

# Mid-year intake to preschool and school common questions

The South Australian Government is introducing a mid-year intake into preschool and school.

## 1. What is mid-year intake?

A mid-year intake will allow parents to enrol students born in the middle of the year in preschool and school at a time that is more appropriate to their age and their stage of development.

The commitment for a mid-year intake in preschool gives families earlier access to high quality educational programs for their child.

## 2. When will mid-year intake commence in preschools?

The mid-year intakes will begin for preschool from 2023 and for Reception from 2024.

This means for 2023, children who turn 4 years of age:

- **Before** 1 May continue to start preschool at the beginning of the year.
- **From** 1 May to 31 October start preschool, day 1, term 3 of the year.
- **After** 31 October start preschool at the beginning of the following year.

## 3. When will mid-year intake commence in schools?

The mid-year intake for students starting school commences in 2024.

## 4. How many terms of preschool will each child have?

All preschool children will continue to receive 600 hours of preschool across 4 terms, regardless of whether they start at the beginning of the year, or through the mid-year intake.

For example:

- Children starting preschool at the beginning of 2023 - undertake term 1 to 4, 2023.
- Children starting preschool in term 3, 2023 - undertake term 3, 4 2023 and term 1, 2 2024.

## 5. How many terms of Reception will each child have?

Students who start school at the beginning of the year will continue to progress through 4 terms of Reception.

Students who start school through a mid-year intake will complete 6 terms of Reception. For example:



- Children starting school at the beginning of 2024 - undertake Reception term 1 to 4, 2024. Beginning year 1, 2025.
- Children starting school in term 3, 2024 - undertake Reception term 3 & 4, 2024 and Reception term 1-4, 2025. These students begin year 1 in 2026.

#### **6. How will children with additional needs be supported?**

For children with additional needs, preschools and families should discuss and agree the preschool and school starting time that best suits the child's needs.

#### **7. When can families register their interest in the preschool mid-year intake for 2023?**

Families will be invited to submit a registration of interest form for the preschool mid-year intake in the same way they register for preschool currently. This means they can use the department's existing preschool registration of interest form. Further information about the timing will be available soon. Any forms submitted early should be accepted.

#### **8. Where can families get more information?**

The department's website has key information for families [starting preschool](#) and [starting school](#). These pages will be continually updated as we roll out the mid-year intakes and more information becomes available.

#### **9. Who is leading this work?**

A Mid-Year Intake Implementation Team is being established in the Department for Education. The team will lead all aspects of planning and implementation of the mid-year intake for preschools and schools.

#### **10. What about the commitment to preschool for three-year olds?**

Preschool for three-year olds is separate to mid-year intake and is part of The Best Start for Every Child Royal Commission.