

FEES POLICY

Mandatory – Quality Area 7

PURPOSE

This policy will provide clear guidelines for:

- the setting, payment and collection of fees
- ensuring the viability of Heathmont East Preschool, by setting appropriate fees and charges
- the equitable and non-discriminatory application of fees across the programs provided by Heathmont East Preschool.

POLICY STATEMENT

1. VALUES

Heathmont East Preschool is committed to:

- providing responsible financial management of the service, including establishing fees that will result in a financially viable service, while keeping user fees at the lowest possible level
- providing a fair and manageable system for dealing with non-payment and/or inability to pay fees/outstanding debts
- ensuring there are no financial barriers for families wishing to access an early childhood program for their child/children
- maintaining confidentiality in relation to the financial circumstances of parents/guardians
- advising users of the service about program funding, including government support and fees to be paid by parents/guardians
- providing equitable access for families eligible for the Kindergarten Fee Subsidy.

2. SCOPE

This policy applies to the Approved Provider, Person with Management and Control, Nominated Supervisor, Person in Day-to-Day Charge, educators and parents/guardians with an enrolled child, or who wish to enrol a child at Heathmont East Preschool.

3. BACKGROUND AND LEGISLATION

Background

The Department of Education and Training (DET) provides funding for each child who is enrolled and attending a funded kindergarten program in the year before school. Income from other sources, primarily fees, is required to meet all the additional costs incurred by the service in the delivery of the children's program. In addition, the Kindergarten Fee Subsidy (refer to *Definitions*) enables eligible children to attend a funded kindergarten program free of charge in the year before school.

DET also funds Early Start Kindergarten for three-year-old Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children, and children known to Child Protection, to access kindergarten programs as outlined in *The Kindergarten Funding Guide* (refer to *Sources*).

Regulation 168(2) (n) of *Education and Care Services National Regulations 2011* requires that funded services have a comprehensive written fees policy, and the content of this policy must be communicated to families. The policy must include a written statement about the fees to be charged, and the payment process. All families must be informed of applicable term and annual fees at the time of enrolment. Services must also advise eligible families of the Kindergarten Fee Subsidy arrangements. The fees charged must comply with the *Kindergarten Fee Subsidy* (refer to *Definitions*), and be responsive to the local community and the viability of the service. *The Kindergarten Funding Guide* (refer to *Sources*) outlines the criteria to be covered in the policy.

Legislation and standards

Relevant legislation and standards include but are not limited to:

- *Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities 2006* (Vic)
- *Child Wellbeing and Safety Act 2005* (Vic)
- *Disability Discrimination Act 1992* (Cth)
- *Education and Care Services National Law Act 2010*
- *Education and Care Services National Regulations 2011: Regulation 168(2)(n)*
- *Equal Opportunity Act 1995* (Vic)
- *National Quality Standard*, including Quality Area 7: Governance and Leadership

4. DEFINITIONS

The terms defined in this section relate specifically to this policy. For commonly used terms e.g. Approved Provider, Nominated Supervisor, Regulatory Authority etc. refer to the *General Definitions* section of this manual.

Approved child care: Approved child care services are services that have Australian Government approval to receive the Child Care Subsidy (refer to Definitions) on behalf of eligible parents. Approved child care includes centre based day care, including long day care and occasional care, family day care, outside school hours care and in home care.

Child Care Subsidy (CCS): A Commonwealth Government means tested subsidy to assist eligible families with the cost of child care. Payments are paid directly to approved child care providers. Further information can be found at: <https://www.education.gov.au/child-care-subsidy-0>

Early Start Kindergarten: A funding program that enables three-year-old Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children, and children known to Child Protection to attend a kindergarten program that is planned and delivered by an early childhood teacher for up to 15 hours per week. Details are available at: www.education.vic.gov.au

Enrolment application fee: A payment to cover administrative costs associated with the processing of a child's enrolment application for a place in a program at the service.

Excursion/service event charge: An additional charge required to meet the cost of special events or excursions that occur in response to emerging children's program needs. Events that are planned ahead and are included as an expenditure item in the service's budget do not incur this additional charge (refer to *Excursions and Service Events Policy*).

