

January 2022

Yarriambiack Shire Council
PO Box 243
Warracknabeal Vic 3393

DIOCESE
OF
BALLARAT
CATHOLIC
EDUCATION
LIMITED



CATHOLIC EDUCATION BALLARAT

Dear Sir/Madam,

As a significant provider of Education Services across Western Victoria, specifically in the Yarriambiack LGA, we strongly support the proposed Dunmunkle childcare facility in Murtoa.

While there are undoubted economic benefits of such a facility, the social benefits are also critical to the local community. Providing excellent play based childcare programs have been proven by research (Sahlberg & Doyle 2019) to make a positive impact on the individual child and society overall.

The Australian Early Development Census (AEDC) is a population based measure of how children have developed by the time they start school. It looks at five domains of early childhood development: physical health and wellbeing, social competence, emotional maturity, language and cognitive skills (school-based), communication skills and general knowledge. AEDC results show that for all 6 domains young children, under 6, in the Yarriambiack LGA are performing worse than the Victorian and Australian averages.

Geography	Physical i	Social i	Emotional i	Language i	Communication i	Vuln 1 i	Vuln 2 i
Australia	9.6	9.8	8.4	6.6	8.2	21.7	11.0
VIC	8.2	8.8	8.1	6.4	7.4	19.9	10.1
Yarriambiack	16.7	7.4	9.3	7.4	13.0	27.8	13.0

Source: <https://www.aedc.gov.au/data/data-explorer?id=135332>

The construction of this facility will be critical in reducing the percentage of children developmentally vulnerable in the Yarriambiack LGA.

We strongly recommend this application.

Yours sincerely

Mr Tom Sexton
Executive Director
Catholic Education Ballarat