

Flying Start for kids



Preschool Plus Fact Sheet

Preschool Plus is designed specifically for children who have the most to gain from additional hours of preschool.

It provides eligible 3- and 4-year-old children with up to 1,200 hours of high-quality, teacher-led preschool each year. That's the equivalent of an extra 15 hours per week of teacher-led support for those children who could benefit most.

Preschool Plus is being rolled out in stages, starting in 2026. By 2032, up to 2,000 children per year will have access to the program for the two years before school.

It's a critical part of South Australia's early childhood reforms, giving every child a flying start to life.

Supporting children who have the most to gain

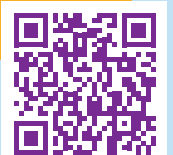
All children benefit from 2 years of quality preschool, but we know vulnerable children benefit more. We can create greater equity through programs such as Preschool Plus.

Children who participate in the program and their families will benefit from:

- extra teacher-led hours of preschool
- referral to a quality preschool service
- support from their referring agency
- fee relief for eligible families
- additional support for attendance at preschool, such as assistance with daily essentials.

Your OECD Local Team or referring agency contact will be able to direct you to more resources.

Visit flyingstart.sa.gov.au



Government of
South Australia



Leading the way for positive change

Preschool Plus is vital in delivering targeted early intervention and learning support to children who have the most to gain. It is about more than just a preschool place: it is about quality, tailored support for every eligible child and their family.

Partner services offering Preschool Plus and referring agencies play a pivotal role in helping drive meaningful change in our communities. The OECD will work closely with partner services to successfully deliver the program.

Role of partner services

Partner services are essential to the success of Preschool Plus and are selected based on their capacity to deliver high-quality early childhood education.

Partner services are uniquely positioned to offer meaningful support to children and families who have the most to gain. Their expertise, commitment and focus on quality are key to giving children the strong start they deserve.

Role of referring agencies

Eligible children will be matched with a local partner service offering Preschool Plus through a dedicated referral process. This process will be managed by referring agencies, with support from the OECD.

Referring agency staff will play a key role in working with identified families, connecting them to partner services and ensuring families feel safe and supported.

If a referred child is matched to a partner service offering Preschool Plus, their enrolment should be prioritised to help ensure they receive the support they need. For the 2026 roll-out, partner services will not be able to initiate referrals to Preschool Plus.



Ensuring success for all

Additional resources are available to support partner services successfully implement the Preschool Plus program.

More funding

Each Preschool Plus enrolment will receive double the universal preschool teaching and learning allocation, at the SEIFA 1 rate totalling \$5,200.

Outreach funding

Each Preschool Plus enrolment will receive \$1,700 in Outreach funding per enrolment to assist with indirect costs that may impact participation and attendance. Integrated hubs funding can also assist with community engagement.

Enhanced Preschool Boost funding

Each Preschool Plus enrolment will receive \$1,730 (double the universal Preschool Boost allocation per enrolment at the SEIFA 1 rate of \$865) to secure extra supports to address developmental needs.

Fee relief

Preschool Plus fee relief will be provided to eligible families to reduce out-of-pocket costs.

Additional coaching

Partner services will also get access to optional additional coaching and implementation supports to help build teacher and educator confidence and enhance their capability to embed trauma informed strategies.

