



Education
and Training

Kindergarten Infrastructure and Services Plan

Baw Baw Shire

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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. REFORM CONTEXT

In an Australian first, the Victorian Government has committed to implement Three-Year-Old Kindergarten for all children over a 10-year roll-out with a total investment of almost \$5 billion, including \$1.68 billion to support the infrastructure expansion required for the reform. This reform will add another year of universal funded kindergarten so that, by 2029, all children in Victoria will have access to two years of play-based learning through a funded kindergarten program.

1.2. PURPOSE OF KISPS

Three-Year-Old Kindergarten will require a large expansion of kindergarten across the State. The Government has invited all 79 Victorian Local Governments to discuss and agree upon a Kindergarten Infrastructure and Services Plan (KISP) for their Local Government Area (LGA).

Each KISP has been jointly developed with Local Government and published to estimate the growth in demand for kindergarten within the LGA. The KISPs will help all kindergarten providers meet demand and provide a clear picture of infrastructure need across the State.

While a KISP is not a funding document and does not define required infrastructure projects or commit any party to funding specific projects, it is expected that future investment requests through Building Blocks and funding decisions about Local Government and not-for-profit projects would align with the relevant KISP.

1.3. HOW TO USE THE KISP

Each KISP contains estimates of future kindergarten supply of, and demand for, Three and Four-Year-Old Kindergarten places against existing enrolment capacity. Not-for-profit and for-profit providers can use these estimates to inform their plans to expand kindergarten programs, establish new services or invest in new or extended facilities.

For example, KISPs provide demand estimates in terms of where, when and how much demand for kindergarten places will grow in an LGA. KISPs also estimate where and how many kindergarten places providers can accommodate in existing facilities before an area needs new infrastructure to meet demand. The estimates can be used to inform decisions about where and when expansions of kindergarten program capacity and the construction of new or extended facilities are needed to meet demand growth.

Where there is an agreed KISP for the LGA, the Local Government and not-for-profit kindergarten providers seeking co-investments through the Building Blocks Capacity Building stream must refer to, and align their proposed project with, the infrastructure need identified in the KISP.

1.4. STRUCTURE OF THE KISP

Each KISP consists of the following sections:

- **Section 1:** A short introduction to the Three-Year-Old Kindergarten reform and the KISP.

- **Section 2:** A map of existing and planned Early Childhood Education and Care service locations.
- **Section 3:** Local knowledge and context relevant to the expansion of kindergarten services.
- **Section 4:** Funded kindergarten demand estimates.

1.5. DISCLAIMER

All data presented in this document are estimates only and are based on the best information available to the Department and Local Government at the time. They are published on an as-is basis and are for informational purposes only. They are subject to adjustment in response to market forces and as new data and other relevant information becomes available. The data may under- or over-estimate both total demand in a given location or year and the capacity for new demand to be met by providers. As a result, operational and business decisions should not be made solely based on this document. Any use of this data is solely at the risk of the user. The Department and Local Government accept no responsibility for any loss or damage, either direct or incidental, that may result from the use of the data.

