

Footscray Learning Precinct Integrated Early Learning Centre

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



From the 2017–18 State Budget, the Government announced \$10 million to build early childhood facilities at new government primary schools. This included Footscray Learning Precinct's new Integrated Early Learning Centre (IELC). The new centre will be built next to Footscray City Primary School, on the previous Hyde Street Kindergarten site, and is set to open from Term 1, 2022.

The opening will coincide with the launch of a universally funded three-year-old kindergarten program in the Footscray area. The Victorian Government is investing almost \$5 billion over 10 years to ensure three-year-old children have the facilities they need to attend kindergarten and meet the increasing place demand for four-year-olds.

Background

What is the Footscray Learning Precinct?

The Victorian Government is transforming local education through the Footscray Learning Precinct.

Planning for the Precinct commenced in 2015 and the vision is for it to become a world-class education precinct, providing excellence in teaching and learning in Melbourne's inner west, and opportunities across all stages of learning from early childhood to university.

The Footscray Learning Precinct includes Footscray City Primary, Footscray Primary and Footscray High School. Victoria University and Maribyrnong City Council are key partners in the project.

You can find further information on the construction elements of the precinct at:

<https://www.schoolbuildings.vic.gov.au/schools/Pages/FootscrayLearningPrecinct.aspx>

You can find further information on the education elements of the precinct at:

<https://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/programs/Pages/educationplansfootscray.aspx>

What is an integrated early learning centre (IELC)?

IELCs are key hubs for the community and bring together a range of professional services to deliver education, care, health and support services to children and their families. IELCs can provide a focal point for new communities in growth areas and improve the accessibility, quality, and integration of early childhood services in established metropolitan and regional areas.

Site and features

What is being built?

The Victorian School Building Authority (VSBA), in partnership with Maribyrnong City Council, will build a new IELC to support the growing demand for early years education and care services in the area.

Demolition and removal works throughout early 2021 have prepared the site for construction.

What will the new IELC provide?

The facility will offer:

- Three-year-old kindergarten
- Four-year-old kindergarten
- Long day childcare
- Large outdoor play and education spaces
- Qualified, experienced, supportive, and friendly staff
- Maternal Child Health (MCH) services

You can view the designs of the building and keep up to date with latest construction news at:

<https://www.schoolbuildings.vic.gov.au/schools/Pages/FLPEarlyLearningCentre.aspx>

Why was the site next to the primary school chosen?

Building a co-located centre on or next to a primary school site provides many benefits for Victorian families, including making:

- early years programs easier to access
- drop-off times simpler and more convenient
- a smooth transition from early years' programs to school.

Having an IELC adjacent to the school helps create a hub that benefits the whole community. Each new early year's facility will be built to ensure the best possible education outcomes for all children.

Who will run the Footscray Learning Precinct — IELC?

An external provider will be appointed ahead of the centre opening in 2022. Enrolment enquiries can be made through Maribyrnong Council:

earlyyears@maribyrnong.vic.gov.au

Further information

Where can I get information and updates on the centres?

You can stay up to date with all the latest news and updates about the IELC through the VSBA website and Facebook page. Please visit www.schoolbuildings.vic.gov.au for information and links.

Who can I contact for general enquires on the build?

Please direct enquiries on the construction of the Footscray Learning Precinct — IELC to the Victorian School Building Authority at:

Email: VSBA@education.vic.gov.au

Phone: 1800 896 950 (Weekdays from 9am to 5pm)

For questions about the broader work of the Footscray Learning Precinct, please visit:

<https://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/programs/Pages/educationplansfootscray.aspx>

or contact the Acting Project Manager, Clare Green on clare.green@education.vic.gov.au



You can contact us:

Victorian School Building Authority



1800 896 950



vsba@education.vic.gov.au



[/victorianschoolbuild](https://www.facebook.com/victorianschoolbuild)



www.schoolbuildings.vic.gov.au



For information in your language, please call the Victorian School Building Authority's translation service on 03 9280 0712.