



This centre abides by the Enrolment Selection Criteria as defined by the Whitehorse PreSchool Association (WPSA).

4 year old kindergarten is a government funded program, 15 hours per week of free kindergarten.

3 year old kindergarten is a government funded program, 5-15 hours per week of free kindergarten.

Requests for positions at the kindergarten will be compiled into lists by the WPSA Applications Office, recording name and other basic data as per the following selection criteria. The intention is to work through the various stages of the criteria. Positions are allocated in the year before your child is due to attend kindergarten.

ELIGIBILITY

- All children must meet 'No Jab, No Play' Legislation requirements.
- 4 year old (4yo) - a child must have turned 4 years of age by April 30 in the year they are to attend to coincide with school entry.
- Children who turn 6 at any time during their 4yo kindergarten year and have received approval for an exemption to attend school from the Department of Education.
- Children younger than the 4yo kindergarten eligible age who have a written request and response from the Department of Education (DE) seeking an early entry to school. (Note: very few early school entry requests are approved by DE and if the child attends kindergarten early, but does not proceed onto school the following year, it is not possible to access another year of funded 4yo kindergarten).
- 3 year old (3yo) - A child must have turned 3 years of age by April 30 in the year they are to attend to coincide with school entry.
- 3 year old (3yo) - A child must be 3 years of age before they can commence the program as per Education and Care Services National Regulations 2012.

PRIORITY OF ACCESS – Residential address must be within Whitehorse.

1. DE HIGH PRIORITY CHILDREN – as per Department of Education (DE) Kindergarten Guide guidelines. See table over page.

2. REPEATING CHILDREN – Funded 4 year old only

- Children who have attended the funded 4yo program at the same kindergarten and are eligible and have DE approval for a second year of funded 4yo kindergarten as recommended by the Early Childhood Teacher.
- Repeating 4yo without funding approval is not available as per DE guidelines.
- Children are not eligible to apply for a repeat 3yo year nor are allowed to have a self-funded repeat year as per DE guidelines

The intention is to work through the following criteria to sort applications in order of those that meet more criteria points and live closest to the kindergarten to provide access to the local community.

3. PROXIMITY

- While preference will be given to Whitehorse residents, consideration will be taken when the Whitehorse service is the closest service to a non-resident.
- For this clause, the residential address will be used, appropriate proof of address must be supplied. As the crow flies is used for distance.

This criteria will be used in conjunction with other criteria points.



4. RELATIONSHIP TO KINDERGARTEN

- CONTINUITY 4yo only - Applicant attended for a minimum of 3 terms in the 3yo program at the same kindergarten the previous year.
- SIBLINGS - Siblings of previous or current attendees at the kindergarten;
OR, where the kindergarten is part of a Primary School, current attendees at the school and/or kindergarten.

5. OTHER REPEATING – 4 YEAR OLD ONLY - Children who have attended a funded 4yo kindergarten program and are eligible for a second year of funded 4yo kindergarten as recommended by an Early Childhood Teacher, and request the second funded year of 4yo kindergarten to be at another kindergarten.

6. SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES - may be considered in conjunction with above criteria

Any special circumstances, which the Committee and Early Childhood Teacher agree is appropriate to consider. For example:

- Additional Needs – an applicant who has additional needs or a family member of the applicant who has additional needs not considered under Priority of Access.

If there are more applicants than positions available, and applicants are on equal standing after the above criteria has been applied, offers will be determined by ballot.

PRIORITY OF ACCESS

DE Priority of Access Criteria for funded kindergarten programs

High priority children	Criteria and processes for verifying need(s)
Children at risk of abuse or neglect, including children in out-of-home care	The child is: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • eligible for ESK or AEL, and/or • family, carer or legal guardian identifies the child as known to Child Protection or in out-of-home care, and/or • referred by one of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Child Protection - Child and family services (family services referral and support team, Child FIRST/integrated family services/Services Connect case worker) - Maternal and Child Health nurse - out-of-home care provider
Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander children	Family identifies the child as an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander
Asylum seeker and refugee children	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child or family holds a visa or supporting documentation and information, including an ImmiCard, identifying them as a refugee or asylum seeker. • Referred as a refugee or asylum seeker by a CALD outreach worker.
Children that meet the eligibility criteria for the Kindergarten Fee Subsidy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children or parent who holds a Commonwealth Health Care Card, Pensioner Concession Card, Veteran’s Affairs Card • Multiple birth children (triplets, quadruplets or more)
Children with additional needs, defined as children who: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • with an identified specific disability or developmental delays • who requires additional assistance to fully participate in the kindergarten program • who require a combination of services which are individually planned 	The child: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • holds a Child Disability Health Care Card • has previously been approved for KIS program • has been referred by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the National Disability Insurance Scheme - Early Childhood Intervention Service - Preschool Field Officer - Maternal and Child Health nurse • is assessed as having delays in 2 or more areas and is declared eligible for a second year of funded 4 year old kindergarten