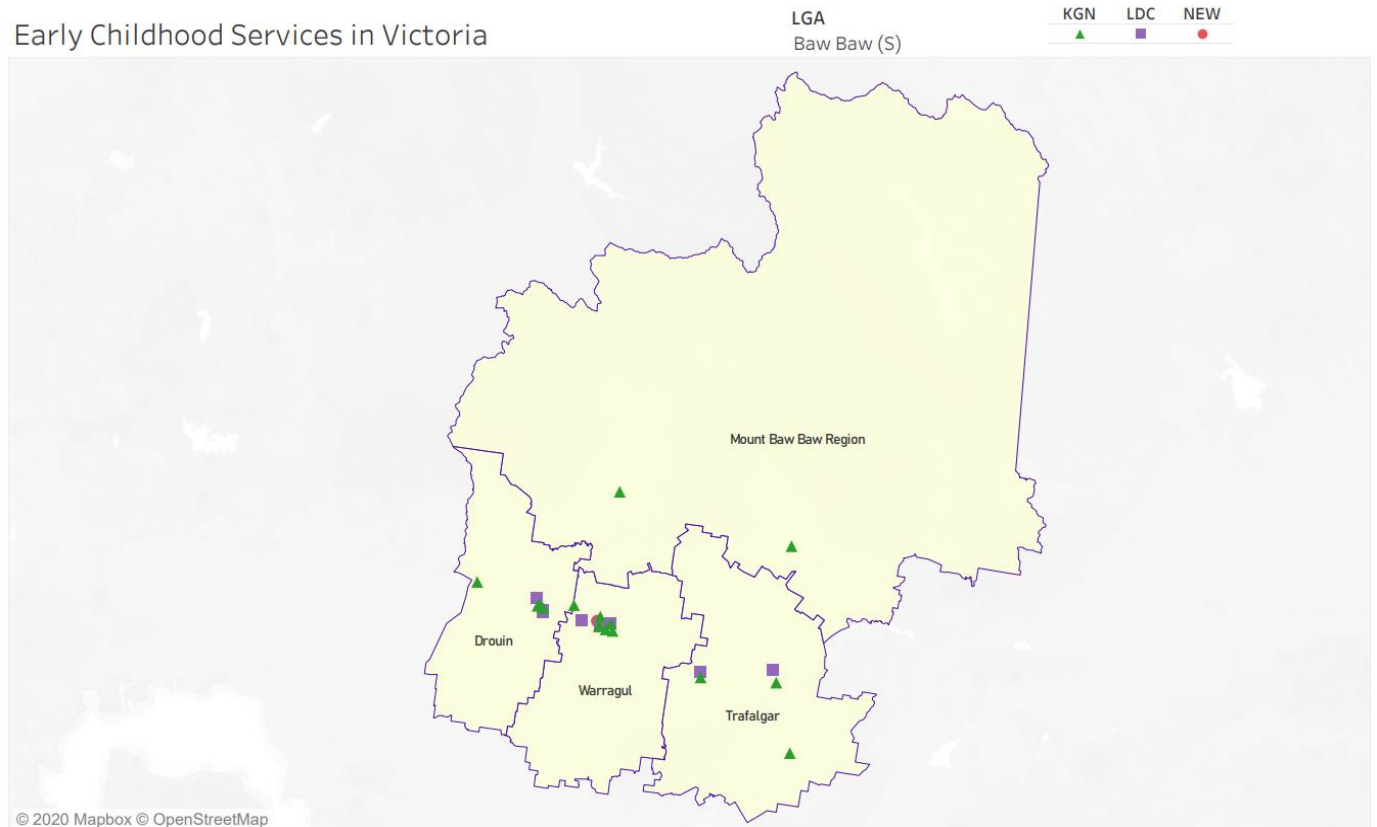
2. MAP OF EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION SERVICES IN BAW BAW SHIRE

The map below shows the distribution of currently operating and new services that are planned to open in the future in the LGA and across its communities.

This map has been prepared using Departmental data, from both the National Quality Agenda IT System (NQAITS) and the Victorian School Building Authority (VSBA). Where applicable, this map has been refined by the Baw Baw Shire Council and the Department to capture other services that are planned to open in the future.

Service Name	Project Type	Suburb	Total Licensed Capacity Proposed by project
St Paul's Early Learning Centre - Warragul	Expansion	Warragul	22
Longwarry kindergarten	Expansion	Longwarry	10
TBC – Sutton St	New Early Learning Facility	Warragul	120

Early Childhood Services in Victoria



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3. LOCAL CONTEXT

3.1 PURPOSE

Local, place-based knowledge and context play an important role in supporting the implementation of Three-Year-Old Kindergarten across Victoria. This section of the KISP documents this knowledge and context and has informed the funded kindergarten enrolment estimates in Section 4.

3.2 KEY CONSIDERATIONS

Key demographic trends that influence demand for kindergarten

Baw Baw Shire

Baw Baw Shire is one of Victoria's fastest growing municipalities. According to Victoria in Future 2019, Baw Baw's projected growth rate will be the second fastest in regional Victoria. Located 100km east of Melbourne, the Shire offers a mix of rural and urban living with affordable housing, scenic views and relaxed lifestyle making it an attractive option for new residents, leading to unprecedented growth.

Baw Baw Shire covers approximately 4,027 square kilometres of high-quality farmland, national parks and residential areas. The northern half of the Shire is heavily forested and lies in the Great Dividing Range, while the south is bounded by the Strzelecki Ranges.

The Shires largest towns are located along the rail and road corridor which provides direct access to Melbourne.

