

# BEST START

## What is Best Start?

**An early years initiative to support families and caregivers to provide the best possible environment, experiences and care for children from birth to school entry.**

Best Start is a prevention and early intervention initiative that aims to improve the health, development, learning, and wellbeing of all Victorian children from birth to school entry.

Delivered through a continuous improvement framework, Best Start supports early years professionals to implement evidence-informed practice changes. These changes strengthen the capacity of families and caregivers to provide nurturing environments, quality experiences, and responsive care to ensure children have the best possible start in life.

## Best Start Outcomes

- Children engage and participate in early childhood education (kindergarten and supported playgroups) and enter school as confident and involved learners
- Children and families actively engage with MCH services, attending key ages and stages visits to optimise health, wellbeing, safety, learning and development



## Best Start Partners

Best Start is delivered through local partnerships that bring together early years and community services to improve outcomes for children and families. Partners identify areas for improvement based on local needs and shared goals, then test small practice changes using a continuous improvement approach. Data is collected to measure impact and guide decisions about embedding successful changes into everyday practice..

The initiative promotes collaboration, shared learning, and innovation. Partners contribute local knowledge and lived experience, adopt best practices, and support each other to implement new approaches that better serve their communities.

## Benefits Of Joining Us

- Partners have the opportunity to address issues affecting vulnerable families within their local communities.
- They gain access to valuable, evidence-informed information and resources that support improved service delivery.
- Best Start enables professionals to collaborate across sectors and co-develop innovative ideas that enhance their work with children and families.
- It provides opportunities to engage meaningfully with the broader community and build strong cross-sector networks.
- Participants can access relevant professional development aligned with early years priorities and continuous improvement.
- The initiative fosters robust and reflective discussions in a safe and supportive environment, encouraging shared learning and growth.



## Find Out More

For more information scan QR code or visit [hume.vic.gov.au/Residents/People-Services/Children/Early-Years/Best-Start](https://hume.vic.gov.au/Residents/People-Services/Children/Early-Years/Best-Start)

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