

# Flying Start – Enrolment Checklist

This checklist is designed to support services to confidently identify all eligible children in preschool registrations and Term 3 2026 data submissions.

## 1. Check your understanding of age eligibility

- A child is eligible for 3-year-old preschool in 2026 if they:
  - Turn 3 on or before 30 April → eligible for Term 1 intake or Term 3
  - Turn 3 between 1 May and 31 October → eligible for mid-year Term 3 intake
- If a child begins a funded 3-year-old preschool program in Term 1 2026, it means that the child would then be eligible to start 4-year-old preschool in Term 1 2027 and Reception in Term 1 2028.
- If a child begins a funded 3-year-old preschool program in Term 3 2026, it means that the child would then be eligible to start 4-year-old preschool in Term 3 2027 and Reception in Term 3 2028.
- Children are eligible to access up to 8 terms or 2 years of funded preschool in the 2 years before school.
- You can use the Flying Start [online age calculator](#) to help check age eligibility.

Children who are starting 4-year-old preschool in Term 1 2027 may still be eligible to access two terms of 3-year-old preschool (Terms 3 and 4).  
These children should be included in your Term 3 data submission.

## 2. Review your current and upcoming enrolments

- Review all children currently attending your service
- Review new enrolments starting in July 2026
- Identify all children who may be eligible, even if:
  - Families have not yet returned forms
  - Enrolment hasn't been finalised

*✓ Don't assume a child is ineligible without checking their date of birth or school start date.*

## 3. Confirm Declaration & Consent forms

- Check which eligible children have not returned Declaration and Consent forms.
- Follow up with families using:
  - Email reminders
  - Phone calls
  - Conversations at drop-off or pick-up
- Clearly communicate:
  - What the form is for (refer to key messages)
  - How to return it
  - The deadline for return – 7th August 2026



#### 4. Talk with families about Flying Start preschool

- Make sure families understand the benefits of 2 years of quality, teacher-led early learning.
- Use resources including Flying Start factsheets and [videos](#) to help explain what preschool is, why play-based learning is important, and that the program will be age-appropriate.

#### 5. Prepare your Term 3 data submissions

- Collate your Declaration and Consent forms and make sure all eligible children are included in your data submission.
- Ensure that you have all signed Declaration and Consent forms received prior to submitting your data to the OECD.
- This Term 3 data submission is due by close of business 14 August 2026.

#### 6. Reach out for support if needed

- If anything is unclear, including:
  - eligibility rules
  - enrolment process and form completion
  - family conversations
  - data submission
- Contact your Local Team for:
  - a refresher on eligibility
  - help reviewing your data
  - support engaging families

We're here to help make this a smooth start for services, families and children.

