

Expressions of interest to trial Universal Pre-Kindergarten pilot

Universal pre-Kindergarten 2023 pilot features - Part 2

This is a **sample** application design to guide services in completing the SmartyGrants Expression of Interest for Universal pre-Kindergarten pilots.

All fields in the section below have been completed as an example. However, services are **only required to provide a written response for the Features they wish to test** during the pilots.

* indicates a required field

Feature 1 - Transition to school

Transition to school (up to \$1,500 per service)

Transition to school funding can be spent on:

- professional learning to build the capability of early childhood teachers and educators supporting children's transition to school
- collaboration and coordination activities between community partners, including peak bodies, schools, libraries and play groups
- delivery of quality, evidence-based targeted transition programs for children and families.

In 200 words or less please outline your proposal for how your service could implement transition to school funding *

To support children's successful transitions and to build community connections, our centre is interested in partnering with our local school to create a tailored Webinar for children and families and to host a number of transition-related events.

- We will invite the local school principal to an information sharing session for families whose children will be transitioning to Kindy next year. We will record and edit this footage to share on StoryPark for families who can't attend the evening and for others to revisit.
- A morning tea will be hosted by us at the local public school for preschool children from our centre, each Monday morning during the month of August. Children and families will be invited to spend time on school grounds and to start building relationships with the school community.
- Hosting year 6 children to attend a group time to share their experience of Kindy.

Word count:

Must be no more than 200 words.

Feature 2 - Increased attendance beyond 600 hours per year or 15 hours per week

Increased attendance of children in the year before school (up to \$1,200 - \$3,200 per approved place)

Services need to:

- have existing licensed spaces for children within their preschool classroom.

Expressions of interest to trial Universal pre-Kindergarten pilot

Sample Application

- have adequate space and facilities to support increased enrolments in 2023.
- ensure that children who are not eligible for funding are not excluded from accessing a preschool program with their peers.
- Services engaging in this feature may require approvals from the local council under the relevant Development Control Plan (DCP). This would then require submission of the change (notification) to the NSW Regulatory Authority.
- Eligible applicants should not submit any application to amend service approval or notification to the NSW Regulatory Authority until they have been successful in their EOI and design discussions are finalised.

In 200 words or less please outline your proposal for how your service could increase attendance beyond 600 hours per year or 15 hours per week *

Our preschool room has up to five vacancies per day across the week. We currently have enrolled a significant number of children who will be turning 4 in the coming months. We have spoken to families about their care needs, and we have determined that with the correct resourcing we do have the demand for the spaces.

This funding would allow us to increase the number of days for many families without increasing their financial burden while we fill our current vacant positions.

With the correct staffing we would be able to offer:

- Four places each Monday
- 2 places each Tuesday
- Five places each Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.

Staffing:

- For us to be able to increase the number of children in our preschool room we will need to employ a part time educator for 7.5hrs a day Wednesday to Friday so we can cover ratios and meet our staffing requirements under the National Quality Framework.
- We are also requesting 1hr non-contact time per child, increasing their hours, to enable teachers and educators to meet with families and to plan for a supportive and successful transition for children.

Word count:

Must be no more than 200 words.

Please confirm the service agrees to the following requirements. *

- ✓ I confirm the service is committed to not displacing children during pilots (for example, proposes appropriate strategies to avoid displacement) if selecting to trial the feature 'increased attendance beyond 600 hours per year or 15 hours per week'.
- ✓ I confirm the service has adequate space, facilities and licensed places to support any increased enrolments in 2023 if selecting to trial the feature 'increased attendance beyond 600 hours per year or 15 hours per week'.

Feature 3 - Extending the hours of operation beyond 7.5 hours

Extending the hours of operation beyond 7.5 hours (up to \$250,000 per service)

Services need to:

- have adequate space, facilities and approved places under the National Quality Framework (NQF) to support the extension in the hours of operation in 2023.
- continue to operate under the expectation of the National Quality Framework (NQF) and maintain service quality.
- develop a comprehensive risk assessment.

Expressions of interest to trial Universal pre-Kindergarten pilot

Sample Application

- submit a notification to change to new, extended hours of operation via the NQAITS public portal.
- submit an amended Development Application with their notification of change to operating hours to the NSW Regulatory Authority. Eligible applicants should not submit any application to amend service approval or notification to the NSW Regulatory Authority until they have been successful in their EOI application and design discussions are finalised.
- have adequate space, facilities and approved places under National Quality Framework (NQF) to support increased enrolments in 2023.
- ensure that children who are not eligible for funding are not excluded from accessing a preschool program with their peers.
- any application decision would be subject to the relevant approvals from the NSW Regulatory Authority or relevant local government or planning decision-making body.
- Eligible applicants should not submit any application to amend service approval or notification to the NSW Regulatory Authority until they have been successful in their EOI, and design discussions are finalised.

