



Preschool Enrolment Policy

In South Australia (SA), all children are entitled to access a preschool program over 4 terms the year before they start school.

Intakes

Government preschools have two major enrolment intakes each year, where children are eligible to access their full preschool entitlement (15 hours per week). Intake 1 for children starting at the beginning of the year (term 1), and intake 2 for children starting mid-year (term 3).

- Intake 1 - Children who turn 4 years of age before 1 May, are eligible to start preschool at the beginning of each year (term 1).
- Intake 2 - Children who turn 4 years of age before 1 November are eligible to start preschool mid-year the same year (term 3).

Children who turn 4 years of age on or after 1 November are eligible to start preschool in intake 1 the following year.

It is recommended families consider their child's readiness to commence preschool before enrolling in a preschool program. When a family decide their child will commence school in the year they turn 6 years of age, the child is eligible to access preschool in the 4 terms prior to commencing school.

Aboriginal Children

Aboriginal children are eligible to attend preschool after their 3rd birthday. In these circumstances, children may attend for an average of 12 hours per week. Aboriginal children are eligible to access their full preschool entitlement (15 hours per week) at the beginning of:

- term 1, if the child has turned 4 years of age before 1 May of that year.
- term 3, if the children has turned 4 years of age before 1 November of that year.

Children in care

Children who are or have been in care are eligible to attend preschool after their 3rd birthday. In these circumstances, children may attend for an average of 12 hours per week.

Children in care are eligible to access their full preschool entitlement (15 hours per week) at the beginning of:

- term 1, if the child has turned 4 years of age before 1 May of that year.
- term 3, if the children has turned 4 years of age before 1 November of that year.

Early Entry

Early entry to preschool is not a guarantee. Children who meet the eligibility requirements for preschool are given priority for enrolment over early entry enrolments. Requests for early entry to a preschool are assessed on a case-by-case basis by the principal or director.

A principal or director may grant a child early entry to a preschool program based on the following considerations:

- the child will continue to access preschool at the same service
- the preschool has the capacity to accept the enrolment within existing resources
- additional time at preschool is likely to significantly improve the child's learning, wellbeing and developmental outcomes
- there has been consultation between the principal/director, parents and relevant departmental staff and agencies.

Admission

Admission to a government preschool is managed by the director in accordance with the instructions outlined in the following DFE procedures:

- admission procedure
- placement procedure
- transfer procedure
- registration of interest process procedure.

Before confirming the enrolment, parents will be asked to provide evidence of their child's immunisation status, the child's residential addresses, full name and birth date.

Immunisation requirements

For a child to enrol and continue to attend a preschool, a child must meet the immunisation requirements under the [South Australian Public Health Act 2011 \(SA\)](#).

A parent must provide current approved immunisation records for their child:

- at the time of enrolment
- after the child receives a scheduled immunisation within specified age ranges.

This policy has been endorsed by Governing Council

Chairperson:
Director : Ally Harvey

Signature
Signature