

Queensland Kindergartens and Early Learning Centres

Supplementary Funding Pathway

Minor Capital Works Grant

Grant Information: <https://earlychildhood.qld.gov.au/grants-and-funding/minor-capital-works>

The **Minor Capital Works Grant** is the primary **Supplementary** pathway for sessional kindergartens. Funded by the Queensland Government, it provides capital for facility enhancements, including the installation of fixed outdoor learning equipment. Because this grant prioritizes "improving the quality of the learning environment" and "supporting the National Quality Framework (NQF)," it is a perfect match for permanent **sensory instruments** that foster inclusive, high-quality outdoor play.

Project Positioning

For this pathway, position the project as a "**Quality Area 3: Physical Environment Upgrade.**" Frame the instruments as a capital improvement that enhances the "Inclusion and Accessibility" of the kindergarten's outdoor space. Emphasize that these are professional-grade, permanent infrastructure pieces that support the school's commitment to providing a diverse and engaging learning environment as mandated by the NQF.

Avoid positioning the project as:

Consumable teaching resources or temporary play equipment. Minor Capital Works grants are strictly for **fixed assets and permanent installations**. Do not focus on the "musical" aspect; instead, highlight the **long-term facility enhancement** and the 25-year lifespan of the marine-grade stainless steel.

Project Title

[Insert Kindergarten Name] Outdoor Inclusion Upgrade: A Permanent Sensory Learning Hub

Service Overview

[Insert Kindergarten Name] is a sessional, community-based kindergarten providing an approved program for [Insert Number] children. Our service is committed to maintaining a high-quality learning environment that meets and exceeds the National Quality Standard. We pride ourselves on offering an inclusive, play-based curriculum that respects the individual developmental needs of every child in our care.

Project Description

This project involves the permanent installation of a three-unit "**Sensory Hub**" (two Explorers and one Composer). These instruments are acoustically engineered for outdoor use and will be securely post-mounted into our existing garden area. This installation represents a significant capital improvement to our outdoor learning environment, providing a durable, weather-proof sanctuary for collaborative sensory play.

Community Need

Our service has identified the need to upgrade our outdoor facilities to better support children with diverse sensory processing needs. Current traditional play equipment can be high-stimulus and does not always provide an equitable experience for all children. This project addresses the need for a **permanent, inclusive anchor** in our playground—a low-arousal zone where children can engage in self-directed, tactile, and rhythmic exploration.

Community Benefit

This capital project provides a "legacy benefit" to our community. As a permanent fixture of our kindergarten, the Sensory Hub will serve hundreds of local families over its 20+ year lifespan. Because the instruments require **no specialized surfacing (Zero-Surfacing)**, this project represents an exceptionally efficient use of government funds, directing 100% of the grant into high-quality, long-lasting assets that improve the infrastructure of our community-owned facility.

Outcomes

The project aims to improve our facility's rating under **NQS Quality Area 3 (Physical Environment)** by providing an inclusive, well-maintained outdoor space. Expected outcomes include increased participation from children of all abilities in outdoor learning and a measurable reduction in sensory-related incidents during transition periods. Success will be evidenced through our Quality Improvement Plan (QIP) and parent community feedback.

Project Delivery

The project will be managed by our Kindergarten Management Committee. We will procure the sensory instruments and engage a licensed contractor for the permanent in-ground installation. The "Zero-Maintenance" nature of the 316L stainless steel ensures this asset remains a high-quality part of our facility without creating a future maintenance or replacement cost burden.

Budget

Item	Quantity	Total (Ex. GST)
Explorer Sensory Instrument	2	\$9,000
Composer Sensory Instrument	1	\$4,500
In-ground Post Mounts	3	\$900
Freight and Logistics (indicative to QLD)	1	\$650
Site Works Provision (Indicative Installation)	1	\$1,800
Total Project Cost		\$16,850
Funding Requested (Minor Capital Works)		\$15,000
Kindergarten Contribution		\$1,850

Pricing Note

Costs provided are indicative to support the funding application. Final pricing, including freight and installation, may vary depending on location and site requirements. Kindergartens are encouraged to obtain a formal quote to confirm project costs.

Budget Justification

This budget prioritizes a high-durability, professional-grade capital asset. We have included an **indicative installation provision** to ensure the instruments are permanently and safely secured according to Australian safety standards. The \$15,000 requested represents a strategic capital investment that requires no future recurrent funding, offering the Department of Education exceptional long-term value for money.

Sustainability

The instruments are crafted from **316L marine-grade stainless steel** and are built to withstand the Queensland climate without degrading. This is a "once-only" capital spend. The 25-year structural warranty ensures the Sensory Hub will remain a functional and safe part of our kindergarten's infrastructure for a quarter of a century.

Evaluation

Success will be evaluated through our annual **Quality Improvement Plan (QIP)** review. We will monitor usage patterns and document the impact of the Sensory Hub on children's engagement and social regulation. Photos and a project summary will be provided to the Management Committee and shared with our families in the annual report.

Application Considerations

- **Sessional Only:** This grant is primarily available to sessional (non-long day care) kindergartens.
- **Capital Focus:** Ensure the application focuses on "**Infrastructure and Facility Enhancement**" rather than "teaching materials."
- **Timing:** Rounds are periodic; check the **Early Childhood Education and Care (ECEC)** portal regularly to align your quote with the current closing dates.