

## **PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM**

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The Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority (VCAA) provides the curriculum for Kindergarten to Year 10. The Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE) is available to students who successfully complete years 11 and 12 in Victoria, predominantly a choice for students wishing to pursue a tertiary education. VCAA supports student needs and interests with a variety of courses in a range of learning areas. The Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning (VCAL) is a “hands on” option for students in Years 11 and 12 and it is delivered under the VCAA.

The school year begins late-January/early-February. Children can be enrolled in kindergarten at the beginning of the school year if they turn 5 on or before 30 April of that year. They must be enrolled by their sixth birthday. State schools are free to attend for Australian citizens and permanent residents, a fee is levied for others (see below).

State school enrollments are based on the suburb of residence, often referred to as the ‘catchment’. So the enrolment process for state school can be commenced only after securing a property, according to eligibility criteria. Most Victorian Government schools have specific local enrolment catchment areas. These schools ensure that there are enough places for students who reside in their local enrolment area. School enrolment can be arranged throughout the year.

## **TEMPORARY RESIDENTS PROGRAM – FOR TEMPORARY VISA HOLDERS ENROLLING WITH A STATE SCHOOL**

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The Victorian Temporary Residents Program provides advice and support for the enrolment of temporary residents in Victorian government schools. The program accepts enrolment in primary school and high school from Kindergarten to Year 12. This is the enrolment form for fees and enrolment in a state school in Victoria:

[Enrolment Form VIC](#)

There are currently no tuition fees for dependents on a temporary or permanent visa holders other than the normal costs of uniform and resources. It can be difficult to enroll temporary visa holder children into state schools due to a surge in local enrolments even if the family can show proof of residence in that school zone. There is a policy of prioritizing the enrolment of Australian-born or permanent residency students. Schools close to capacity may refer temporary visa holders to nearby state schools.

Documents generally required (additional documents may also be required):

- ✓ The child's birth certificate or identity documents
- ✓ Parent/carer's details
- ✓ Residency status or visa number (if applicable)
- ✓ Passport, travel documents, or current visa (if applicable)
- ✓ Australian childhood immunization register or immunization history statement
- ✓ Proof of residential address, a 12 month lease (or council rates if a homeowner), utility bill
- ✓ Medicare number if available
- ✓ Medical details and health conditions
- ✓ Doctor's details
- ✓ Emergency contact details
- ✓ Family law or court orders (if applicable)
- ✓ Documents associated with any disability or other support needs, including any learning and support plans (if applicable)

### SCHOOL TERM DATES

| 2025 School Term Dates | From       | To           |
|------------------------|------------|--------------|
| <b>Term 1</b>          | 29 January | 4 April      |
| <b>Term 2</b>          | 22 April   | 4 July       |
| <b>Term 3</b>          | 21 July    | 19 September |
| <b>Term 4</b>          | 6 October  | 19 December  |

### EARLY CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION

The Victorian Department of Education regulates early childhood education and care. It assesses providers against the [National Quality Standard](#) and gives them a [quality rating](#). The department also offers help on what to look for when choosing a quality service provider.

The Victorian Government's Parenting and [Family Support Guide](#) provides information, support services and guides for parents and carers in NSW to help their child get the best start in life. If you are looking for early childhood education and care, we can help you find a provider near your home, workplace or other location

| Average Cost Per Day | Age                |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| <b>\$150</b>         | Baby under 2 years |
| <b>\$140</b>         | 2 to 3 year old    |
| <b>\$135</b>         | 3 to 5 year old    |

### PRIVATE SCHOOL SYSTEM

Private schools in Victorian include Catholic schools, independent schools, non-denominational (no religious affiliation) and other religion-based and operated schools. The cost of private schooling varies considerably depending on the curriculum and facilities offered. School recommendations can be offered based on academic and curriculum criteria. There is generally strict admittance criteria.

Fees will vary from school to school, the fees below are an average, per child, per year

| Kindergarten to Year 6      | Year 7 to Year 12   |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|
| <b>\$26,000 to \$33,000</b> | \$39,00 to \$42,000 |

In most instances Catholic Schools have lesser fees than the above, mostly between \$8,000 and \$10,000 per child, per annum.

In addition to yearly fees there may also be fees such as:

- A non-refundable Application Fee of \$300
- A non-refundable Enrolment Fee of \$4,000