Population

The current population in Baw Baw of 53,396 (2019 Estimated Resident Population) is expected to rise to just below 70,000 by 2030. Most of these people are in the towns along the rail and road corridor of Warragul, Drouin, Trafalgar, Yarragon and Longwarry.

Between the 2011 and 2016 Census, strong year-on-year growth occurred in these major towns:

- Drouin experienced a growth rate of 4.98% per annum and Longwarry experience a growth rate of 6.89% per annum. Both towns are within the Drouin SA2 area.
- Warragul experienced a growth rate of 2.28% per annum.
- Trafalgar experienced a growth rate of 5.15% per annum.

The Warragul and Drouin Precinct Structure Plans provide a framework for increasing Warragul's population by 30,000 people living in 12,500 new homes and Drouin's population by 18,000 residents across 7,400 new homes over the next 30 years.

Kindergarten services

Both sessional kindergartens and long day care providers currently operate within the Baw Baw Shire. All long day care providers are concentrated along the Princes Highway towns of Warragul, Drouin, Yarragon and Trafalgar, meaning sessional kindergartens are the primary option for many rural families within the Shire, without having to travel significant distances. A network of family day carers, primarily located in Warragul and Drouin but also in smaller localities, also support these services.

Disadvantage

SEIFA data shows that the areas within Baw Baw Shire experiencing the most level of disadvantage are within the Drouin SA2 area (decile 4). Looking more closely, the Longwarry- Longwarry North

and Drouin South areas are considered more disadvantaged than regional Victoria. Only 28% of Australia's suburbs are more disadvantaged than the Longwarry- Longwarry North area.

Socio- economic disadvantage can be a barrier to accessing kindergarten services as families prioritise food, housing, clothing, health, transport and other costs ahead of non-compulsory early childhood education.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people

According to the 2016 Census, 484 Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander (ATSI) people live within Baw Baw Shire, approximately 1% of our population, which is greater than the Victorian average of 0.8%.

The ATSI community tend to favour specific kindergarten and early learning centres based on cultural/ family connections to these sites.

The Drouin SA2 contains the largest population of ATSI people with 248 residents, 1.5% of the population.

Projects or trends that may influence supply of early childhood education and care

Recent projects

Significant recent investment in early learning infrastructure has resulted in additional kindergarten places, including:

- Drouin Primary Early Learning Centre expansion, providing an additional room with a capacity for 22 children, which opened in 2020. This \$761,620 project was funded by Baw Baw Shire, in partnership with a \$350,000 Victorian Government grant.
- New Trafalgar Primary Early Learning Centre with a capacity for 66 children in two rooms, which opened in 2020. The Victorian Government provided \$1,800,000 and Baw Baw Shire a further \$235,000.
- New Warragul Primary Early Learning Centre with a capacity for 66 children in two rooms, which also opened in 2020. This \$3,370,000 project included \$1,750,000 from the Federal Government, \$970,000 from the Baw Baw Shire and \$650,000 from the Victorian government.

Planning approvals

As at September 2020, the number of planning applications lodged for lots within the Warragul and Drouin Precinct Structure Plans (PSPs) is approximately 37% of the total proposed lots to be delivered over a 30-year time frame. Approximately 4% (745 lots) of the 19,992 lots have been developed with a residence.

Council has issued two planning permits for the development of further long day care centres in Warragul, including 120 places each at 51 Sutton Street and 122 Brandy Creek Road. The Sutton Street site has commenced construction and must be completed by 2022. The permit for the Brandy Creek Road site was issued in 2020 and requires completion by 2024.

Council has also issued a planning permit for a Catholic education centre at 245 Main South Road in Drouin, including 99 early years places. Although estimated for stage 5 in 2029, the likely timeframe will not be known until construction commences.

A permit is also in place for St Angela of the Cross primary school at 297 Copelands Road in Warragul to include a 66-place early learning centre in stage 4 of the development, planned for delivery by 2030.

Education precinct planning

Council has recently been successful in a grant application to the Growing Suburbs Fund to increase the licenced places at Longwarry Kindergarten. The centre will be re-developed into a functional two room (48 place) kindergarten, expected to open during 2022.

The Baw Baw Shire Developer Contribution Plan (DCP01, 2007) includes a kindergarten project for Drouin.

