



Australian Government
Department of Education,
Skills and Employment

Dear colleagues, please see the below email sent to Victorian providers and services this afternoon.

Kind regards,

The Digital Communication Team.

Victoria seven-day lockdown

The Victorian Government has announced a seven-day circuit breaker lockdown for all of Victoria.

Restrictions start at 11:59pm 27 May and will run until 11:59pm 3 June. During this time there are five reasons to leave your home, including for authorised work or permitted education.

Child care will remain open. Schools will close except for the children of authorised workers and vulnerable children.

At this stage there is no change to fee charging and or absence rulings in relation to the lockdown. If Child Care Subsidy (CCS) is being claimed by services, families are liable to pay the gap fee. The department is monitoring the situation and will work closely with the Victorian Government and key peak organisations from the sector to consider measures of support if required.

For detailed information on how the lockdown affects your service, visit the [Victorian Government's COVID response website](#).

For action

- Update your vacancy details in the [Child Care Finder](#)
- Update your contact details (particularly email addresses) in the Child Care Subsidy System so you don't miss important information. Do this via the [Provider Entry Point](#) or through your third-party software
- Ask your families to maintain their enrolments. This will ensure their children receive continuity of care and early learning.

Support for families

Families can get CCS when their child is absent from a session of care they would normally attend for up to 42 days per financial year. These absences can be used for any reason.

All children attending a Victorian service have an extra 45 days of allowable absences for the 2020–21 financial year. This measure was introduced in response to Victoria's second wave lockdown in 2020.

The [Additional Child Care Subsidy](#) (temporary financial hardship) is available to support families experiencing temporary financial hardship.

Families looking for alternative child care options can visit [Starting Blocks](#) or [Child Care Finder](#).

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