

Emerald Community Kindergarten Expansion



The Central Highlands' community needs more affordable, quality early childhood education places.

The Emerald Community Kindergarten is a well-established, quality, early education facility licensed to take 100 children between four groups.

It employs an equivalent of 8.5 full-time positions. Five staff members are due for long-service leave and five are undertaking study to achieve recognised qualifications in early childhood education. Five people are employed as casual relief workers.

The kindergarten is full to capacity with long wait lists through to 2023.

The Emerald Community Kindergarten operates on council-owned property in Emerald—a population growth centre in the Central Highlands' region. Council has had a long-term proposal for the land and has recently secured three parcels adjoining its facility from the state government with a view to expanding the kindergarten's operation.

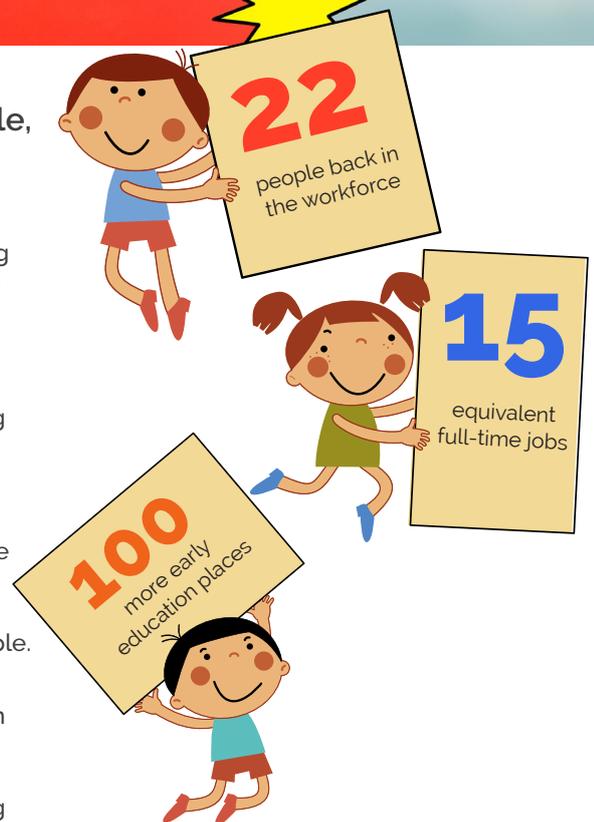
Funding is sought to support a development of this facility to include a new, low-maintenance building to

house a three-room kindergarten, a multi-purpose function/meeting room that can be used as a fourth kindy room in the future, on-site storage, and parking

The new facility incorporates inclusive design features enabling the kindergarten to offer more places for children with special needs.

The expansion would see full-time employment opportunities for an extra eight people and casual employment for another five people.

This project would ensure the Emerald Community Kindergarten is future-proofed to cater for any change in government policy that broadens early childhood learning objectives or provides for three-year olds to access early childhood education.



OUTCOME SOUGHT

Council seeks \$3 million to redevelop the Emerald Community Kindergarten with three new kindergarten rooms, a car park and administration area.

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