The Warragul and Drouin PSPs allow for the provision of five new government primary schools and community centres- three located in Warragul (Copeland, Dollarburn and Spring Creek precincts) and two in Drouin (Wellwood and Weebar precincts). The community centres, which will be funded by DCP02 and DCP03, will incorporate space for a double room kindergarten. Construction of government schools has not been included within the DCP as they are determined to be State infrastructure items.

Whilst the Victorian government has committed to ensuring that there is a kindergarten onsite or next door to every new government primary school that opens from 2021¹, at this stage, opening years have not been established for the government schools in Warragul or Drouin.

Stability of supply in kindergarten places

Whilst Council owns or holds the lease for the majority of facilities used by services providing sessional kindergarten, Council does not own three sites in Thorpdale, Willow Grove and Warragul. This can impact the long-term security of kindergarten places. A recent example of this was a change in leasing arrangements at a Warragul kindergarten, which closed in 2017. This resulted in a loss of 52 places and placed increased pressure on existing services and on Council to provide a new facility.

The KISP document assumes that 90 per cent of long day care centres that are not currently offering a funded kindergarten program will take part in the reform. The capacity multiplier for long day care centres that has been used is 0.50 of total licensed places.

Council's Municipal Early Years Infrastructure Plan acknowledges the vulnerability of relying too heavily on the private sector (long day care providers) to deliver kindergarten programs.

Quality and supply

KISP modelling uses total licensed places to calculate total supply. Many kindergarten services set a lower group size than their licensed capacity, particularly for three-year-old children. According to the Mitchell Report *Preschool- Two Years are Better Than One*, group size for the delivery of a three-year-old preschool program should be consistent with existing practice and infrastructure of 20/22 children per group.

Whilst a 5 per cent adjustment in total places is allowed for in the KISP to account for practical operating capacity considerations, these numbers are significantly higher than what many services choose to operate at.

¹ Building Blocks: The Victorian Government's Three-Year-Old Kindergarten Infrastructure Strategy

Key local geographic considerations or information relevant to Three-Year-Old Kindergarten

Enrolments and movement

Drouin SA2

Kindergarten services located in the Drouin SA2 area (Drouin and Longwarry) include enrolments from nearby Warragul as well as neighbouring towns from both Cardinia and South Gippsland Shires, suggesting families may also work or attend school in Drouin.

Warragul SA2

Being the largest town within Baw Baw Shire, Warragul kindergartens largely service Warragul and its smaller outlying communities, however a number of enrolments also come from nearby Drouin, often due to a lack of available places in Drouin.

Smaller enrolment numbers also suggest families travel to Warragul for work or to attend school and it is therefore convenient for kindergarten as people come from the Neerim areas and towns along the Princes Highway corridor.

Trafalgar SA2

Kindergarten services in the Trafalgar SA2 area (Trafalgar, Yarragon and Thorpdale) service local families as well as children from nearby Latrobe Shire. Yarragon currently services a larger catchment including families from Warragul. This could be attributed to people travelling into the Latrobe Valley for work, the strong reputation of the service or the partnership between the Yarragon Primary School and Yarragon Children's Centre.

The drive between Trafalgar and Thorpdale is 20 minutes, uphill on a road which has been subject to landslips. Prior to the new Trafalgar Primary Early Learning Centre when there was unmet demand for places, families were not willing to travel to Thorpdale to access vacancies.

Mount Baw Baw SA2

Kindergarten services in the Mount Baw Baw SA2 area (Neerim South, Willow Grove and Erica) largely service their own farming communities, with more significant travel times involved.

Due to these sites not being connected by a normal travel route and with significant travel times involved to get to them, vacancies in this SA2 do not support other SA2s.

Transport and geography

The Gippsland Rail runs through the Shire with stations at the Shire's largest towns of Longwarry, Drouin, Warragul, Yarragon and Trafalgar. Once off the rail/ Princes Highway corridor, bus services to other rural areas are very limited (both in terms of routes and frequency of services) or non-existent.

Within Baw Baw Shire, 3.7% of households (644 households) do not own a vehicle (ABS 2016 Census). Whilst this figure is lower than regional Victoria, the percentage of households in the Warragul profile area that do not own a motor vehicle increases to 5.3%, which is higher than regional Victoria (as the population experts). Coupled with the limited bus services, the availability of suitable transport can be a barrier for families accessing kindergarten services.

