

Registered Care and Rebate Information.

Centenary Christian Kindergarten is a community based not for profit kindergarten, which operates under the **Registered Care Legislation**, in accordance with the Australian Government.

Definition: Registered Child care is provided by grandparents or other relatives, friends or Nannies who are registered with the Department of Human Services as Registered Care providers. Registered care may also be provided by individuals in:

- Preschools
- Kindertartens
- Outside school hours care centres.

Frequently Asked Questions in relation to Rebate information.

The Child Care Benefit helps with child care costs such as long, family or occasional day care, outside school hour care, vacation care and kindergarten.

1. Can I get Child Care Benefit if I use Registered care?

Families who satisfy eligibility requirements for Child Care Benefit may receive payments if they use registered child care. To be eligible for Child Care Benefit for registered child care you need to meet these requirements:

Eligibility: You or your partner (if you have one) meets residency requirements (or have an exemption).

Immunisation: Children under the age of 7 must meet the Australian Government's immunisation requirements or have an exemption.

Responsibility for child care payments You or your partner (if you have one) must have paid your child care costs.

Work, training, and study test: You (and your partner, if you have one) must pass the work, training, study test, or have an exemption. For Registered childcare, you only have to participate in work related commitments at some time during a week or have an exemption. No minimum number of hours is required. The work, training, study test looks at whether you and your partner need childcare for work-related commitments. A work-related commitment is one or more of the following activities:

- paid work
- self-employment
- setting up a business
- looking for work, study or training
- voluntary work to improve your work skills.

If you meet these requirements, you may be eligible for the registered care rate of a maximum of 50 hours of Child Care Benefit per child, per week. Your income does not affect the amount of Child Care Benefit you receive for registered care.

2. How do I receive Child Care Benefit payments for Registered Care at Centenary Christian Kindergarten?

To receive the Child Care Benefit, take your child care receipts (given to you by your registered carer) to the Department of Human Services and complete the Claim for Child Care Benefit for Registered Care form (FA018), which is available on the Department of Human Services website forms page.

These receipts will be issued to you by the Kindergarten at the end of each term, provided all fees are paid. They will include Hours Completed in the normal kindergarten daily program, before and after kindy care hours and vacation care hours (if these are applicable to your family).

The Australian Government will pay your Child Care Benefit into your bank account after you submit a claim. You must submit your claim within 12 months of receiving child care. Your carer cannot receive Child Care Benefit on your behalf.

3. Are organisations that have Registered carers the same as Child Care Benefit approved childcare?

No. Preschools or kindergartens which have registered child carers working for them, are not considered Child Care Benefit approved child care services by the Australian Government because they choose not to, or do not, meet the minimum operating hours needed, to be an approved provider.

4. What is the Child Care Rebate?

This covers 50% of out of pocket child care expenses, up to a maximum amount per child per year. This is in addition to any amount you may receive from the Child Care Benefit. This is not income tested and will be automatically applied by the Australian Government once the family has applied for the Child Care Benefit and has meet eligibility requirements.

5. Can I get the Child Care Rebate if I use Registered care?

No. You must use Child Care Benefit approved child care and not registered childcare to meet the Child Care Rebate eligibility requirements.

Being a privately run service with Registered Care Providers, Centenary Christian Kindergarten, under current legislation, cannot offer families the Child Care Rebate. This is inclusive of our daily Kindergarten Program, Before and After Kindergarten Care and Vacation Care.

6. Do I receive a rebate if I have a Health Care Card?

A child's participation in quality early childhood education lays the foundation for their future success in learning and life. All children in care (aged at least 4 years old by 30 June in the year they participate) are entitled to low or no cost approved kindergarten programs because they are eligible for a health care card. In addition, you may be eligible to have your out-of-pocket Kindergarten expenses reimbursed through child related costs.

Please be advised that this rebate relates **ONLY** to Kindergarten programs, not before and after kindy care or vacation care as offered by Centenary Christian Kindergarten. However, you may be eligible for the Child Care Benefit with regard to these fees.

For further information please see our office staff, call Department of Human Services on 131 272 or visit a Department of Human Services branch.

All information provided has been taken from the following websites:

Department of Human Services: www.humanservices.gov.au

My child: www.mychild.gov.au