Fees: A charge for a place within a program at the service.

Health Care Card: A Commonwealth Government entitlement providing concessions for low-income earners and other eligible people. Details are available at: www.humanservices.gov.au

Kindergarten fee deposit: A charge to secure a place that has been offered in a program at the service. This is deducted from term fees.

Kindergarten Fee Subsidy (KFS): A state government subsidy paid in addition to per capita grants to subsidise the costs of parent fees and enable eligible children to attend a funded 4-year old kindergarten for 15 hours free of charge or a funded 3-year old kindergarten for 5 hours free of charge (*The Kindergarten Funding Guide* (refer to *Sources*)).

Late collection charge: A charge that may be imposed by the Approved Provider when parents/guardians are late to collect their child/children from the program (refer to Attachment 1 – Fee information for families).

Voluntary parent/guardian contribution: A voluntary payment for items not directly related to the provision of the children's program. Attendance at the service is not conditional on this payment.

5. SOURCES AND RELATED POLICIES

Sources

- *The Kindergarten Funding Guide (Department of Education and Training):*
www.education.vic.gov.au
- The constitution of Heathmont East Preschool

Service policies

- *Complaints and Grievances Policy*
- *Delivery and Collection of Children Policy*
- *Enrolment and Orientation Policy*
- *Excursions and Service Events Policy*
- *Inclusion and Equity Policy*
- *Privacy and Confidentiality Policy*

PROCEDURES

The Approved Provider and Person with Management and Control are responsible for:

- reviewing the current budget to determine fee income requirements
- developing a fee policy that balances the parent's/guardian's capacity to pay, with providing a high-quality program and maintaining service viability
- implementing and reviewing this policy in consultation with parents/guardians, the Nominated Supervisor and staff, and in line with the requirements of DET's *The Kindergarten Funding Guide* (refer to *Sources*)
- considering any issues regarding fees that may be a barrier to families enrolling at Heathmont East Preschool and removing those barriers wherever possible
- reviewing the effectiveness of the procedures for late payment and support offered
- considering options for payment when affordability is an issue for families
- clearly communicating this policy and payment options to families in a culturally-sensitive way, and in the family's first language where possible
- ensuring that the *Fees Policy* is readily accessible at the service (Regulation 171)
- providing all parents/guardians with fee information (refer to Attachment 1)
- providing all parents/guardians with a statement of fees and charges (refer to samples in Attachments 2, 3 and 4) upon enrolment of their child
- providing all parents/guardians with a fee payment agreement (refer to samples in Attachments 5, 6 and 7)
- ensuring fees are collected and receipted
- collecting all relevant information and maintaining relevant documentation regarding those with entitlement to concessions, where applicable
- complying with the service's *Privacy and Confidentiality Policy* regarding financial and other information received, including in relation to the payment/non-payment of fees
- notifying parents/guardians a minimum of 14 days of any proposed changes to the fees charged or the way in which the fees are collected (Regulation 172(2)), and ideally providing one term's notice.

The Nominated Supervisor and Person in Day-to-Day Charge is responsible for:

- assisting the Approved Provider in developing this policy, and ensuring that this policy is based on the *Kindergarten Funding Guide* (refer to *Definitions*)
- implementing and reviewing this policy, in consultation with parents/guardians, the Approved Provider and staff, and in line with the requirements of DET's *The Kindergarten Funding Guide* (refer to *Sources*)
- considering any issues regarding fees that may be a barrier to families enrolling at Heathmont East Preschool and removing those barriers wherever possible

- considering options for payment when affordability is an issue for families
- communicating this policy, the availability of the Kindergarten Fee Subsidy and payment options to families in a culturally-sensitive way and in the family's first language where possible
- providing all parents/guardians with fee information (refer to Attachment 1)
- providing all parents/guardians with a statement of fees and charges (refer to samples in Attachments 2, 3 and 4) upon enrolment of their child, and ensuring that the *Fees Policy* is readily accessible at the service
- providing all parents/guardians with a fee payment agreement (refer to samples in Attachments 5, 6 & 7)
- collecting all relevant information and maintaining relevant documents regarding those with entitlement to concessions, where applicable
- complying with the service's *Privacy and Confidentiality Policy* regarding financial and other information received, including in relation to the payment/non-payment of fees
- notifying parents/guardians within 14 days of any proposed changes to the fees charged or the way in which the fees are collected.