Whilst the KISP document represents data at a local government and SA2 level, the size and geography of the Shire (in particular the Mount Baw Baw SA2 region) suggests that not all kindergarten places are equal. Capacity in some areas are not always accessible or desirable for families living in other areas of the Shire. Families need to be able to access kindergarten services within reasonable proximity (both in terms of distance and travel time) to their home.

Other information about the expansion of early childhood services

Relevant strategies

Council developed and adopted a *Municipal Early Years Infrastructure Plan (MEYIP)* in 2019 and noted a review in 2020. The MEYIP outlines the recommended early years infrastructure requirements to meet the needs of the Baw Baw Shire community now and into the future until 2036.

The MEYIP 2020 found that without infrastructure investment, the townships of Longwarry, Drouin and Warragul will experience supply shortages for four-year old kindergarten places by 2023, 2024 and 2033 respectively.

These shortages do not take into account the implementation of funded three-year-old kindergarten, which will only compound the infrastructure challenges as three and four-year-old programs compete for the same space in facilities already operating at close to capacity and with projected population growth to continue.

The report includes a recommendation that Council seek to achieve a balance between the adequate supply of kindergarten places with a continued focus on quality of service, provision of choice and responsiveness to local community needs.

In Baw Baw Shire's Advocacy Plan, '*A Better Future for Baw Baw- 2019 Advocacy Priorities*,' the seven key areas of focused growth include education, which encompasses new Early Learning Centres and primary schools.

The *Baw Baw Shire Municipal Early Years Plan 2019-2023* has five priority areas, including 'Supports and services for families in a rapidly growing area.'

Objective: Respond to local growth and change.

Strategy: Advocate to all levels of government for the provision of services, funding and infrastructure to meet the growing needs of our community.

- Proactively seek opportunities to raise awareness of the rapid growth in Baw Baw Shire and associated needs as a result.
- Respond to the State Government initiative to provide access to 3-year-old funded kindergarten.

Program modelling

The KISP report uses three different scenarios to model how efficient utilisation of licensed places can increase overall supply.

A recent survey was conducted by Baw Baw Shire's largest kindergarten provider in May 2020 regarding preferred kindergarten session modelling. It asked families whether 3 x 5-hour days, 2 x 6-hour days + 1 x 3 hour day or 2 x 7.5 hour days best suited their requirements. Responses were received from 210 families. Responses indicated that families valued choice and flexibility regarding program times to suit different family needs including the child's individual needs, parent work hours, sibling school hours etc.

Baw Baw's KISP data is based on scenario two, 'more efficient utilisation' as this still enables services to provide choice and meet the differing needs of families, whilst optimising supply of

kindergarten places to help meet additional demand over time. It also recognises that the ability to operate under scenario three is constrained by ancillary services at facilities such as adequate car parking and staff amenities.

Quality of facility provision

Whilst Baw Baw acknowledges the infrastructure supply challenges it faces with rapid population growth, there is also a need to ensure existing facilities provide a quality learning environment. This is important to ensure equitable access to quality kindergarten facilities for all children within the Shire.

In a rate capped environment, Council will need to balance the competing priorities of demand for new infrastructure with ensuring existing aging assets are maintained and upgraded to meet current and emerging needs.

Provision of kindergarten services

The Baw Baw Shire Council is not an approved provider of kindergarten services. Within the municipality, a range of not-for-profit and private companies are approved education and care services and providers.

Change management practices suggested by the Department to optimise existing services is at the discretion of approved providers and would be considered along with their own service delivery and operational philosophy built around skilled workforce availability, financial models and quality standards. Providers must also be responsive to the needs of children and families within their communities, along with market forces.

Partnerships

Council is keen to form a strategic *Building Blocks* partnership with the Victorian Government to obtain longer-term certainty of investment to meet kindergarten demand. This lead time is required for site selection, land acquisition, community and stakeholder engagement, design and quantity surveying, budget and funding sequencing and tender processes for construction.

Coronavirus

The Coronavirus pandemic has and will continue to cause economic and demographic uncertainty across Australia and Victoria. The impact of the pandemic on early childhood services within Baw Baw Shire is unknown at this point in time.

4. FUNDED KINDERGARTEN ENROLMENT ESTIMATES BETWEEN 2021-29 FOR BAW BAW SHIRE

4.1 PURPOSE

As Three-Year-Old Kindergarten is rolled-out and Victoria's population grows, demand for both Three and Four-Year-Old Kindergarten places will increase significantly. While additional capacity will be needed to meet this demand, this will vary across the State and over time, due to differences in the capacity of existing services, growth trends and sector composition.

