



Moreland
City Council



Moreland City Council's
**Preschool Field
Officer Program**



The Preschool Field Officer Program

The program provides practical support and advice to State-funded kindergarten programs in long day care centres and sessional kindergartens, supporting the inclusion of children with additional needs.

Preschool Field Officers work within the context of the early childhood program, acting as a consultant to the early childhood teacher and educators.

The program is provided by Moreland City Council and funded by the Victorian Department of Education and Training at no cost to families or kindergartens.



Preschool Field Officer Key Roles

- Observing children with diverse needs and providing specialised and practical advice.
- Consultancy support to kindergarten staff with planning, implementation and review of developmentally appropriate programs for all children.
- Supporting and building capacity of early childhood teachers and educators with strategies and resources to ensure inclusive practices, such as providing specialised information on children's specific additional needs and identifying appropriate training.
- Supporting referrals and linkages to specialist services for children and their families.
- Assisting the application process for additional funding (Kindergarten Inclusion Support Program) if required.
- Providing an independent opinion as required when considering a second year of funded Four-Year-Old Kindergarten.

**Referral forms
are available
from:**

[moreland.vic.gov.au/
children-with-additional-needs](https://moreland.vic.gov.au/children-with-additional-needs)

The program assists children:

- Of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander origin.
- With a disability or developmental delay – including children with mild language delays, diverse needs and children with multiple disabilities.
- With additional needs from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds.
- Who have experienced trauma.
- Who have diverse learning needs.
- Who are experiencing social and/or emotional difficulties at kindergarten.

Other support for kindergarten teachers and educators

- Resources
- Guidance on inclusion practices
- Information on specific additional needs
- Meeting with staff
- Program support: working with services to strengthen principles and practices embedded in the Victorian Early Years Learning and Development Framework and National Quality Standards
- Identifying appropriate professional development opportunities
- Assistance to implement recommendations
- Linking with other agencies
- Early years network meetings.

The referral can be made by:

- Parent/Guardian.
- Kindergarten teacher.
- Paediatrician.
- Allied Health (Speech, Occupational Therapy).
- Maternal and Child Health Nurse.
- Inclusion Professional.
- Family Support agencies.

The Preschool Field Officer Program referral form is completed jointly by the professional and the parent/guardian and signed

by both parties (where applicable).

For more information please refer to education.vic.gov.au

Early Start Kindergarten (ESK)

Enrolments for 3-year-old sessional Early Start Kindergarten (ESK) provides up to 15 hours of **FREE** kindergarten each week to eligible 3-year-old children.

IS MY CHILD ELIGIBLE FOR ESK?

Your child is eligible if they are aged three by 30 April in the year they will be attending kindergarten, and:

- Your family has had contact with Child Protection (or been referred to Child FIRST), or
- Your child is Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander

Contact

Moreland City Council
90 Bell St, Coburg 3058

Postal Address:
Locked Bag 10, Moreland Victoria 3058

Phone 03 9240 1111
Email info@moreland.vic.gov.au
Web moreland.vic.gov.au

Moreland Language Link

廣東話	9280 1910	عربي	9280 1913	हिंदी	9280 1918	All other languages 9280 1919
Italiano	9280 1911	Türkçe	9280 1914	普通话	9280 0750	
Ελληνικά	9280 1912	Tiếng Việt	9280 1915	ਪੰਜਾਬੀ	9280 0751	