Expressions of interest to trial Universal pre-Kindergarten pilot

Sample Application

In 200 words or less please outline your proposal for how your service could extend the hours of operation beyond 7.5 hours *

Word count:

We are a small 20 place community-based preschool located in Kempsey. Our preschool is recognised as an integral part of the community playing a significant role in the early education of generations of families in the community. Over the past 24 months, we have had many families requesting more hours of care. In response to this need, our preschool is interested in working with the Department of Education and our adjoining Before and After School Care service to extend our hours of operation from 8am to 3pm to 8am to 4.30pm.

As part of the design process to extend our hours of operation, we need to consider:

Additional staffing:

- Additional administrative support to help with: planning and rostering, responding to family enquiries, submitting a notification to extended hours of operation, submitting an amended Development Application with the notification of change to operating hours to the NSW Regulatory Authority
- Extra educators to cover ratios and planning for 3hrs, and an additional 3hrs in the afternoon and meeting times with families to develop plans to support children.

Activities:

- Stakeholder meetings
- Promotional materials to alert families and local play-groups
- Identifying and purchasing resources and equipment.

Must be no more than 200 words.

Does your service have adequate space, facilities and licensed places to support any increased enrolments in 2023? *

- Yes
- No

Feature 4.1 - Making universal pre-Kindergarten work for every child: Best practices for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in the year before school

Making universal pre-Kindergarten work for every child (between \$10,000 - \$100,000)

Examples of ways in which this funding can be spent include:

- educational programs or resources
- staffing costs
- community and stakeholder engagement
- incursions and/or excursions.

This can include existing good practice that can be extended through this funding.

In 200 words or less please outline your proposal for how your service will implement best practices approaches to engage Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in the year before school *

Our centre has worked hard to build trusting partnerships with First Nations organisations and elders in our local community. With their guidance, we have been able to embed many First Nations' ways of knowing being and doing into our educational program. To allow us to continue offering children and families culturally safe and rich spaces, we wish to use this

Expressions of interest to trial Universal pre-Kindergarten pilot

Sample Application

funding to work with a local elder to work with our community and incorporate local indigenous languages into our educational program.

This funding will be used for:

- First Nations language resources for children, families, and educators
- Community events
- First Nations led local language sessions for educators
- First Nations led local language experiences with children
- Native garden at the front of our service for the community to be able to see and engage with signage in First Nations local language, highlighting the names and properties of the plants

Additional Staffing:

- An Aboriginal Community Liaison Officer would be required to support community events and to regularly engage with local families to promote enrolment, and attendance and to ensure the service continues to meet the needs of children and families.

Word count:

Must be no more than 200 words.

Feature 4.2 - Making universal pre-Kindergarten work for every child: Best practices for culturally and linguistically diverse children in the year before school

Making universal pre-Kindergarten work for every child (between \$10,000 - \$100,000)

Examples of ways in which this funding can be spent include:

- educational programs or resources
- staffing costs
- community and stakeholder engagement
- incursions and/or excursions.

This can include existing good practice that can be extended through this funding.

Expressions of interest to trial Universal pre-Kindergarten pilot

Sample Application

In 200 words or less please outline your proposal for how your service will implement best practices approaches to engage culturally and linguistically diverse children in the year before school *

We are a 76-place long daycare centre located within the Mount Druitt region. Many of the children, families and staff at our service are culturally and linguistically diverse. We are proud that our centre has created an environment where children and families feel a sense of belonging and feel safe to share about their cultures, and this has been a core and consistent part of our educational program.

Our entire team have completed cultural competence training and all new team members are required to complete training during their probation as part of their induction. We would like to use funds to continue providing our staff with cultural competence training, as we recognise the positive impact this training has had on our service.

As part of our self-assessment process, we identified language as a barrier for families to feel included, connected and culturally safe. We have since added new signage across the centre and adapted key policies and procedures in multiple languages and texts. We are applying for this funding so that we can extend these strategies and have critical information for families (such as orientation materials, content on website and more) translated into the main languages spoken at the center.

Word count:

Must be no more than 200 words.

Feature 4.3 - Making universal pre-Kindergarten work for every child: Best practices for children with disability and/or additional needs in the year before school

Making universal pre-Kindergarten work for every child (between \$10,000 - \$100,000)

Examples of ways in which this funding can be spent include:

- educational programs or resources
- staffing costs
- community and stakeholder engagement
- incursions and/or excursions.

This can include existing good practice that can be extended through this funding.