To identify where, when and how many additional kindergarten places are expected over the roll-out in Baw Baw Shire, the Baw Baw Shire Council and the Department have developed:

1. A summary of the current provision of kindergarten within the LGA (**Section 4.3**).
2. An approach to optimising the utilisation of existing services and infrastructure through 'change management' strategies that the Baw Baw Shire Council and the Department will support to help meet additional demand in the LGA (**Section 4.4**).
3. An estimate of the Three and Four-Year-Old kindergarten places that cannot be met through existing services for the 2021-29 period, taking into account the additional demand that can be accommodated by optimising utilisation of existing services and infrastructure through point 2, above (**Section 4.5**).

Local Government and providers can use these published estimates to inform reform implementation activities such as service planning, kindergarten program expansion, infrastructure investments and Building Blocks funding applications in alignment with future demand over the 10-year roll-out.

4.2 METHODOLOGY

The estimated Three and Four-Year-Old Kindergarten places used in the following sections have been agreed between the Baw Baw Shire Council and the Department, and were informed by:

- Estimates developed by the Department which draw on a range of inputs, including population forecasts, current enrolments and results from the Kindergarten Capacity Assessment Program (KCAP), conducted in 2019.
- The estimated capacity of new services that are planned to open in the LGA (Section 2)
- Local knowledge and context provided by the Local Government (Section 3) that explains particular issues and trends in their area.
- The approach to optimising utilisation of existing services in the LGA (Section 4.4), and
- Other sources, such as modelling undertaken by Local Governments and local data.

The KISP measures a service's capacity to deliver funded kindergarten in terms of the number of children it could enrol in Three and Four-Year-Old Kindergarten. The number of funded kindergarten places is different from a service's licensed or approved places, which count the number of children permitted to attend the service at any one time under the license. Many services can enrol more children in their funded kindergarten program(s) than they have licensed places for because they can run more than one kindergarten program per week. Kindergarten places are therefore a more accurate measure of service kindergarten capacity than licensed places.

Three-Year-Old Kindergarten places have been presented as 15-hour places so they can be easily compared to Four-Year-Old Kindergarten places. Moreover, when Three-Year-Old Kindergarten is fully rolled-out in 2029, every three-year-old child will have access to 15-hours of kindergarten.

From 2023 all providers will have flexibility to determine how many hours of funded Three-Year-Old Kindergarten they deliver per week, with a minimum of five hours and a maximum of 15-hours funded pro-rata. It is expected that hours offered will vary. Given this variation, **it is important to be aware that during the transition to all three-year-old children receiving 15-hours of funded kindergarten per week in 2029, the 15-hour places presented in this report may represent multiple three-year-old places that individually receive less than 15-hours of kindergarten per week.**

These estimates have been developed at an LGA and community level to show the overall forecast and variation within an area. The KISP defines community at the Statistical Area Level 2, which is medium-sized areas which represent a community that interacts socially and economically, with a population range of 3,000 to 25,000 people, and an average population of about 10,000 people.

4.3 SUMMARY OF CURRENT KINDERGARTEN PROVISION

The figures below provide a summary of current kindergarten provision within the LGA and provide relevant context for the estimates of demand for funded kindergarten places included in Section 4.5. The data included in this section are largely drawn from:

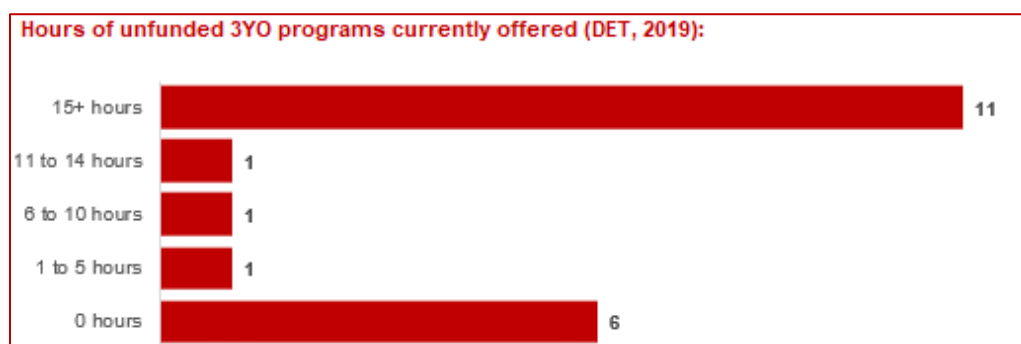
- The Kindergarten Capacity Assessment Program (KCAP), collected between June and October 2019.
- The Department's Kindergarten Information Management System (KIMS), as at 2019.
- The Department's Quality and Regulatory Division (QARD) monitoring data, as at 2019.
- The National Quality Agenda IT System (NQAITS), as at April 2020.
- The Victorian Child and Adolescent Monitoring System (VCAMS), as at 2018.

