

Funded Three-year-old Kindergarten for South Gippsland in 2020

Next year three-year-old children in South Gippsland will have an opportunity to enjoy funded kindergarten as part of State Government early childhood reforms.

Currently the Victorian Government subsidises 15 hours of four-year-old kindergarten. However, from next year South Gippsland kindergartens will also offer subsidised kindergarten for three-year-old children. This means an extra year of learning, playing and making friends.

South Gippsland Shire Council's Manager of Community, Children and Family Services Heather Lyon is excited about the opportunity.

"The Victorian Government has recognised the critical importance of early years education and the research that shows that two years of kindergarten are better than one. We are very excited to be one of only six regional council's that were chosen to roll-out kindergarten for three-year-olds in 2020 and that South Gippsland children will be able to participate in this new government-led educational initiative.

"In a kindergarten program, children enjoy play-based learning that is guided by trained teachers. The skills that we all learn as children help to set the foundations for the rest of our life. Starting kindergarten early gives them a great start," said Ms. Lyon.

Council is hosting an information session for parents and carers to learn more about subsidised three-year-old kindergarten on Tuesday 10 September at 6.30pm in Meeting Room 1, Michael Place, Leongatha. Anyone interested in finding out more is encouraged to attend. To book, please phone 5662 9200 or email stefanie.cook@southgippsland.vic.gov.au.

PR2442 30/8/19