

# Educational and Developmental Gains in Early Childhood (EDGE) Study: Evaluating the impact of Universal 3-year-old Kindergarten in Victoria

ACTRN12622000399796

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<b>Status</b>	RECRUITING
<b>Sponsor</b>	Melbourne Graduate School of Education, The University of Melbourne
<b>Enrollment</b>	4,050 participants

## Plain Language Summary

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Early childhood education has a powerful influence on children's development — but what difference does starting one year earlier make? Victoria is rolling out funded kindergarten for 3-year-olds across the state, making it one of the first places in the world to offer two full years of universal kindergarten before school. This creates a rare natural experiment to study the impact of that extra year.

The EDGE Study will follow children and families attending participating Victorian kindergartens over several years, tracking cognitive development, language skills, social-emotional wellbeing, and school readiness. By comparing children who had two years of kindergarten with those who had one, researchers hope to understand the benefits — and which children benefit most.

You may be eligible if you are a parent or guardian of a child currently in a 4-year-old kindergarten program at a participating early childhood service in Victoria. Early childhood teachers and service directors at participating services are also invited to participate. Children who have previously repeated the 4-year-old kindergarten year are not eligible.

## Key Eligibility Criteria

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### Inclusion (3)

- Parents or legal guardians and their children, who are attending a 4-year old kindergarten program at participating early childhood education and care services at the time of study recruitment.
- Early Childhood Teachers currently teaching a 3- and/or 4-year-old kindergarten program at participating early childhood education and care services.
- Directors of participating early childhood education and care services.

### Exclusion (1)

- Children who completed a previous year of 4-year-old kindergarten, e.g. children who repeated a year of kindergarten prior to commencing primary school.

## Locations (1 total)

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VIC, Australia

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<https://www.anzctr.org.au/Trial/Registration/TrialReview.aspx?ACTRN=ACTRN12622000399796>

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