Please note that, because these sources were collected at different points, this may result in slightly different totals appearing in the below data.

Number of services by service type (NQAITS, 2020)	
Stand-alone kindergartens	15
Long day care centres	8

Percentage of services by management type, LGA level (NQAITs, 2020)	
Type	Percentage
Local Government	0%
Private not for profit	65%
Private for profit	22%
Other	13%

Current kindergarten offering	
Four-Year-Old Kindergarten participation rate (VCAMS, 2018):	97%
Number of services that offer a funded kindergarten program (DET, 2019):	21
Number of services that offer an unfunded Three-Year-Old Kindergarten program (DET, 2019):	14



Note: The above chart should be carefully interpreted given the likely variation in how services responded to this question. For example, some services may have reported the total number of hours delivered to all enrolled children rather than the actual program's length.

4.4 APPROACH TO OPTIMISING THE USE OF EXISTING SERVICES AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Change management strategies to optimise existing services and infrastructure

Children can often be accommodated through existing spare places and by services 'unlocking' unused capacity. As the experience of providers in the 2020 Three-Year-Old Kindergarten roll-out LGAs shows, while the optimisation of existing services can be challenging, it is highly time- and cost-effective compared to building new capacity through infrastructure projects. It also helps target infrastructure investment to the places that need it most and avoids over-supplying the local market.

The Baw Baw Shire Council and the Department will support providers and services to maximise their kindergarten places through the following change management activities and practices:

- Increasing the capacity of any Local Government operated services by:
 - Running additional programs.

- Using different timetables, including running 7.5-hour days.
- Changing the delivery model, such as introducing rotational models or mixed-age groups.
- Having degree-qualified kindergarten teachers leading integrated kindergarten programs in long day care settings.
- Encouraging and supporting other providers and services in the LGA to undertake change management.

The Baw Baw Shire Council and the Department have estimated how many Three and Four-Year-Old Kindergarten places can be accommodated through existing services in the LGA (**Table 1**). Both parties are committed to helping providers and services offer these kindergarten places before progressing to funded infrastructure solutions to meet demand. This commitment is reflected in the LGA and community level estimates below (**Table 2** onwards), which assume that demand will be met first through existing services and second through additional infrastructure. Note that in some cases the number of kindergarten places that can be offered through existing services may exceed demand for kindergarten places.

Table 1: Total estimated funded kindergarten places that can be offered by optimising existing services and infrastructure across the LGA, between 2021-29 (presented in 15-hour equivalent places)

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029
Estimated existing supply of kindergarten places*	1,176	1,190	1,245	1,245	1,245	1,245	1,245	1,245	1,245
Total three and four-year-old places that can be accommodated by optimising existing services**	1,487	1,506	1,563	1,563	1,563	1,563	1,563	1,563	1,563

*This may be higher than current three and four-year-old enrolments as it includes any spare places that are currently available or could be generated by making some minor adjustments to programming approaches.

**The likely expansion of services and kindergarten places in response to population growth (i.e. growth in demand not generated by the Three-Year-Old Kindergarten Reform that would likely occur) is not accounted for in these estimates.

4.5 AGREED ESTIMATES OF DEMAND FOR FUNDED KINDERGARTEN PLACES THAT CANNOT BE MET THROUGH EXISTING SERVICES AND INFRASTRUCTURE

The below estimates (**Table 2** onwards) have been developed by the Baw Baw Shire Council and the Department to illustrate the estimated:

1. Total number of Three and Four-Year-Old Kindergarten places expected over the roll-out period.

2. Three and Four-Year-Old Kindergarten places that cannot be accommodated by optimising existing services and infrastructure over the roll-out period.