All other staff are responsible for:

- informing the Approved Provider of any complaints or concerns that have been raised regarding fees at the service
- referring parents'/guardians' questions in relation to this policy to the Approved Provider.

Parents/guardians are responsible for:

- reading the Heathmont East Preschool Fee information for families (refer to Attachment 1), the Fee Payment Agreement (refer to Attachments 5, 6 and 7) and the Statement of Fees and Charges (refer to Attachments 2, 3 and 4)
- signing and complying with the Fee Payment Agreement (refer to Attachments 5, 6 and 7, where applicable)
- notifying the Approved Provider if experiencing difficulties with the payment of fees
- providing the required documentation to enable the service to claim the Kindergarten Fee Subsidy for eligible families (refer to Attachment 1 – Fee information for families).

EVALUATION

In order to assess whether the values and purposes of the policy have been achieved, the Approved Provider will:

- regularly seek feedback from everyone affected by the policy regarding its effectiveness, particularly in relation to affordability, flexibility of payment options and procedures for the collection of fees
- monitor the implementation, compliance, complaints and incidents in relation to this policy
- monitor the number of families/children excluded from the service because of their inability to pay fees
- keep the policy up to date with current legislation, research, policy and best practice
- revise the policy and procedures as part of the service's policy review cycle, or as required
- notify parents/guardians at least 14 days before making any changes to this policy or its procedures (Regulation 172(2)) unless a lesser period is necessary because of a risk.

ONLINE ENROLMENTS

- Heathmont East Preschool collects enrolment information via an online enrolment service provider, where the information in the attachments below may be embedded within the online forms. Where required, the attachments can be printed and used as paper forms if necessary.

ATTACHMENTS

- Attachment 1: Fee information for families
- Attachment 2: Statement of Fees and Charges – Fee schedule – Four-year-old (funded) kindergarten program
- Attachment 3: Statement of Fees and Charges – Fee schedule – Three-year-old (funded) kindergarten program
- Attachment 4: Statement of Fees and Charges – Fee schedule – Extended care
- Attachment 5: Fee Payment Agreement – Four-year-old (funded) kindergarten program
- Attachment 6: Fee Payment Agreement – Three-year-old (funded) kindergarten program
- Attachment 7: Fee Payment Agreement – Extended care program

AUTHORISATION

This policy was adopted by the Approved Provider of Heathmont East Preschool on 18 July 2018. New fees for 2019 were approved by Committee of Management on 15 August 2018 and fee structures in attachment 2 and 3 have been amended accordingly, then updated policy was approved by Committee of Management on 20 September 2018. In October 2019 fees for 2020 have been updated and the extended care fee has been added.

In 2021, the Victorian government provided additional funding so that Four-year old kindergarten was ultimately free for parents and no fees were charged. Heathmont East Preschool also voluntarily offered free Three-year old kindergarten in 2021, and did not charge fees. (Refer to *Fees Policy 2021*). For 2022, fees have been approved as stated in the attachment to this policy, with three-year old kindergarten now a government funded program in 2022 for the first time. The fees in this Policy have been agreed and approved in August 2021, and are subject to change if new government requirements for the newly funded three-year old program change.

REVIEW DATE: JULY 2022

ATTACHMENT 1 Fee information for families

Heathmont East Preschool 2022

1. General information

The Department of Education and Training (DET) provides funding for each child enrolled and attending kindergarten in the year before school as a contribution toward the costs of providing the program. Services meet the balance of costs through charging fees and fundraising activities.

In 2022 this is now the case also for the Three-year old program.

DET provides a Kindergarten Fee Subsidy (see below) that enables children from eligible families to attend a kindergarten program free of charge in the year before school.

DET also provides funding to assist eligible three-year-old Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children, and children known to Child Protection, to access kindergarten programs.

