



INFORMATION FOR 2025 ENROLMENTS

Dear Parents,

We welcome you and your child to Olympic Avenue Kindergarten (OAK). We trust that your child will feel happy and secure in our kindergarten environment and enjoy all the wonderful opportunities we provide to grow and develop. We hope that you too will enjoy a fulfilling association with the kindergarten and we invite you to participate in the many activities which are open to parents.

This document has been prepared to provide the information needed for your understanding of the kindergarten and your participation. OAK is a community operated kindergarten, welcoming and encouraging the involvement of families. A Committee of Management, made up of parents, works with the staff to ensure that the kinder operates smoothly and effectively.

If you have any questions, or require further information, please don't hesitate to talk to your child's Educator or a Committee Member.

We look forward to your family joining us at OAK in 2025.

Our Philosophy

OAK acknowledges the people of the Kulin Nation, the traditional custodians of the land on which we come together to learn through play. We pay our respects to their Elders, past and present. We respect and celebrate our indigenous heritage.

OAK is committed to providing a child safe environment where children are safe and feel safe, and their voices are heard about decisions that affect their lives. Particular attention will be paid to the cultural safety of Aboriginal children and children from culturally and/or linguistically diverse backgrounds, as well as the safety of children with a disability.

OAK provides a nurturing, secure and stimulating play-based program that is guided by the Victorian Early Years Learning and Development Framework (2016), the Early Years Learning Framework (2009) and the National Quality Framework (2018).

We believe:

- In the importance for children to develop a sense of belonging.
- That children are individuals and should be valued for their individuality.
- That children achieve better outcomes when we have high expectations of them.
- In equity and diversity, in that all children deserve to access and participate in all parts of the kindergarten program with other children.
- That every child has the right to learn and develop.
- That all children, families, educators and the Committee have the right to be respected. We promote acceptance and respect for each other's different skills, abilities and cultures.
- That families are respected as their child's first teachers. We value shared decision making and active participation and welcome family involvement.
- In the importance of children making connections with the natural environment and we promote sustainability as part of our everyday practice.



Timetable for 2025. Note Staff to child ratio is one staff member to 11 children.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Total
Purple 4yo		8:30-4:00		8:30-4:00		15 hours
Red 4yo	8:30-4:00		8:30-4:00			15 hours
Yellow 3yo	8.30-4:00		8:30-4:00			15 hours
Orange 3yo		8:30-4:00		8:30-4:00		15 hours
Additional Day *Fees apply. Limited spots					8:30-4:00	7.5 hours

Bush Kinder

Our 4yo Red group has bush kinder in terms 2 & 3 at Cheltenham Park on Wednesday mornings. We believe that learning outdoors in natural spaces encourages children to explore and experiment, which promotes their development.

Additional Day

An additional day is offered on a Friday to 3yo and 4yo families at an additional cost. These sessions usually start in Week 2 of term one. Additional day classes will only run if there is sufficient demand. Enrolment into these groups is via a ballot system. As this is outside the funded program there is a term fee to attend the additional day classes.

Proposed Fees for 2025 (per term)

Olympic Avenue Kindergarten has opted in to the “Free Kinder” scheme for 2025. Under this initiative, 3yo and 4yo kindergarten is free for 15 hours per week. Note that we are able to charge the cost of an excursion – this will be billed later in the kinder year once the excursion is planned and booked (for the 4yo groups only).

4yo Red Group	Nil
4yo Purple Group	Nil
3yo Yellow Group	Nil
3yo Orange Group	Nil

There is a \$150 enrolment fee payable when enrolling at the kindergarten, which is refundable on commencement in term 1. Note that this will not be refunded if the child withdraws from the kindergarten prior to commencement date in term 1.

Additional Day Session: \$900 per term

Plus a \$100 additional day deposit that will be deducted from term 4 additional day fees if you remain enrolled in the additional day program all year.

