

Flying Start for kids

Ready Set Preschool

Information Session for 2027 Partner Services



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'll gain an understanding of *Ready Set Preschool* including:

- What it is
- How the funding works
- Spending rules
- Planning requirements
- Supports available to you.



Partner Service Context

Based on research and sector expertise, we know that a service needs to prioritise 3 key areas to make the biggest possible difference to children's lives.

Services need to be:

- 1. Warm and welcoming**
- 2. Committed to quality**
- 3. Acting early, with others**

Flying Start provides targeted programs and funding to help services strengthen practice across these 3 areas, including Ready Set Preschool funding.

The Flying Start Policy and Funding Guide and Partnership Plan provide practical guidance to help you understand the funding opportunities, requirements and responsibilities of being a Flying Start partner.



What is Ready, Set, Preschool?

Purpose

- Ready Set Preschool is a targeted funding stream that can be used to remove barriers that prevent children from enrolling in and regularly attending preschool.
- It provides services with flexible funding to respond to the needs of their local children, families and communities.

Intended outcomes

Ready Set Preschool aims to support:

- improved attendance for *all* preschool children
- increased enrolment and attendance of priority cohorts
- reduced barriers to preschool participation
- stronger family engagement and community connection.



Service eligibility for funding



Who receives funding?

Ready Set Preschool funding is available to:

- Partner Services located in SEIFA 1 and 2 areas
- All Partner Services with Preschool Plus enrolments

Ready Set Preschool funding for SEIFA 1 and 2 services is allocated at the service level. These services are required to plan how the funding will be used to support increased preschool participation at their service.

Each Preschool Plus enrolment attracts an *additional* Ready Set Preschool funding allocation. This funding is to be spent on the children enrolled in the Preschool Plus program only.



Funding allocation and pooling arrangements

How is funding allocated?

Funding is allocated based on:

- the service's SEIFA classification
- the number of enrolled preschool children
- Preschool Plus enrolments (where applicable).

The Ready Set Preschool funding rate is differentiated for SEIFA areas :

- SEIFA 1: \$700 per enrolment
- SEIFA 2: \$350 per enrolment
- SEIFA 3-5: \$0 per enrolment.

Each Preschool Plus child receives \$1,743 RSP funding per enrolment

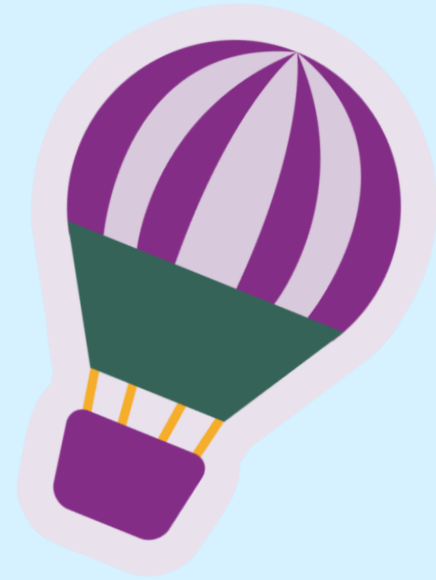
Funding allocations are fixed for the calendar year and are not adjusted for changes in enrolments. The only exception to this is where the funding relates to a Preschool Plus enrolment.

Minimum and Maximum

- RSP has **minimum** funding thresholds in 2027 of **\$7,500 for SEIFA 1** and **\$5,000 for SEIFA 2**
- RSP has a **maximum funding cap of \$50,000** per service regardless of size or location.

Pooling

- Larger providers may pool up to 50% of their service-level Ready Set Preschool funding
- Preschool Plus Ready Set Preschool funding *cannot* be pooled.





Spending rules

Ready Set Preschool funding is organised into funding streams and categories.

- Funding streams describe the purpose of the expenditure.
- Funding categories describe the types of activities that may be used to achieve that purpose.

Indirect Cost Reduction	Community Connection
helps address practical barriers that make it harder for children and families to attend preschool through supporting:	is focused on engagement, to achieve enrolment and attendance outcomes. Community Connection activities help services with:
• Nutrition	• Building trust and relationships with families
• Transport	• Raising awareness of the benefits of preschool
• Clothing and essential items	• Supporting enrolment of priority cohorts
• Urgent family needs	• Strengthening community connections

A majority of funding should be allocated to Indirect Cost Reduction activities.

Staffing and administration are permitted where they support the delivery of Ready Set Preschool activities.

Funding restrictions

Ready Set Preschool funding *cannot* be used to:

- provide cash directly to families
- purchase items or services already funded through other funding streams
- fund core staffing costs required for standard preschool operations or educator ratio requirements
- used for goods or services that create ongoing or unsustainable costs.





Planning and reporting requirements

Planning

Complete the **"Warm and Welcoming"** section of the Flying Start Partnership Plan.

Your plan should:

- Identify attendance and/or enrolment goals - what you are going after to uplift preschool participation
- describe the key activities you intend to deliver
- align funding to local barriers and intended outcomes
- retain flexibility to respond to emerging child and family needs.

Reporting

Services should throughout the year:

- maintain records of funding use, items purchased and activities delivered
- collect information that demonstrates the impact of their funding
- retain receipts to support reporting and financial acquittal.

How records are maintained is at the discretion of the service.



What support is available for services?



- The OECD Local Teams are available to support services.
- Support may include:
 - shaping high-quality, outcomes-focused plans
 - reviewing, providing feedback, and approving plans
 - ongoing support, including a mid-year progress check-in
 - assistance when services are having difficulty spending their Ready Set Preschool Funding.

Additional resources

Ready Set Preschool resources can be found on the Office for Childhood Development website under the [Flying Start Partner Page](#).

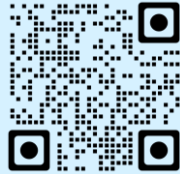


Stay updated & connected



- Visit the Flying Start Partner Page for key information, and resources to support you in delivering Flying Start Preschool.

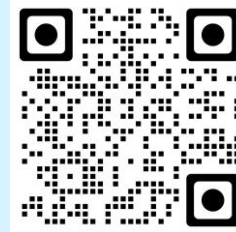
Password: FlyingStart!



- Stay up to date with our fortnightly Flying Start partners e-bulletin, delivered straight to your inbox.

- Direct families to the OECD website for general information: www.flyingstart.sa.gov.au

- Encourage families to download the Early Years app.

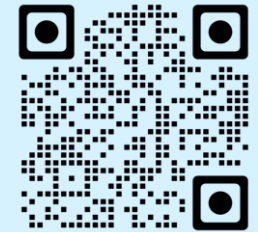


- Connect with us on social media:

Facebook: @Flying Start for kids

Instagram: @earlychildhoodsa

LinkedIn: @officeforearlychildhooddevelopment





Any questions?

