

Monday, 16 January 2023



Dear parent/guardian

Important information regarding your child's 2023 free kindergarten program

The Victorian Government provides funding to support children to access a high-quality kindergarten program in the two years before they start school. This helps to ensure all Victorian children get the best start in life.

From 2023, the Victorian Government is making kindergarten programs free for three and four-year-old children – saving you and your family up to \$2,000 per year for their program. Free Kinder is a critical component of the Victorian Government's Best Start, Best Life reform.

Funding for your child's free 4-year kinder program is provided to our service directly from the Victorian Government.

In line with the Victorian Government's requirements for Free Kinder, your child can access a 15-hour kindergarten program.

Please remember we are a Long Day Child Care Centre with an integrated Kindergarten. We have a standard daily fee which your Child Care Subsidy (CCS) is deducted.

* Only the Kindergarten fees (up to 15 hours per week are free).

Your child can only be funded for a kindergarten program place at one service in a Four-Year-Old Kindergarten program (unless your child is assessed as being eligible for a second year of Four-Year-Old Kindergarten by your child's kindergarten teacher).

In 2023, your child is enrolled to attend our Four-Year-Old Kindergarten program. We can only claim kindergarten funding including Free Kinder payments for your child if this is the only Victorian Government funded kindergarten program, they are enrolled in.

KINDER FREE DISCOUNTS FOR PBH FUNDED KINDER CHILDREN ONLY

We are in a very fortunate position to run Kindergarten every day of the week in both 3- and 4-year Kindergarten, with a Qualified Early Childhood Teacher.

ALL 4-year kinder children receive \$2,000 per annum as all PBH Funded Kinder children are enrolled for 3+ days per week.

These discounts will apply from Monday 30th January 2023 – Friday 17th December 2023.

This is an example of how your fees discount taking your childcare subsidy and kinder discount into account.

EXAMPLE ONLY WITH DIFFERING DAYS AND CCS SUBSIDY APPLIED:

1/ Child attends 3 days per week and has a Child Care Subsidy of **54.46%**

\$135 per day (new Feb pricing rate) x 3 days = **\$405**

CCS **54.46%** reduces the Gap Fee to **\$195.50**

Minus kinder discount - **\$43.50**

\$152 per week

**Parents cannot benefit or make a profit on the kinder discount; therefore, no account can drop below \$0.

For example – Child attends 3 days a week with a subsidy of **85%**

4/ \$135 per day (new Feb pricing rate) x 3 days = **\$405**

CCS **85% reduces** the Gap Fee to **\$77.96**

* **Family goes on holidays** - **\$77.96** – holiday fees (50%) off = **\$38.98**

Minus Kinder discount - **\$43.50** per week

\$38.98 - **\$43.50** = **- \$4.52** (credit) = \$0 fees for the week.

For any assistance with fee calculations please ring or email Kim.

Kind regards,

Kim Russell