Creating inclusive spaces for learning has been a key focus for our mobile preschool while we have been supporting regional communities with accessing high quality early childhood education. For us to continue to support children in regional NSW, our mobile preschool is seeking funding to enable us to update our teaching resources and equipment so that we can continue meeting children's sensory needs and respond to their individual learning and developmental needs. To achieve this, we want to work with an occupation therapist (OT) located in Wagga Wagga.

The OT will work with us to identify and build our portable sensory kits and collaborate with our mobile preschool educators to develop inclusive practices resource packs that highlights key strategies and supports to use the equipment and resources effectively.

Staffing requirements:

Expressions of interest to trial Universal pre-Kindergarten pilot

Sample Application

- 8hrs Occupational Therapist:
 - o 2hrs consultation with staff
 - o children and families
 - o 2hrs to design and purchase resource for kits
 - o 2hrs to develop resources packs 2hrs to train staff
- 6hrs off the floor for an ECT to work with a train with OT

The resources may include:

- Tents
- Sensory toys
- Blankets and cushions
- Therapy balls
- Noise reduction earmuffs.

In 200 words or less please outline your proposal for how your service will implement best practices approaches to engage children with disability and/or additional needs in the year before school *

Word count:

Must be no more than 200 words.

Feature 4.4 - Making universal pre-Kindergarten work for every child: Best practices for gifted children in the year before school

Best practices for gifted children in the year before school (between \$10,000 - \$100,000)

Examples of ways in which this funding can be spent include:

- educational programs or resources
- staffing costs
- community and stakeholder engagement
- incursions and/or excursions.

This can include existing good practice that can be extended through this funding.

In 200 words or less please outline your proposal for how your service will implement best practices approaches to engage gifted children in the year before school *

Our service is seeking funding for our team which supports the learning and development of 40 preschool children each week to access funding for professional development. Our current team consists of 3 educators and 1 ECT. The children in each of our groups across the week have a broad range of skills, abilities and experiences. Our team of passionate and experienced pedagogues have been working to further develop their own skills around gifted learners and to adapt our educational program to offer varying levels of challenge. To help us with enhancing and extending the learning of gifted learners in the year before school, we intend to use this funding to purchase a series of webinars focused on improving the learning and developmental outcomes for children. This investment will also help build the capacity of our preschool teaching team and to work collaboratively with Gifted and Talented association XYZ by enabling us to develop effective strategies and tools for how we can best assess and respond to the learning of a gifted child.

Expressions of interest to trial Universal pre-Kindergarten pilot

Sample Application

Word count:

Must be no more than 200 words.

Feature 5: Implementing the Early Years Learning Framework in a pre-Kindergarten context

Implementing the Early Years Learning Framework in a pre-Kindergarten context (up to \$10,000 per service)

This funding can be used to cover:

- educational resources or professional learning required to implement the Early Years Learning Framework for children attending the service for more than 15 hours per week.
- identifying and sharing high-quality existing practice that is in place to support children to access a high-quality educational program for more hours per week with consideration of the impact the varying attendance patterns of children from 1 to 5 days per week may have on the quality and delivery of the program.
- identifying, sharing and/or trialing elements of a high-quality educational program that can demonstrate a positive impact on children's learning and developmental outcomes.

In 200 words or less please outline your proposal for how your service could implement best practice for implementing the Early Years Learning Framework in a pre-Kindergarten context *

We are a small standalone centre with 25 preschool children each day. Since first being assessed in 2013 we have consistently rated exceeding in Quality area 1. We are seeking funding for a number of endeavours that will help us implement the EYLF in a pre-Kindergarten context and ensure that our educational program and our environments are stimulating, engaging and enhances children's learning and development.

- A. With our preschool teaching team, we want to plan weekly 1-hour reflective practice meetings focused on improving the learning and developmental outcomes for children through identifying, reflecting and improving our best practice approaches to support each child to reach their potential. We are also interested in understanding how we can support children to be successful through increased attendance and continued implementation of the EYLF principles and practices. To achieve this, we will need back fill for 1 ECT and 1 CERT III to be off the floor every week for 1hr.
- B. We wish to hold several ongoing incursions across the year aimed at enhancing the educational program through the use of expert educators. This incursion will focus on a broad range of subjects including music, art, science, nature play, dance.

Word count:

Must be no more than 200 words.

Applicant's Declaration

* indicates a required field

By submitting this application, I agree with the below:

*

- ✓ I confirm the service will keep evidence of expenditure as part of the acquittal process.
- ✓ I confirm that the information provided is complete, correct and accurate.

Expressions of interest to trial Universal pre-Kindergarten pilot Sample Application

- ✓ I confirm that I have read and understood the universal pre-Kindergarten Pilot Guidelines.
 - ✓ I confirm that I am authorised to submit the application form on behalf of the service.
- At least 4 choices must be selected.

Sample