What is Kindergarten?
Four-year-old kindergarten is a one year education program for children, the year before they start school. Warrnambool City Council runs 10 kindergartens.

Quality
All Warrnambool City Council kindergartens have achieved an exceeding rating in relation to the National Quality standards, a comprehensive set of measures which guide families in identifying quality approved education and child care services across the country.

Sessions for Kindergarten in 2019
Children will attend kindergarten for 15 hours per week (three 5 hour sessions or two 7.5 hour sessions).

Florence Collins Kindergarten
At Florence Collins Kindergarten a 15 hour program is offered (three 5 hour sessions). The service is open Monday to Friday throughout the year (excluding public holidays and Christmas closure) with before and after kinder care available.

Children are welcome to attend the Centre from the opening time of 7.30am to the closing time of 6.00pm. Additional Long Day Care may be available on days your child does not attend Kindergarten.

How old does my child need to be to attend four (4) year old kindergarten?
Your child needs to be four years old by 30 April in the year they attend kindergarten. If your child turns 6 in the year they attend Kindergarten please refer to information sheet.

Is my child ready for Kinder?
Each child develops at his/her own rate, and although your child’s age may make him/her eligible to start Kindergarten, other factors may impact on his/her readiness for this experience.

If you are concerned about whether your child is ready, or need more information about when is the best time for your child to go to Kindergarten, you can contact the Children’s Services Centre on 5559 4747 for further details.

The Department of Education and Training website also provides information on starting kinder (see www.education.vic.gov.au/kindergarten)

How do I apply to enrol for four year old Kindergarten?
All applications for four year old kindergarten are to be lodged via the on-line portal located at http://www.warrnambool.vic.gov.au/4-year-old-kindergarten.

Simply register via the portal and once you confirm the registration email you will be required to answer a series of questions presented over several tabs and upload supporting documentation.
Supporting documentation you will need includes:

1. Child’s birth certificate OR Statutory Declaration in the event that you do not have a birth certificate OR Passport.
2. Proof of Warrnambool residency in the form of Rates Notice OR Electricity or Gas bill issued in the last 3 months OR Relevant building permit OR Tenancy Agreement if applicable.
3. Court Orders if applicable.
4. Concession Card if applicable.
5. Letter from appropriate professional or support agency verifying your child is assessed as having special needs, a disability or developmental delay if applicable.
6. Medical documentation displaying a professional diagnosis for your child if applicable.
7. Letter from a case manager or support agency verifying how your child meets high priority criteria if applicable.

Supporting documentation can be in virtually any format such as PDF, doc, docX or JPEG.

The privacy and security of your data in this application is protected by SSL and 256 Bit encryption Geotrust Certificate, the same level of security we utilise for our online payment of services.

You will receive an SMS message confirming that Council has received your application within 14 days. If you do not receive confirmation within this time please contact the Council on 5559 4800.

Enrolment applications received after the first round offer closing date will be treated as a second round application. Second round applications will be notified of available vacancies from September 2018.

How do I get a Kindergarten Enrolment Kit?
Enrolment Kits, which include Kinder Enrolment frequently asked questions Fact Sheets and flyers, and Department of Education and Training information, are available from Council’s website www.warrnambool.vic.gov.au/kinder, Council’s City Assist Team at 25 Liebig Street, Warrnambool or at Children’s Services Centre at 600 Raglan Pde, Warrnambool.

Enrolment kits can also be collected from Kindergartens on Open Day.

How do we notify of any changes to our details?
Complete the Kindergarten Information Update Form available from Children’s Services Centre, City Assist or online.

What fees are charged for Kindergarten?
Kindergarten is funded by the State and Federal Government and user fees. Council sets the user fees payable by families.

User fees for 2019 are still to be determined. Once the contribution of both State and Federal funding is confirmed, 2019 fees will be set.

Florence Collins Kindergarten
Payment is required for all booked Kindergarten/After Kinder Care and Long Day Care fees (including public holidays and school holidays) regardless of utilisation. Three weeks notification is required when cancelling an enrolment. For a fee estimate for Florence Collins please contact 5559 4640.

A statement of fees will be issued fortnightly to parents (Florence Collins and AKC only). Families may be eligible for Child Care Subsidy and other Government Assistance if they meet the set criteria. (Please contact the Family Assistance Office on 136150 to find out your eligibility for CCS and other funding.)

Are there any concessions?
Some families will receive a fee subsidy resulting in free or low cost kindergarten. Eligible families will receive support from the State Government to reduce the cost of kindergarten. Please refer to the “Free or low-cost Kindergarten” brochure in the Enrolment kit for a list of eligible concessions.

Staffing at Kinders
WCC cannot guarantee which service individual staff members will be working at. Staffing is determined at the end of the year dependent on enrolment numbers and staff availability.

Contact us
Warrnambool City Assist
Ph: 5559 4800
Postal Address : PO BOX 198 Warrnambool 3280
Service Centre – 25 Liebig Street, Warrnambool or 550-600 Raglan Parade, Warrnambool

An enrolment kit, including a range of Kindergarten Fact Sheets, are available to read, download and print from our website or copies can be collected from City Assist or the Children’s Services Centre.

For a copy of the complete Kindergarten Enrolment Policy for Four Year Old Kindergarten please contact City Assist.

Department of Education and Training
Barwon South Western Region
Ph: (03) 5225 1000
Email: bswr@edumail.vic.gov.au
Office: 5A Little Ryrie St, Geelong, Victoria 3220
Postal Address: PO Box 2066, Geelong, 3220

www.warrnambool.vic.gov.au Connect to Council