

New Residents' Kit **Fact Sheet**



Family and Children's Services

The Baw Baw Shire Family and Children's Services centre is located at 144 Normanby Street, Warragul. Services offered include:

Maternal Child and Family Health Service

The Maternal Child and Family Health Service provides free, confidential specialist nursing, lactation, health and development checks and support services to parents with infants and young children.

Nurses make contact with families within five days of their child's birth to arrange a first visit at home. Further consultations will be at the Maternal Child and Family Health Centre.

Families can attend a centre as often as they feel is necessary. It is recommended that children attend key age and stage assessments at:

- Two, four and eight weeks.
- Four, eight, 12 and 18 months.
- Two and three and a half years of age.

New Parent Groups

The new parent group program provides opportunities for new parents to come together to share experiences and develop supportive networks. New parent groups are held in Drouin, Warragul and Trafalgar, and usually run for six weeks.

Family Day Care

Baw Baw Family Day Care is an approved form of childcare that is provided in the family day care educator's home. Educators work with small groups of no more than four children under school age.

Children can also receive care before and after school or kindergarten, outside regular hours or overnight. Parents may be eligible for Federal Government Child Care Benefits and Rebate subsidies.



Supported Playgroups

This program provides quality play opportunities at a critical time in a child's development (0–4 years). These opportunities foster children's language development, develop motor skills, expose children to sensory experiences and enhance social skills.

Preschool Field Officer Service

The role of the Preschool Field Officer is to provide support to kindergarten teachers and families of children with additional needs, to ensure the child is able to fully participate in a kindergarten program in the year before they attend school.

Central Kindergarten Enrolments

Application forms for a place in community-based Baw Baw kindergartens must be submitted to Baw Baw Shire Council. Forms are available on the Baw Baw Shire Council website, at Customer Service Centres in Warragul and Drouin or from the Family and Children's Services centre.

Applications for enrolment into three and four year old kindergarten are accepted from a child's second birthday.

Baby Capsule Hire

The baby capsule program provides regulation-compliant infant restraint (capsule) hire. Baw Baw residents can hire baby capsules for babies from birth to six months of age. The capsules are clean and fully sanitised and include all accessories for safe installation.

For more information about any of the services listed here, please contact the Family and Children's Services team on 5624 2540.

If you would like to subscribe to the Family and Children's Services quarterly newsletter, please [send an email to Family and Children's Services](#).