

# Flying Start for kids

Data and Funding webinar



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:

- Data submission requirements
- Projected enrolment data submission process
- Eligibility and the importance of school start date
- Timeline from data submission to payment



## Reminder – Ongoing readiness reporting



- It is important for the OECD to continue to understand and support each service's **readiness to deliver** a Flying Start preschool program from 2026.
- This includes your ability to deliver a **teacher-led** preschool program across relevant rooms.
- Local Teams will continue to work with you to understand your readiness status each month.
- This includes **ECT numbers, preschool room configuration**, and understanding any plans in place where services may be **recruiting, upskilling** or applying for an **ECT SAT**.
- Services have a responsibility to advise Local Teams if their ECT numbers change as we move closer to delivery of 3-year-old preschool

# ECT qualifications



- A qualified ECT must deliver the preschool program for the full program hours.
- An ECT delivering the preschool program means ‘the individual/s responsible for the development, implementation, and delivery of the funded preschool program or programs’.
- An ECT is considered qualified if they:
  - are registered with the Teacher's Registration Board (TRB), and hold a degree that meets National Quality Framework qualification requirements; or
  - are completing, or have completed, a qualification approved by ACECQA and hold an ECT SAT from the TRB. In these circumstances, services must confirm with the OECD Local Teams that there is another registered ECT available to provide coaching and support.
- Where a waiver is in place, **funding will not be affected**, providing the service can still meet the requirement for a qualified ECT to deliver the preschool program.

# November data submission requirements



Partner services are required to:

- provide **projected enrolment data** to the OECD in advance of Term 1 of the **first year of any service's partnership.**
- **ensure all information** provided, including provider and service details and teacher and enrolment information, **is accurate and submitted within required timeframes**, as set out by the OECD.

## Data submission process



- By 7 November 2025, all partner services will be required to submit projected enrolments to the OECD for Term 1, 2026.
- The data collected will align with the data fields outlined in the Policy and Funding Guide.
- This data will inform the first payment made to services in January 2026, including estimated Preschool Plus fee relief (if applicable).
- Due to the **confidential nature** of the data, **submissions will be made via the iApply** platform and OECD supplied Excel spreadsheet.
- Future data submissions will be completed in EC Connect.

# Data submission process



- The OECD will require you to **collate** the information from the completed 3 and 4-year-old declaration and consent forms onto the spreadsheet template.
- The OECD has included **dropdown lists** where possible in the template, to minimise data entry requirements.
- This Excel will need to be **submitted to the OECD through iApply** as the secure online portal.

	FREE TEXT FIELD	FREE TEXT FIELD	FREE TEXT FIELD	DROP DOWN BOX	FREE TEXT FIELD	FREE TEXT FIELD	DROP DOWN BOX	DROP DOWN BOX	DROP DOWN BOX	FREE TEXT FIELD	DROP DOWN BOX	FREE TEXT FIELD	DROP DOWN BOX
Entry	First Name(s)	Last Name(s)	Date of birth	Gender	Street Number	Street Name	Street Type	Suburb	State	Postcode	Preschool Program enrolment start date - Term	Hours per week enrolled in the Preschool Program	Intended School Start Date
e.g	Jane	Smith	31/01/2023	Female	1	Smith	Street	Adelaide	SA	5000	Term 1 2026	15	Term 1 2028
1													
2													
3													
4													
5													
6													
7													
8													
9													
10													

## General child eligibility



There are different types of child eligibility to keep in mind when entering children in the projected enrolment submission:

- Age – ensure the child is the correct age to enrol in the preschool program
- School start date – will the child be starting reception within the next 2 years?
- Declaration and consent – has the parent/guardian given consent for you to share their child's information with the OECD?
- Service eligibility – ensure the child is eligible for funding at your service.

## Age eligibility



**Scenario:** A child's date of birth is 5 June 2023, and they have enrolled to start preschool in Term 1, 2026.

**Not eligible:** The child is too young, based on their date of birth, to start 3-year-old preschool in Term 1 2026 but would be able to start in Term 3 2026.

**Scenario:** A child has a date of birth of 23 January 2023 and has enrolled to start 3-year-old preschool in Term 1, 2026.

**Eligible:** The child is eligible to start 3-year-old preschool in Term 1, 2026.

## Age and intended school start date



**Scenario:** A child has a date of birth 10 February 2022 and has enrolled to start preschool in Term 1, 2026. Their parents are intending to start them in school in Term 1, 2028, just before they turn 6.

**Eligible for 3-year-old preschool:** Whilst the child will be 4-years-old when they start preschool, because the parents are starting them in school in Term 1, 2028, this puts the child in their 2 years before full time school / 3-year-old preschool in 2026.

## Age and intended school start date



**Scenario:** A child has a date of birth 30 March 2023 and is eligible to start preschool in Term 1, 2026. However, their parents are planning to start the child in school mid-year in Term 3, 2028.

**Not eligible:** Whilst the child's date of birth makes them eligible to start 3-year-old preschool in Term 1, 2026, the intended school start date of Term 3, 2028 means the child is not in their 2 years before full time school and would be accessing more than 8 terms of preschool.

