

## Kindergarten Upgrade Package

## Winter Valley Community Hub

## Project Cost

**\$12.1 million**

## Investment Needed

- \$6.75 million

## City of Ballarat Investment

- \$5.35 million – Council's contribution can be increased to cover any shortfall between project cost and funding received, including Development Contribution Plan funding.

## Project Description

An Integrated early years facility with a 3-room x 33 place kindergarten, consulting rooms for maternal child health and other early years services, community meeting spaces for playgroups and first-time parent groups.

## Community Benefit

This area is experiencing significant growth and is popular with families. The new community hub will ensure residents have convenient access to kindergarten, maternal and child health, and other essential early years services.

## Location

- TBD – land not yet secured for the project

## Why should Governments invest in this project?

## Responding to growth

Children aged 0–4 make up 10.1 per cent of Winter Valley's population, almost double the Victorian average of 5.8 per cent.

The Ballarat West Growth Area, including Winter Valley, is projected to grow from 28,834 in 2023 to 48,500 people by 2036 (*forecast.id*).

## Policy alignment

Ensures City of Ballarat has the infrastructure to deliver on the Victorian Government's Best Start Best Life Policy reform.

## Status

- Currently working to negotiate a Building Blocks partnership with the VSBA

## Timeline and Next Steps

- **Concept design**  
Will begin in 2024/25
- **Construction**  
Potential to begin in 2027

