

Media Release

The Hon Lizzie Blandthorn MP

Deputy Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council

Minister for Children

Minister for Disability



Sunday, 19 May 2024

CHILDREN'S WEEK GRANTS NOW OPEN FOR 2024

The Allan Labor Government is supporting a week of free community events and activities for young children and their families, helping them celebrate childhood and education through the joys of play this Children's Week.

Minister for Children Lizzie Blandthorn has invited eligible organisations to apply for grants of up to \$1,000 to help them host fun activities and events for children and families during Children's Week to be held later this year.

The grants support free events or activities such as storytelling, art exhibitions, dance workshops, cooking sessions, musical performances, picnics and outdoor or messy play.

This year's theme is *Children have the right to a clean and safe environment*, based on Article 24 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child.

Children's Week is a national campaign that celebrates the right of children to enjoy childhood. It showcases their achievements while providing educational experiences for them and their families.

More than 45,000 children and families took part in Children's Week activities across the state in 2023, with the Allan Labor Government supporting more than 200 events through grant funding.

During Children's Week, community organisations, sports clubs, neighbourhood associations and local councils organise a variety of events, including open days, special events, displays and online activities. The events celebrate children and childhood and showcase their achievements.

Children's Week runs from Saturday 19 October to Sunday 27 October this year.

Making Victoria the Education State starts with the early years. That's why the Government is delivering nation-leading reforms such as Three-Year-Old Kindergarten and making kinder free, and investing billions to give every child the best start in life.

Applications for Children's Week grants close on 16 June 2024. To apply, visit vic.gov.au/childrens-week-grants-program.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Children Lizzie Blandthorn

"Children's Week is a great opportunity to celebrate the talent, skills and achievements of Victoria's children while providing free and engaging activities for them and their families."

"These grants will help local organisations host fun and exciting events that celebrate children, childhood and learning through play."