

# Flying Start for kids

Funding Agreement Information Session



Government of  
South Australia

# Acknowledgement of Country

## From the heart:

We acknowledge the Aboriginal peoples as the First peoples of South Australia and as custodians of the lands, waters, skies and communities where we live, learn and raise children.

We recognise Aboriginal peoples as having the longest living culture, raising children safe and strong in their Identity, Community, Culture, and connection to Country.

We pay our deep respects to Elders past and present, and their role as the first knowledge sharers for children. We follow in their footsteps.

Aboriginal peoples, working with and for children, are central in shaping our work. Their wisdom, advice, and guidance enriches our practices, creating a more inclusive and culturally safe environment for children and families.

We respect Aboriginal peoples' ways of being, doing and wise practices guiding our continual learning.

Together we walk and build stronger, more supportive communities for all children.



# By the end of today's session you should:

- understand how the Funding Agreement for the new model of preschool works
- have had an opportunity to ask any questions you may have in relation to the Funding Agreement or delivery model
- understand next steps and service requirements over the next 6-months



## Preschool program offer



- This funding offer is for preschool delivery for eligible children in both the year and two years before full time schooling (3- and 4-year-old preschool).
- This will replace funding and requirements currently in place for funded 4-year-old preschool, meaning it will be one Funding Agreement with the new funding rates for both 3- and 4-year-old enrolments, with one acquittal process.
- This means if you have an active 4-year-old preschool Funding Agreement for 2025 under the Preschool Reform Agreement (currently managed by DfE), your Flying Start Funding Agreement for 2026 preschool delivery replaces these arrangements from 2026 (subject to continuation of Commonwealth funding).
- To remain eligible, you will need to deliver 3-year-old preschool to be able to receive funding for both 3- and 4-year-old eligible preschool enrolments – there are no minimum enrolments.

# Preschool program offer



- The funding is to support the delivery of a quality preschool program which meets the needs of children, parents and communities in accordance with the Policy and Funding Guide.
- The **Guide forms part of the Funding Agreement**, and outlines the **model, funding and requirements providers and services must meet**.
- Partner Services must have a degree-qualified ECT (or ECT SAT) in place to deliver the preschool program.
- The Funding Agreement outlines the **Funded Program Streams** applicable for both 3-and 4-year-old eligible enrolments:
  - Teaching and learning (15 hour program)
  - Preschool Boost
  - Preschool Plus (30 hour program)
  - Preschool Plus fee relief
  - Outreach



## Expectations and deliverables



- Appendix 3 – Data and reporting of the Policy and Funding Guide outlines the data that must be provided by a Partner Provider/Service for the purposes of the Funding Agreement.
- It includes a ***Summary timeline of proposed data reporting and payments***, which outlines the reporting requirements from July 2025 through to February 2027.
- The OECD is currently developing a new data system, with interim arrangements until the new system is online.

## Registration of interest (ROI)



- All Partner Services must undertake a twice-yearly registration of interest (ROI) and enrolment process.
- For 2026 enrolments in services in close proximity to sessional delivery of 3-year-old preschool, the OECD is trialing an interim ROI process.
- All Partner Services will be sent a letter that can be provided to parents of 2-year-olds in your service.

# Preschool Plus



- Preschool Plus is a targeted early intervention program funding additional hours of preschool for some 3- and 4-year-old children.
- By 2032, up to 2,000 children per year will have access to the program.
- Given the smaller number of children accessing Preschool Plus in the first year of the roll-out, a targeted approach will be taken to refer children to eligible services. OECD will contact relevant services shortly to confirm your capacity to deliver the Preschool Plus program.
- Working closely with the OECD, eligible services will start receiving Preschool Plus referrals from August 2025.

# Preschool Boost



- Preschool Boost is a funded program designed to support Partner Services to do more to address children's developmental vulnerability.
- Partner Services can use Preschool Boost funding to purchase allied health services and other quality programs from the menu
- Your Preschool Boost allocation for 2026 is listed in the Funding Agreement.
- The online menu will be available from July, with your plan needing to be approved by November 2025.



## Please ensure you:

- **Read the letter, terms and conditions** and Policy and Funding Guide.
- **Sign and witness** the Acknowledgement and Acceptance of Offer.
- **Return** all required **documents** to the OECD **by close of business 17 June 2025**, or the offer will lapse.
- Remember that **offers are embargoed** until the public announcement.



## What's next?

- **Late June: Services to partner** with government to deliver 3-year-old preschool to be announced.
- **July: Statewide public campaign** to build awareness of 3-year-old preschool availability.
- **July: Preschool Finder tool** to help families explore services, availability, and plan enrolment online.
- **July: Registrations of Interest** process introduced for families to enrol in 3-year-old preschool.





## What's next?

- Meet with your OECD Local Team to prepare for the next steps to deliver 3-year-old preschool.
- Hold an information session for staff at your service.
- Register and attend the OECD Leaders Forum.
- Share the Preschool Toolkit with your staff.
- Attend the Flying Start webinars.



## Connect with us

Email: [OECD.PreschoolFunding@sa.gov.au](mailto:OECD.PreschoolFunding@sa.gov.au)

Website: [www.earlychildhood.sa.edu.au](http://www.earlychildhood.sa.edu.au)

Sign up to the OECD newsletter:



# Questions