Heathmont East Preschool provides a range of support options to parents/guardians experiencing difficulty with payment of fees (see below).

2. How fees are set

As part of the budget development process, the Committee of Management sets fees each year for the programs of the service, taking into consideration:

- the financial viability of the service
- the level of government funding provided for the program, including the Kindergarten Fee Subsidy
- the availability of other income sources, such as grants
- the fees charged by similar services in the area
- the capacity of parents/guardians to pay fees
- reasonable expenditure in meeting agreed program quality and standards
- the cost that covers incursions into the Kinder during your child's regular kindergarten session
- requirements of *The Kindergarten Funding Guide* (Department of Education and Training) available from the DET website: www.education.vic.gov.au

Once fees are set for the year, they will only be reviewed in extraordinary circumstances, for example, if enrolments drop and the service is at risk of not being able to meet its expenses.

3. Other charges

Other charges levied by Heathmont East Preschool are included on the Statement of Fees and Charges. These include:

- **Excursion/service event charge:** This additional charge may be required to cover the cost of excursions or special events which do not take place at the kindergarten that occur throughout the year in response to emerging children's program needs and interests. Affordability and relevance to the children's interests and the service program will be taken into consideration before a decision is made that will require families to pay this additional charge (refer to *Excursions and Service Events Policy*).
- **Maintenance levy:** All families will need to pay a non-refundable maintenance levy. This levy will be used to do structural repairs, maintenance and some gardening. Working bees will still be necessary due to the amount of work required to maintain the facility and because the levies do not cover the entire expense. This levy is included in the fee amounts listed in the statements of fees (attachments 2 and 3).

- **Late collection charge:** The Committee of Management reserves the right to implement a late collection charge when parents/guardians are frequently late in collecting a child from the service. In these situations, the following procedures will apply:
 - The qualified staff member will inform the parents/guardian/carer that if it continues the Committee will be notified and the family will be charged a fee.
 - If after notification, the parents/guardians/carer is between 20 and 30 minutes late in collecting their child, a fee of \$5 for every 10 minutes of part thereof, from the conclusion of the session/day will be invoiced by the Committee.
 - If after notification, the parents/guardians/carer is over 30 minutes late in collecting their child, the fee will be \$5 for every 10 minutes, or part thereof, for the first 30 minutes from the conclusion of the session and then \$10 for every \$10 minutes of part thereof.

4. Statement of fees and charges

A statement of fees and charges for four-year-old or three-year-old kindergarten will be provided to families on enrolment and is included in attachments 2 and 3. A statement of fees and charges will also be provided on enrolment for our extended care program in attachment 4.

5. Fundraising

Not all service costs are covered by DET per capita funding and the fees charged. Fundraising is undertaken to meet the balance and/or pay for additional items for the service. While participation in fundraising is voluntary, the support of every family is encouraged. Fundraising activities are also an opportunity for families and communities to come together.

6. Subsidies

6.1 Kindergarten Fee Subsidy (four-year-old and three-year-old programs only)

The Kindergarten Fee Subsidy is provided by DET and enables eligible children to attend 15 hours of four-year-old kindergarten and 5 hours of three-year old kindergarten free of charge. Eligibility conditions may change from time-to-time and must be checked in the most recent edition of the *Kindergarten Funding Guide* (refer to *Sources*).

Families may be eligible for the Kindergarten Fee Subsidy in the year before school if their child:

- is Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander; or
- holds, or has a parent/guardian who holds a Humanitarian or refugee Visa; or
- is a multiple birth child (triplets or more); or
- holds, or has a parent who holds a Commonwealth Health Care Card, Pensioner Concession Card or Veteran's Affairs Card.

Exclusions and exceptions: Not available for long day care services in receipt of Commonwealth Child Care Benefit.

Where a child is identified by a parent, carer or legal guardian as an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander, no verification is required.

In all other instances, supporting documentation should be sighted by the service on acceptance of a place or on commencement in the program, however where there are delays, such as in obtaining health care cards for children in out-of-home care, the delay should not provide a barrier to the child accessing the Kindergarten Fee Subsidy. Families are eligible for the Kindergarten Fee Subsidy for the full term in which their concession is valid. Contact the service for further information.

