

Media Release

The Hon Lizzie Blandthorn MP
Deputy Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council
Minister for Children
Minister for Disability



Wednesday, 18 February 2026

NEW EQUIPMENT TO MAKE FREE KINDER ACCESSIBLE

The Allan Labor Government is making kinders more inclusive, accessible and welcoming for every Victorian child.

The Minister for Children today announced more than \$6.2 million for kindergartens across Victoria to create safe, accessible spaces and buy IT equipment to engage children of all abilities.

Kindergartens will receive up to \$200,000 to upgrade facilities or purchase equipment to improve accessibility through the Building Blocks Inclusion grants.

Recipients include Clifton Childcare Co-operative in Fitzroy North, who will upgrade their playground and improve children's bathroom facilities to better support diverse needs.

The Labor Government is also providing up to \$10,000 for 175 services to buy accessible equipment such as adjustable furniture, mobility stools and sensory resources.

Alexandra Avenue Kindergarten in Sunshine will use their \$10,000 grant to purchase sensory and gross motor development equipment, including lights and mats to help create calm, supportive learning environments.

More than \$1.5 million in Information Technology grants will fund computers, tablets and televisions for educational programs and service administration as part of the Building Blocks Improvement grants stream.

Labor is investing billions to build and expand kindergartens across Victoria – supporting the rollout of 15 hours of Three-Year-Old Kindergarten by 2029 and up to 30 hours of Pre-Prep by 2036.

Our nation-leading *Best Start, Best Life* reforms are transforming early childhood education – helping children thrive, saving families money and supporting parents and carers to return to work or study if they choose.

For a list of recipients and to find out more visit schoolbuildings.vic.gov.au/building-blocks-grants-inclusion or schoolbuildings.vic.gov.au/building-blocks-grants-improvement.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Children Lizzie Blandthorn

"We're supporting Kinders to meet the needs of their communities – alongside Free Kinder saving families up to \$2,700 a year."

"Every child deserves to fully participate in Kinder - these grants help services make that a reality."