



# Access to Early Learning professional

## Helping children from families with complex needs to participate in a quality three-year-old kindergarten program.

Access to Early Learning (AEL) is an early intervention program that helps young children to take part in early childhood education and care programs.

AEL is a targeted program for three-year-old children from families with complex needs. It aims to make sure that these three-year-old children get the full benefits of attending a quality kindergarten program.

Families referred to AEL have complex needs that can affect children regularly attending kindergarten programs. AEL gives these families extra support to help enable regular attendance and access to 15 hours per week of free kindergarten.

Facilitators also work with families in their homes to explore learning activities they can do with their children.

### AEL facilitators:

- help children to access 15 hours per week of quality Three-Year-Old Kindergarten programs for free or at low cost
- help families to find ways to support children to attend kindergarten regularly
- visit families at home to help parents and carers with activities to build on what their child is learning at kindergarten
- provide mentoring and professional learning for kindergarten program educators.

### AEL benefits both families and early childhood educators by:

- making sure children who would benefit the most can take part in early childhood education and care
- helping families to better understand their child's learning and development. This means families are more confident and better able to respond to their child's needs
- improving educators' knowledge of how to help priority children and families to fully engage with early childhood education, and other support services.

**For eligibility and program guidelines and other information about the support, please visit the website here:**

**Access to Early Learning | [vic.gov.au](http://vic.gov.au) ([www.vic.gov.au](http://www.vic.gov.au))**