

Media Release

Hon Jacinta Allan MP
Premier



Friday, 17 October 2025

MORE KINDERGARTEN PLACES FOR BENDIGO FAMILIES

The Allan Labor Government is giving more children the best start in life close to home with construction now underway on a new kindergarten in Bendigo.

Premier and Member for Bendigo East Jacinta Allan today turned the first sod on the new Kennington Primary School Kindergarten, which will create up to 178 new kinder places.

Kennington Primary School Kindergarten will include three kindergarten rooms with space for up to 99 children at once when it opens in Term 1 next year.

The Labor Government is building a kindergarten on or next to every new primary school – helping children transition smoothly to school, reducing travel times and easing cost of living pressures for busy families.

More than 145,000 children and their families are saving up to \$2,600 per child each year through the Labor Government's Free Kinder program, which is available at 97 per cent of kinder programs across the state.

Our nation-leading \$14 billion Best Start, Best Life reforms are transforming early childhood education – helping children thrive, easing cost-of-living pressures for families and supporting parents and carers to return to work or study if they choose.

The Labor Government is investing billions to build and expand hundreds of kindergartens across the state, supporting the delivery of 15 hours of three-year-old kindergarten each week by 2029 and up to 30 hours of Pre-Prep each week by 2036.

Quotes attributable to Premier and Member for Bendigo East Jacinta Allan

"Bendigo families are benefiting from our Free Kinder program, saving thousands of dollars every year while giving their kids the very best start in life."

"The new kinder at Kennington Primary School will make it easier for families to find a kinder place close to home – supporting busy parents, creating local jobs and helping our community continue to grow."

Quote attributable to Minister for Children Lizzie Blandthorn

"Investing in local kinders on school sites helps families balance the cost of living and gives children the quality education they deserve."