withdrew from the service on or before the last day of term 1; or
- Turn 6 years of age in their year at 4-Year-Old kindergarten, but have been granted an exemption from school entry age requirements by their regional office of the Department of Education & Training (refer: DET preschool funding criteria); or
- Are younger than the eligible age, but whose parents/guardians have submitted written request for their child to attend school the following year to their regional office of the DET. A copy of the written request must be attached with the application. Please be advised that very few requests are approved by DET. If the child attends preschool early, but does not proceed onto school the following year, it is not possible to access another year of funded preschool.

Selection Criteria

All children will be firstly sorted according to the selection criteria. Allocation of places will then be undertaken giving priority of access to repeating children and Verified Priority Children as per the Department of Education and Training (DET) Kindergarten Funding Guide 2023 guidelines.

If there are more applications than places available, preference will be given to children who meet the greatest number of criteria outlined below.

- Families who live within the Whitehorse Primary School zone. Your zone can be found at <https://www.findmyschool.vic.gov.au/> by typing your address into the search field.
- Attended 3-Year Old Kindergarten at Seedlings Kindergarten.
- Has sibling/s at Seedlings Kindergarten or Whitehorse Primary School.
- Intends to attend Whitehorse Primary School in the year/s after attending Seedlings Kindergarten.

After the above criteria have been applied, proximity to the kindergarten (as the crow flies) will then be considered. If there are more applicants than positions available, and applicants are on equal standing after the above criteria has been applied, offers will be determined by ballot.

Offers

- Offers of places will be sent to applicants between July & August in the year preceding attendance
- Applications that are successful will be notified of a confirmed place by email
- 2nd & 3rd round offered will be made 3 weeks after 1st & 2nd round offers
- Applicants who are unsuccessful will be notified via email that they were not allocated a place and advised of the position on the waiting list
- An enrolment acceptance form will be sent at time of offer and must be returned by the advised date for position to be accepted.
- An enrolment form and other relevant information will be provided in early December.

3-Year-Old Kindergarten Program

Eligibility

Children are eligible to attend 3-Year-Old Kindergarten provided they have turned 3 years of age prior to commencement. From 2022, Children are not eligible to apply for a repeat 3 year old year nor are allowed to have a self-funded repeat year as per DET guidelines. Children turning 3 years of age after 30th April will not be admitted in the program until the following year as per the Education and Care Services National Regulations 2012.

Selection Criteria

If there are more applications than places available, preference will be given to children who meet the greatest number of criteria outlined below.

- Families who live within the Whitehorse Primary School zone. Your zone can be found at <https://www.findmyschool.vic.gov.au/> by typing your address into the search field.
- Has sibling/s at Seedlings Kindergarten or Whitehorse Primary School.
- Intends to attend Whitehorse Primary School in the years after attending Seedlings Kindergarten.

After the above criteria have been applied, proximity to the kindergarten (as the crow flies) will then be considered.

Offers

- Offers of places will be sent to applicants between July & August in the year preceding attendance
- Applications that are successful will be notified of a confirmed place by email
- 2nd & 3rd round offered will be made 3 weeks after 1st & 2nd round offers
- Applicants who are unsuccessful will be notified via email that they were not allocated a place and advised of the position on the waiting list
- An enrolment acceptance form will be sent at time of offer and must be returned by the advised date for position to be accepted.
- An enrolment form and other relevant information will be provided in early December.

Selection criteria can be updated at any time

