



Kindy in Queensland

What is kindy?

Kindergarten, known as kindy, is a part-time educational program for children in the year before Prep (the first year of school in Queensland). Kindy is a place where your child will learn through play experiences and interactions that support their early learning, wellbeing and development.

By participating in kindy, children develop a love of learning and are supported with their transition to Prep.

Queensland Government-approved kindy programs are delivered by a qualified early childhood teacher. Kindy programs can be offered at early childhood education centres; selected rural and remote and other selected state schools where there have been barriers to access kindergarten; and by distance education or eKindy for some children who cannot access a centre.

Learning at kindy

Kindy provides young children with opportunities to:

- use language to communicate ideas, feelings and needs
- make friends, interact and cooperate with others
- identify issues and develop problem solving skills
- become more confident and independent in their abilities
- connect with, explore and contribute to their world
- build their knowledge and explore new ideas, helping to build their confidence.

Have you heard?

Free **KiNDY** from 2024

How to enrol

In Queensland, children can attend kindy in the year before they start Prep.

Each service is different and some may have a waiting list, so it's a good idea to speak to your chosen service about the best time to enrol your child.

Your child must be 4 years old by 30 June in the year they enrol to participate in kindy.

| Child born | Child can attend kindy |
|-----------------------------|------------------------|
| 1 July 2019 to 30 June 2020 | 2024 |
| 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021 | 2025 |
| 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2022 | 2026 |
| 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023 | 2027 |
| 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024 | 2028 |
| 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025 | 2029 |

What you will need to enrol your child:

- your child's name and address
- your details as their parent, carer or guardian
- details of any court orders or parenting orders or plans
- details of any additional support required (e.g. disability, food allergies or other needs)
- proof of date of birth (e.g. birth certificate)
- health and immunisation status
- details of the people allowed to pick up your child and who to notify in an emergency.

Your service will keep this information confidential and you will have full access to your child's records.

Ask your local
kindy provider about

Free
KiNDY
from 2024

Choosing a kindy program

All children in Queensland are eligible to attend an approved kindergarten program in the year before Prep.

An approved kindergarten program meets government guidelines, and is:

- a learning program delivered by qualified early childhood teachers, in accordance with government guidelines
- typically delivered for 15 hours a week, 40 weeks a year, for children in the year before Prep
- aligned with the Queensland kindergarten learning guideline or other Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority-accredited learning program.

To help identify a Queensland Government-approved program, look for the 'kindy tick of approval', that is the image below.



Free Kindy from 2024

The Queensland Government is making kindy free for all Queensland families.

Kindy will be free for eligible-aged children who attend a government-approved program offering free kindy from 1 January 2024.

This is 15 hours a week or 600 hours a year of free kindy, taught by a qualified early childhood teacher.

Families can choose kindy in a sessional kindergarten or kindergarten in a long day care.

All kindergarten program providers will be provided the opportunity to offer the free kindy program.

For more information, visit:
www.qld.gov.au/kindy