In this scenario the child would be eligible to start 3-year-old preschool in Term 3, 2026, to receive 8 terms of preschool in the 2 years before school.

## Additional information



- While the **funded preschool program is capped at 15 hours**, we understand children can be enrolled for more, therefore, you can enter up to 50 in the hours per week in that field.
- For children who **accessed preschool prior to 2026** (e.g., started Term 3 2025), use Term 1 2026 as their preschool enrolment start date. Previous data will verify the number of terms a child has accessed.
- To ensure privacy, the OECD will reference children using row numbers and initials (e.g., row 7, initials JS) when consulting with services.

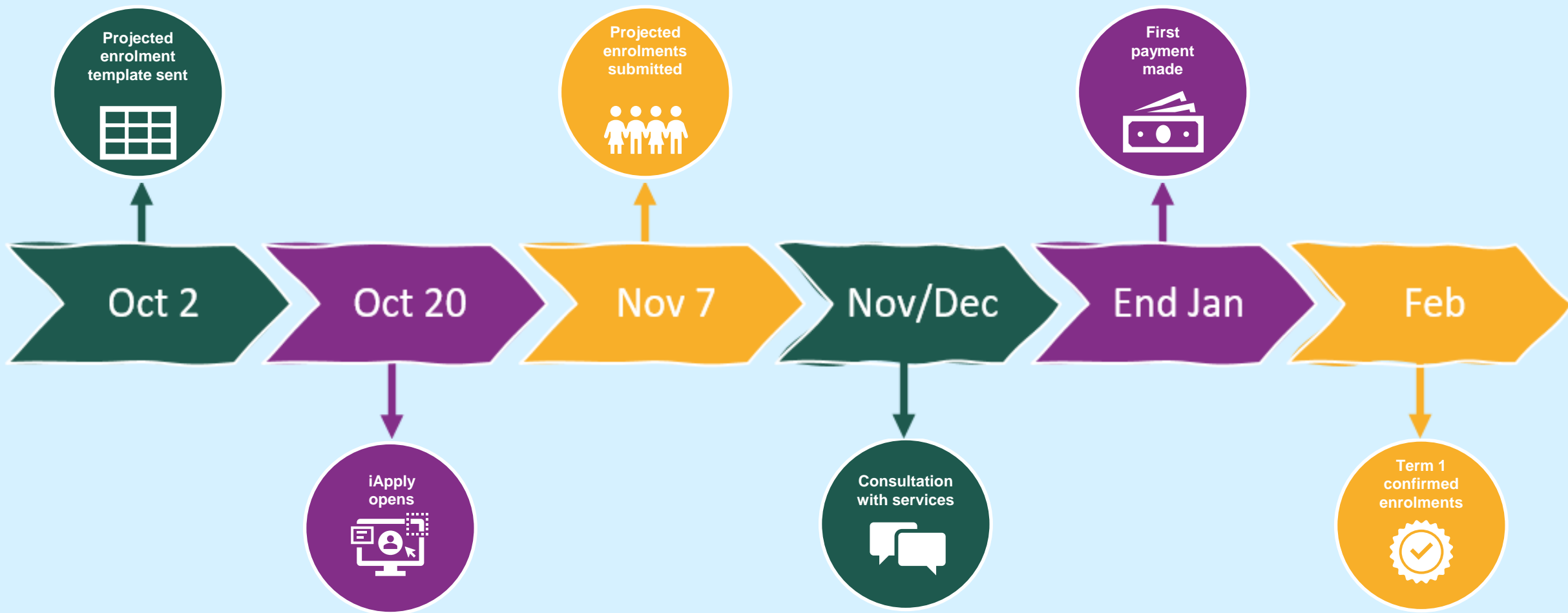


## iApply Information

- ✓ Provider and service level information
- ✓ Contact details
- ✓ 3- and 4-year-old preschool program details including number of weeks per year and hours per week
- ✓ Specific ECT details including ECT name, qualifications and Teacher's Registration Board number
- ✓ Excel spreadsheet (upload)
- ✓ Preschool Plus Fee Relief Calculator, if applicable (upload)



# Data Submission Timeline





## Timelines

- **2 October 2025** – Projected enrolment template sent to services.
- **20 October 2025** – iApply platform opens and step-by-step guide sent.
- **7 November 2025** – Term 1 projected enrolment data due to the OECD.
- **Across November and December 2025** – OECD to undertake duplicate and child eligibility checks including consultations with services.
- **By 30 January 2026** – Quarter 1 payment made to all services.



## What's next?

- Continue to promote the availability of 3- and 4-year-old preschool to your families and communities.
- Collect 3- and 4-year-old declaration and consent forms for all interested children.
- OECD Local Teams will continue to engage with services regarding service readiness, child eligibility and any other preschool queries.



## Connect with us

For more information, please email the Funding and Monitoring team at: [OECD.PreschoolFunding@sa.gov.au](mailto:OECD.PreschoolFunding@sa.gov.au) or visit the website: [www.earlychildhood.sa.gov.au](http://www.earlychildhood.sa.gov.au)

Sign up to the OECD newsletter:



# Questions