6.2 Early Start Kindergarten fee subsidy

Three-year-old Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and children known to Child Protection are eligible to attend a funded early childhood program that is planned and delivered by a qualified early childhood teacher free of charge. The service receives funding for children who meet the eligibility criteria. Contact the service for further information.

6.3 Child Care Subsidy

Child Care Subsidy (CCS) is an Australian Government subsidy that can assist eligible families with the costs of childcare at an approved child care provider. Heathmont East Preschool provides only a preschool or kindergarten program and it is not a CCS registered care provider.

For further information please visit www.education.gov.au

7. Payment of fees

The Committee of Management will regularly review payment options and procedures to ensure that they are inclusive and sensitive to families' cultural and financial situations.

Following acceptance of a position, an invoice for Term 1 fees is issued. This amount must be paid in full before the child commences at the centre in Term 1.

Invoices for Terms 2, 3 and 4 will be emailed 4 weeks prior to the end of the previous term, a hard copy can be provided on request. Invoices are to be paid in full by the due date specified in the invoice.

For children enrolled after the commencement of a term, a pro rata invoice will be issued and must be paid in full within 14 days of the child's commencement at the service. Receipts will be provided for all fee payments.

Parents/guardians experiencing difficulty in paying fees are requested to contact the Assistant Treasurer to arrange a suitable alternative payment plan. The *Privacy and Confidentiality Policy* of the service will be complied with at all times in relation to a family's financial/personal circumstances.

8. Payment Plans

Parents are welcome to request a Payment Plan for fees from the Assistant Treasurer. Payment Plans are typically the full term fee split into a series of smaller payments over the course of the term. The frequency of payments will be up to the parents/guardians and Assistant Treasurer but are typically weekly, fortnightly or monthly. If parents have requested a payment plan through the Assistant Treasurer, the following will apply;

- Payment plans must be in place prior to the start of the term.
- The Payment Plan will clearly set out the dates and amount of each payment over the course of the term. Once set these amounts will not change.
- The final and/or full payment will be due one week prior to the end of the term.
- The Assistant Treasurer will not issue reminders for each payment.
- Payment plans will not be extended past the final due date.
- If full payment has not been received by the due date the steps listed under 'Unpaid fees' will be followed.

9. Unpaid fees

If fees are not paid by the due date, the following steps will be taken.

- An initial reminder letter will be sent to parents/guardians with a specified payment date, and will include information on a range of support options available for the family.
- Continued non-payment may result in a second and final letter notifying parents/guardians that the child's place at the service may be withdrawn unless full payment is made. This letter will also include information on a range of support options available for the family.
- Non-payment of extended care invoices will result in removal from the program.
- The Committee of Management will continue to offer support and will reserve the right to employ the services of a debt collector.

- If a decision is made to withdraw the child's place at the service, the parents/guardians will be provided with 14 days' notice in writing.
- No further enrolments of children from the parents/guardians will be accepted until all outstanding fees have been paid.

10. Refund of fees

If a family becomes eligible for the Kindergarten Fee Subsidy during a term, a full refund of the applicable term fees will be provided. Fees may still apply for programs offering more than the required minimum hours per week.

In any other case, fees are non-refundable (exceptional circumstances may apply – these are at the discretion of the Committee of Management). There will be no refund of fees in the following circumstances:

- a child's short-term illness
- public holidays
- family holiday during operational times
- closure of the service for one or more days when a qualified educator is absent and a qualified reliever is not available
- closure of the service for staff training days
- closure of the service due to extreme and unavoidable circumstances.

In addition, there will be no refund where a family chooses not to send their child to the program for the maximum number of hours for which they are enrolled.

Fees for extended care are non-refundable.

11. Children turning three during the year of enrolment

A non-refundable deposit of \$100 must be paid prior to the first day of Term 1 if a place is to be reserved for a child in the three-year-old kindergarten program, this deposit will then offset against fees once the child commences kindergarten. Children can only commence the program when they have turned three.

