

## Preschool Plus Frequently Asked Questions – Partner Providers

### How do preschool partners capture Preschool Plus places in the universal system?

Enrolment data collections will reflect child as Preschool Plus enrolment, which will automatically attract the correct funding rate.

### Can services refer children to the Preschool Plus program?

In 2026, services will not be able to initiate referrals to Preschool Plus.

### Will there be an opportunity for partner services to be a part of the referral panel process?

Partner providers will not participate in the interagency referral panel. The initial interagency referral panel will include OECD, Department for Human Services, Department of Child Protection and Department for Education (corporate) representatives.

### Do Preschool Plus referrals need to be prioritised above other enrolments?

Yes, children who are referred to Preschool Plus fall within Category 1 of the Priority of Access guidelines outlined in the Policy and Funding Guide. As such, their enrolment should be prioritised.

### Does the Priority of Access policy affect children currently enrolled in a Preschool Plus Partner Service?

Partner services can continue to prioritise 3- and 4-year-old preschool to children currently attending their service. However, there is a requirement for new places or additional days available to be offered to children referred to the Preschool Plus Program over and above other children, with the exception of children who meet the category 1 criteria. After the Priority of Access guidelines outlined in the Policy and Funding Guide are applied, Partner Services can then apply their own enrolment policies and procedures.

### Are children currently enrolled in long day care eligible to access Preschool Plus?

All eligible children as identified by the Referral Partners are eligible to receive the Preschool Plus program in a Preschool Plus Partner Service regardless of whether they are currently enrolled in long day care.

### Can eligible children currently enrolled in long day care access Preschool Plus at their existing service?

For children already accessing long day care who are eligible and referred for Preschool Plus, the preference would be for them to remain in their existing service, if the service meets the requirements to deliver Preschool Plus.



### **What happens if a family does not want to enrol for the full 30 hours per week?**

To be enrolled in Preschool Plus, families need to agree to attend a minimum of 1,000 hours per year, with a preference for children to access the full 1,200 hours per year. Where families have opted for fewer than 1,200 hours, services should work with families to encourage uptake of extra hours (to maximise the opportunity to receive 1,200 hours per year) as appropriate to the family. Note that additional hours could be regularly scheduled or ad hoc days through the year.

- If the family wishes to be enrolled in fewer than 1,000 hours per year, they will not be part of the Preschool Plus program and should be offered a standard (15-hour) 3 or 4-year-old preschool place.
- Services should ensure families are aware access to Outreach and Fee Relief are only available through participation in Preschool Plus.
- All eligible Preschool Plus enrolments will be funded for the full Preschool Plus per capita rate for 1,200 hours per year.

### **How does the minimum 3-day requirement work with the CCS and allowable absences?**

Services should discuss with families the Preschool Plus program structure and ensure families understand the requirement of 3 or 4-day per week enrolment and that continued participation in Preschool Plus is dependent on regular attendance.

In addition, services should work with families to understand their likely fees and what is covered by CCS. For eligible families, Preschool Plus fee relief will be provided to reduce the cost for families (refer to fee relief question).

Allowable absences are aligned with CCS at least 42 allowable absence days per child each financial year. However, services should proactively work with families to address barriers to attendance using Outreach funding and other resources as appropriate.

### **What happens to funding if a child moves or no longer attends part way through the year?**

Should a child in Preschool Plus leave the service, the Preschool Plus partner service must inform their Local Team and seek further guidance. The Preschool Plus partner service will continue to receive funding for that child until the end of the current quarter to allow time to either accommodate another eligible child into the program or accept additional children into the universal preschool program.

### **What additional funding is given to Preschool Plus providers to support their staff?**

Each Preschool Plus enrolment will receive double the universal preschool teaching and learning allocation. Refer to Funding components p. 59 of the Preschool Plus program guide - Appendix 4 in the Policy and Funding Guide.

### **Will Preschool Plus partner services still be able to access Inclusion Support funding?**

Yes. The Commonwealth Inclusion Support Funding is not impacted by Preschool Plus program funding.

### **Will Preschool Plus partner services who have already completed trauma informed practice training be required to do further training?**

The OECD is looking to understand what training has been completed and the type of training that has been completed. The OECD's intention is to accept training that aligns with broader OECD training objectives.

The Preschool Boost plan will provide an opportunity for partner services to identify trauma informed practice training already undertaken.

### **Will Preschool Plus Partner Services be prioritised to receive trauma informed practice training?**

All Flying Start partner services will have access to Foundational training in trauma informed practice from February. They are required to undertake the training during 2026 in line with advice in the Policy and Funding Guide. Partner services with Preschool Plus enrolments will also be offered optional coaching to embed trauma informed practice strategies in practice, to commence from March 2026.

Preschool Plus services can email the Preschool Boost team ([OECD.PreschoolBoost@sa.gov.au](mailto:OECD.PreschoolBoost@sa.gov.au)) to opt in for coaching and the team will organise training with them.

### **If families are not CCS eligible, are services still eligible for Preschool Plus funding?**

Partner services will still receive Preschool Plus funding for all Preschool Plus enrolments even if a family is not accessing CCS. Families not accessing or not eligible to access CCS will not be eligible for Preschool Plus fee relief.

### **Are there residence/visa barriers that may stop families from accessing Preschool Plus?**

If families are eligible to access your service, they will be eligible to participate in Preschool Plus if they have been referred to a place.

If families are not eligible to access CCS they will be unable to access Preschool Plus fee relief.

### **Where do I go for further information?**

[OECD Policy and Funding Guide](#)

Questions on Preschool Plus and Outreach can be directed to [oecd.preschoolplus@sa.gov.au](mailto:oecd.preschoolplus@sa.gov.au) or [oecd.outreach@sa.gov.au](mailto:oecd.outreach@sa.gov.au).