These estimates have been developed to reflect that the increase in demand for Three-Year-Old Kindergarten places will be gradual.

In estimating how many Three and Four-Year-Old Kindergarten places cannot be accommodated by existing services and infrastructure, the Baw Baw Shire Council and the Department have taken into account any new places that will be made available through planned expansions of existing services or new services, into estimates of existing supply, where this information is available. This may include Local Government owned services being developed and planned Kindergartens on School Sites.

These estimates do not, however, estimate how and when the broader sector will expand to meet the additional demand for kindergarten places that are estimated over the roll-out period.

Infrastructure need in the LGA and its local communities is indicated by the bottom rows of the tables in this section (**Table 2** onwards): 'Total kindergarten places that cannot be accommodated by existing services'. For example, if the number of kindergarten places for the LGA or a community is above zero in this row, it means that the area is estimated to need additional infrastructure (noting that further optimisation which avoids the need for additional infrastructure may be possible). Any type of provider – Local Government, not-for-profit or for-profit – can build this additional infrastructure. If this row shows all zeros, it means that there is no estimated need for additional infrastructure in the area.

Local Government and not-for-profit kindergarten providers must refer to the estimates in this section when applying through the Building Blocks Capacity Building Grants stream for Government funding. Under this stream, projects must be in a community where there is infrastructure need as shown in the community's table of estimated demand for kindergarten places (i.e. there are numbers in the bottom row above zero). Projects in LGAs or communities where demand can be met through existing services (i.e. the bottom row shows all zeros) are not eligible for funding under this stream.

LGA estimates

Table 2: Estimated three and four-year-old kindergarten places between 2021-29 (presented in 15-hour equivalent places)

LGA level estimates	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029
Total estimated demand for kindergarten places (three and four-year-old children)	747	918	1,035	1,137	1,220	1,355	1,435	1,519	1,626
Total kindergarten places that cannot be accommodated by existing services	-	-	-	-	6	60	94	129	173

Community estimates

**Table 3-6: Estimated three and four-year-old kindergarten places between 2021-29
(presented in 15-hour equivalent places)**

Drouin estimates	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029
Total estimated demand for kindergarten places (three and four-year-old children)	255	320	366	406	440	494	527	563	607
Total kindergarten places that cannot be accommodated by existing services	0	0	0	0	6	60	94	129	173

Mount Baw Baw Region estimates	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029
Total estimated demand for kindergarten places (three and four-year-old children)	40	53	61	67	72	80	84	88	94
Total kindergarten places that cannot be accommodated by existing services	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Trafalgar estimates	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029
Total estimated demand for kindergarten places (three and four-year-old children)	132	157	173	185	195	211	220	229	240
Total kindergarten places that cannot be accommodated by existing services	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Warragul estimates	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029
Total estimated demand for kindergarten places (three and four-year-old children)	320	388	436	479	513	569	604	640	685
Total kindergarten places that cannot be accommodated by existing services	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

5. AUTHORISATION

The Area Executive Director (Inner Gippsland) of the Department of Education and Training and the Chief Executive of Baw Baw Shire Council endorse this Kindergarten Services and Infrastructure Plan (KISP) for Baw Baw Shire by signing on 18 December 2020 at 3:04 PM AEDT

This KISP is not intended to create legal relations or constitute a legally binding contractual agreement between the parties. The parties may review this KISP in 2024 to publish a new version that will replace the previous version.

An out-of-cycle review may be triggered if both parties agree that there has been a change in relevant data, information or the local early childhood sector that significantly affects the reliability of a KISP's estimates for planning purposes.

Signed for and on behalf and with the authority of Baw Baw Shire Council

DocuSigned by:
Mark Dupe
.....
CC5C7FF5BC8144E.....

Signature

Name: Mark Dupe

Title: Chief Executive Officer

Address: PO Box 304, Warragul, Vic, 3820

DocuSigned by:
Chelsea Cooper
.....
1F1D684911C0459.....

Witness Signature

Signed by Area Executive Director (Inner Gippsland), Department of Education and Training

A. Eastcott
.....

Signature

Name: Andrew Eastcott

Title: Area Executive Director (Inner Gippsland)

Address: Cnr Kirk & Haigh Sts, Moe, Vic, 3825

Erin Davidson
.....

Witness Signature