12. Support services

Families experiencing financial hardship often require access to family support services. Information on these services may be available from the kindergarten service provider or alternatively families may contact the local council.

13. Notification of fee changes during the year

Fees set for the year would only be reviewed in extraordinary circumstances, for example, if attendance rates fall below the budget 'break even' point. Parents/guardians will be notified one term in advance of any required fee increase and will be offered the option to request a payment plan.

ATTACHMENT 2 Statement of Fees and Charges

Heathmont East Preschool

Fee schedule 2022

Four-year-old (funded) kindergarten

Hours: 15 hours per week

	Fees (\$)	Other charges (\$)	Total (\$)	Families eligible for the Kindergarten Fee Subsidy*		
				Fees (\$)	Other charges (\$)	Total (\$)
Term 1	\$460	\$0	\$460	TBC*		
Term 2	\$460	\$0	\$460	TBC*		
Term 3	\$460	\$20 (Excursion [^])	\$480	TBC*		
Term 4	\$460	\$10 (Excursion [^])	\$470	TBC*		
Total	\$1,840	\$30 (Excursion [^])	\$1,870	TBC*		

*Information not available until Fee subsidy amount released by Department of Education.

[^]Excursion cost is showing an approximate amount and is subject to change.

The fees include \$25 maintenance levy per term.

The fees for incursions and special events which take place at the kindergarten are included in the term fees.

ATTACHMENT 3 Statement of Fees and Charges

Heathmont East Preschool

Fee schedule 2022

Three-year-old (funded) kindergarten

Hours: 6 hours per week

	Fees (\$)	Other charges (\$)	Total (\$)
Term 1	\$210	\$0	\$210
Term 2	\$210	\$0	\$210
Term 3	\$210	\$0	\$210
Term 4	\$210	\$0	\$210
Total	\$840	\$0	\$840

The fees include \$10 maintenance levy per term.

The fees for incursions and special events which take place at the kindergarten are included in the term fees.

Children turning three during the year

A non-refundable deposit of \$100 must be paid prior to the first day of Term 1 if a place is to be reserved for a child in the three-year-old kindergarten program, this deposit will then offset against fees once the child commences kindergarten.

**ATTACHMENT 4
Statement of Fees and Charges**

Heathmont East Preschool

Fee schedule 2022

Extended Care

Hours: 3.5 hours per day (Wed & Thurs only)

	1 day / week (\$)	2 days / week (\$)
Term 1	\$300	\$600
Term 2	\$300	\$600
Term 3	\$300	\$600
Term 4	\$300	\$600
Total	\$1,200	\$2,400

Concessions do not apply to the extended care fees.

The fees cover the full 3.5-hour program and no discounts will apply if parents/guardians choose to collect a child earlier each week.

ATTACHMENT 5 Fee Payment Agreement

2022 Four-year-old (funded) kindergarten program

Please complete this form and return to Heathmont East Preschool by [Date]

Fee payment contract

Child's full name: _____

Parent's/guardian's full name: _____

- I/we acknowledge that the four-year-old kindergarten program is partly funded by the state government, with the balance of funds coming from fees paid by parents/guardians.
- I/we understand that I/we am/are entitled to obtain the Kindergarten Fee Subsidy if I/we meet one of the criteria. If my/our eligibility lapses, then I/we understand that full payment of fees is required from the beginning of the following term.
- I/we agree to pay fees by the due date on the invoice.
- I/we understand that term fees are non-refundable.
- I/we acknowledge that if fees are not paid by the due date, the Committee of Management will implement the late payment of fees procedures, as outlined in the *Fee Information for Families*, which could result in the withdrawal of my/our child's place at the service and no further enrolments until the outstanding fees are paid.
- I/we agree that if my/our financial circumstances change and I/we am/are unable to pay as agreed, I/we will immediately notify the Assistant Treasurer to discuss alternative payment options.
- I/we acknowledge that I/we have received and read the service's Fee information for families, which outlines the procedure for payment of fees.

Kindergarten Fee Subsidy

Please advise if the child is Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander *Please tick:* Yes No

Please indicate below which concession you are eligible for – the criteria is outlined on Attachment 1 Section 6.

