

## Glenelg Shire Council Children's Services

### Guidelines for Managing access to Kindergarten Places.

Information extracted and sources from The Kindergarten Guide 2016 (Department of Education and Training)

#### Managing access to kindergarten places

Multiple rounds of kindergarten enrolments will be offered by Glenelg Shire Council

- The first Round is for existing families over a two-week period.
- The second Round is for all families in the community.
- The third Round remains open until the start of the Kindergarten year.

In instances where more eligible children apply for a place at a kindergarten service than there are places available, services must:

- prioritise children based on the criteria listed below
- In mixed-aged groups the Priority of Access guidelines equally prioritise three and four-year-old children considered vulnerable under the policy
- work with other local kindergarten services and the regional Department office to ensure all eligible children have access to a kindergarten place.

The allocation of kindergarten placements at Glenelg Shire Council will be offered to children based on the following priority:

High priority children	Process that could be used to verify need(s)
Children at risk of abuse or neglect, including children in Out-of-Home Care	<p>The child is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• attending a three year old kindergarten program through Early Start Kindergarten or Access to Early Learning, or is</li> </ul> <p>referred by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Child Protection</li> <li>• Child and family services (family services referral and support team, Child FIRST /integrated family services/Service Connect case worker,)</li> <li>• Maternal and Child Health nurse, or</li> <li>• Out-of-Home Care provider</li> </ul>
Aboriginal and/or Torres	As part of the enrolment process, service providers must respectfully ask families "is your child

High priority children	Process that could be used to verify need(s)
Strait Islander children	Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander?"
Asylum seeker and refugee children	An appropriate visa that identifies the child and/or parents as a refugee or asylum seeker
Children eligible for the Kindergarten Fee Subsidy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A child or parents holds a Commonwealth Health Care Card, Pensioner Concession Card, Veteran's Affairs Card or</li> <li>• multiple birth children (triplets, quadruplets)</li> </ul>
<p>Children with additional needs, defined as children who:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• require additional assistance in order to fully participate in the kindergarten program</li> <li>• require a combination of services which are individually planned</li> <li>• have an identified specific disability or developmental delay</li> </ul>	<p>The child :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• is assessed as having delays in two or more areas and is declared eligible for a second funded year of kindergarten</li> <li>• holds a Child Disability Health Care Card</li> <li>• has previously been approved for Kindergarten Inclusion Support Package, or referred by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➢ the National Disability Insurance Scheme</li> <li>➢ Early Childhood Intervention Service</li> <li>➢ Preschool Field Officer, or</li> <li>➢ Maternal and Child Health nurse</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

After the priority of access guidelines have been assessed and there are more eligible children seeking a place at a kindergarten service than there are places available, children will be prioritised based on the following Glenelg Shire Council's additional criteria:

1. Demonstrable link to the service
  - The child is currently attending the service
  - A sibling currently attends the service or has within the past three years
2. Working families
3. Residential proximity to the service (using Google maps)