

Some children need a little more help to settle into and participate in kindergarten programs.

Our Preschool Field Officer is here to help.



## Who is eligible for the service?

Children with additional needs who are going, or about to go to a kindergarten program funded by the Victorian Government, can access the Preschool Field Officer service. This includes Early Start Kindergarten children.

This service is funded by Baw Baw Shire Council and the Victorian Government and is free for families.



*Baw Baw Shire Council is committed to providing and actively promoting a safe environment for children.*

*We acknowledge that children's safety is a whole of community responsibility and is everyone's business.*

## Need more information? We're here to help!

For more information about the Preschool Field Officer service please call 5624 2540 or visit [www.bawbawshire.vic.ov.au](http://www.bawbawshire.vic.ov.au)

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## Preschool Field Officer Service

Supporting children with additional needs to enjoy their kindergarten experience.





## Who is a Preschool Field Officer?

A Preschool Field Officer is a person qualified in early childhood development and education, who has experience working with children who have additional needs.

## What do they do?

They provide advice, guidance and information to kindergarten teachers to assist in the provision of inclusive programs for all children. This may involve direct contact with parents and children within the kindergarten. This work is done with and through a child's teacher, respecting the existing relationship they have with the family.

## How does the service work?

The Preschool Field Officer will visit a child's kindergarten to discuss their needs.

With parental permission, they may also speak to other involved services regarding a child's development and learning (for example a speech therapist or paediatrician). This will help the PSFO to inform the kindergarten teacher of ways they can meet the child's needs.

## What help do they give to kindergarten teachers?

- Support around children starting kindergarten or school.
- Guidance with individual or groups of children.
- Provides ideas to help children have fun and learn.

## They do this by:

- Observing the child in play.
- Screening the child's development.
- Taking part in meetings with parents held by their child's kindergarten teacher.
- Giving support and information to teachers to help them meet the needs of child and family.