Concession: _____

Except in the case of an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander child, supporting documentation will need to be sighted on commencement at Heathmont East Preschool by the Assistant Treasurer.

Note: the eligibility of concessions may vary from time-to-time. Up-to-date information can be found in *The Kindergarten Funding Guide* (Department of Education and Training):
www.education.vic.gov.au

Signature (parent/guardian)

Date

Note: Invoices, receipts and collection of fees will be in accordance with the Heathmont East Preschool *Fees Policy*.

ATTACHMENT 6 Fee Payment Agreement

2022 Three-year-old (funded) kindergarten program

Please complete this form and return to Heathmont East Preschool by [Date].

Fee payment contract

Child's full name: _____

Parent's/guardian's full name: _____

- I/we acknowledge that the three-year-old kindergarten program is partly funded by the state government, with the balance of funds coming from fees paid by parents/guardians.
- I/we understand that I/we am/are entitled to obtain the Kindergarten Fee Subsidy or Early Start Kindergarten Fee Subsidy if I/we meet one of the criteria. If my/our eligibility lapses, then I/we understand that full payment of fees is required from the beginning of the following term.
- I/we agree to pay fees by the due date on the invoice.
- I/we acknowledge that if fees are not paid by the due date, the Committee of Management will implement the late payment of fees procedures, as outlined in the *Fees Information for Families* which could result in the withdrawal of my/our child's place at the service and no further enrolments being accepted until the outstanding fees are paid.
- I/we understand that term fees are non-refundable.
- I/we agree that if my/our financial circumstances change and I/we am/are unable to pay as agreed, I/we will immediately notify the Assistant Treasurer to discuss alternative payment options.
- I/we acknowledge that I/we have received and read the service's Fee information for families, which outlines the procedures for payment of fees.

Kindergarten Fee Subsidy

Please advise if the child is Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander *Please tick:* Yes No

Please indicate below which concession you are eligible for – the criteria is outlined on Attachment 1 Section 6.

Concession: _____

Except in the case of an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander child, supporting documentation will need to be sighted on commencement at Heathmont East Preschool by the Assistant Treasurer.

Note: the eligibility of concessions may vary from time-to-time. Up-to-date information can be found in *The Kindergarten Funding Guide* (Department of Education and Training):

www.education.vic.gov.au

Early Start Kindergarten

Three-year-old Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and children known to Child Protection are eligible to attend a funded early childhood program that is planned and delivered by a qualified early childhood teacher free of charge. The service receives funding for children who meet the eligibility criteria. Contact the service for further information.

Please advise if the child is Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander *Please tick:* Yes No

Please advise if the child is known to child protection *Please tick:* Yes No

Signature (parent/guardian)

Date

Note: invoices, receipts and collection of fees will be in accordance with the Heathmont East Preschool *Fees Policy*.

ATTACHMENT 7 Fee Payment Agreement

2022 Extended care program

Please complete this form and return to Heathmont East Preschool by [Date].

Fee payment contract

Child's full name: _____

Parent's/guardian's full name: _____

- I/we acknowledge that the extended care program is not funded by the state government and that the program cannot operate without receiving fees.
- I/we agree to pay fees by the due date on the invoice.
- I/we acknowledge that if fees are not paid by the due date, the Committee of Management will implement the late payment of fees procedures, as outlined in the *Fees Information for Families* which could result in the withdrawal of my/our child's place at the service and no further enrolments being accepted until the outstanding fees are paid.
- I/we understand that term fees are non-refundable.
- I/we acknowledge that the fees cover the full 3.5-hour program and no discounts will apply if I choose to collect my child earlier each week.
- I/we agree that if my/our financial circumstances change and I/we am/are unable to pay as agreed, I/we will immediately notify the Assistant Treasurer to discuss alternative payment options.
- I/we acknowledge that I/we have received and read the service's Fee information for families, which outlines the procedures for payment of fees.

Signature (parent/guardian)

Date

Note: invoices, receipts and collection of fees will be in accordance with the Heathmont East Preschool *Fees Policy*.