Families with a Health Care Card, Pensioner Concession card or Refugee status will not need to pay an excursion fee or an enrolment fee. A deposit for the additional day will still be payable. Please contact our Compliance Officer for more information regarding fees, officeolympicave@gmail.com.

Funded Kindergarten

Sessional Kindergarten in Victoria is funded by the government for 15 hours per week. In 2025 Both 3yo and 4yo kinder will receive government funding. This funding is paid directly to the kindergarten and does not attract the Child Care Subsidy. The Committee of Management is a not-for profit association registered with Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission. More information on funding can be found here:

<https://www.vic.gov.au/kindertick>.



OLYMPIC AVENUE KINDERGARTEN

Victorian Government School Term Dates for 2025

**Kinder terms generally align with Victorian government school terms, however additional child free days may be held for set up, clean up, and professional development. Refer to OAK's calendar for dates.*

Term 1 30th Jan to 4th April

Term 2 22nd April to 4th July

Term 3 21st July to 19th September

Term 4 6th October to 19th December

Parent Involvement

Parents are asked to volunteer for kinder duty each term. These sessions are a lot of fun and it is a great way to get to know the staff and the other children in your child's kinder group. Please note that you will require a Working with Children check in order to volunteer in the kindergarten program. We also have an active committee of management which will be voted in at our AGM in November 2024, which is comprised of parent volunteers that manage the service.

The Kindergarten Community

We have a Social/Fundraising Committee, who organise many different activities such as group coffees/dinners, a welcome event, and a social/fundraising night for parents. Our parents also utilise Pennydale park for plays after the kinder session.

Policies

Olympic Avenue Kindergarten reviews and updates its policies annually. Policies are compiled in a Policy Manual, a copy of which is available for reading in the foyer. Copies of individual policies can be obtained by contacting the Compliance Officer on officeolympicave@gmail.com or they are available on our website.

Registration Process

Olympic Avenue Kindergarten participates in the Central Registration scheme operated by Bayside City Council. Registration for 2025 kindergarten must be completed online via Bayside City Council. The registration period for 2025 commences on the 1st May through until 30th June 2024. Offers are then issued to families by email via Bayside Council from the 22nd July 2024. To register from 1st May go to <https://www.bayside.vic.gov.au/services/children-and-family/register-kindergarten>. Note that children must be fully vaccinated for their age in order to attend kindergarten. Refer to <https://www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au/campaigns/no-jab-no-play> for more information about vaccinations.

Places for the kindergarten program within the City of Bayside are allocated according to a number of criteria which are regularly reviewed. Information regarding the criteria for the Bayside Central Registration scheme can be obtained from the Council's website at: <https://www.bayside.vic.gov.au/kindergarten>.

Children enrolling for a **3yo** program must **turn three by the 30 April** of the year they attend. (Due to staff:child ratios that are based on age, a child cannot commence at the service until they have turned three years old.)

To Enrol for 3yo kinder 2025 - Born before 1 May 2022

Children enrolling for a **4yo program** must **turn four by the 30 April of the year they attend**. A child may start four-year-old kindergarten at the commencement of the kindergarten year even if they have not yet turned four.

To Enrol for 4yo kinder 2025 - Born before 1 May 2021



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Current year vacancies

If you would like to go on a waitlist for 2024 kindergarten please contact Bayside Council.

Olympic Avenue Kindergarten has been rated Exceeding under the National Quality Standard.

Olympic Avenue Kindergarten has a zero-tolerance to child abuse and racism. We aim to create a child safe and child friendly environment where children feel safe and will be supported to express and enjoy their cultural rights. To create and maintain a child safe environment, Olympic Avenue Kindergarten apply Child Safe Standards and adhere to the Reportable Conduct Scheme (RCS). This applies to all workers, volunteers and parent helpers at Olympic Avenue Kindergarten. Refer to www.ccyp.vic.gov.au for more information about Child Safe Standards and the RCS.

