



Child Care Benefit (CCB) & Child Care Rebate (CCR)

Plenty Valley International Montessori School Early Learning is an approved child care provider. As a result, parents of pre-prep children at the School may be able to claim the Australian Government's Child Care Benefit or Child Care Rebate.

Child Care Benefit (CCB)

The CCB reduces the cost of your total child care fees. It is available to you if you are a parent, foster parent or grandparent with a child in your care. The amount of CCB you get depends on:

- your and your partner's income
- the amount of care you use
- the reason you are using care and
- the number of children you have in care.

Eligibility for Child Care Benefit

To be eligible for Child Care Benefit you need to meet **all** of the following:

- use approved or registered child care
- you are responsible for paying the child care fees for your child
- your child is immunised (or on an immunisation catch-up schedule) or is exempt from the immunisation requirements
- meet the residency requirements

There are two ways families can choose to get their CCB:

1. You can have it paid directly to your child care service (this means the fees you pay out of your own pocket are reduced).
2. You can choose to pay full fees throughout the financial year and get your CCB as a lump sum after the end of that financial year from the Family Assistance Office.

Child Care Rebate (CCR)

The CCR is additional assistance if you are working, studying or training at some time during the week or have an exemption. It covers 50% of your out-of-pocket costs up to an annual limit. It is not income tested, so you may be eligible to receive it even if you do not get the CCB.

You may choose to receive your CCR paid fortnightly, either directly to your bank account, or through your child care service provider as a fee reduction. You may also have your CCR paid quarterly or annually as a lump sum directly to your bank account.



Eligibility for Child Care Benefit

Child Care Rebate is not income tested.

You may be eligible for Child Care Rebate if:

- you use a service approved for Child Care Benefit, and
- you are eligible for Child Care Benefit, even if you earn too much to receive payment, and
- you and your partner meet the 'work, training, study test' or are exempt from it

How to claim CCB and CCR

➤ If you have already applied for CCB/CCR for your child:

- Bring a copy of your assessment notice to the School so that your enrolment can be formalised OR
- Provide the School with the Customer Reference Number (CRN) of the parent and the child as listed on the assessment notice.

➤ If you have not applied for CCB/CCR before:

- Visit the Family Assistance Office to apply for the CCB (you will also be automatically assessed for CCR)
- Where a claim is approved a written assessment notice is sent to you in the mail
- Bring a copy of your assessment notice to the School so that your enrolment can be formalised

How you receive your CCB and CCR payments (lump sum or as a reduced fee) will depend on what you have requested in your CCB application to the FAO.

Claims for reduced fees can go back 28 days but a lump sum claim can be lodged with the FAO providing that it is within 2 years following the end of that financial year.

Attendance Records

In order to receive Child Care Benefit (CCB) you are required to sign your child **in** and **out** of their classroom each day. Absenteeism's must also be signed for in order to be entitled to the 42 days allowable absences for Child Care Benefit subsidy. If your child has more than 42 days absence your rebate will be affected.

Absences

Child Care Benefit is paid for each child for up to 42 absences per financial year from all approved child care services (not from each service) except occasional-care. These absence days can be taken for any reason, with no evidence required.

Child Care Benefit is also paid for additional absences, beyond the 42 days, for certain reasons. There is no limit on these days, but supporting documentation is required.

Child Care Benefit, Child Care Rebate, and JET Child Care Fee Assistance are not payable for absences if your child uses more than their 42 absence days for the financial year and does not meet the conditions for additional absences.

For further information on your eligibility for CCB and CCR please contact the Family Assistance Office:

- Access online services at familyassist.gov.au
- Call 13 61 50 between 8am and 8pm (local time) Monday to Friday
- Email through familyassist.gov.au
- Visit a Family Assistance office (located at Centrelink)