

Children and study

You have the right to participate in study as a parent or carer of a child. The University facilitates this through policies such as special consideration, arrangements to accommodate your parenting responsibilities, and by providing resources such as parent spaces on campus.

Types of childcare

Childcare services in Sydney are expensive, and it can be competitive to get your child a place. Deciding on childcare may also depend on cost and the type of childcare provided.

Long daycare

Usually runs between **7am – 6pm**, through a day care centre. Meals are usually included. **Cost is per day**. Expect to pay between **\$70 to \$192**. Ages **6 weeks to 6 years of age**.

Family daycare

Hours vary and are negotiable, but they are usually similar to long daycare. It is run through a family home. Meals are usually included. **Cost is hourly**. Expect to pay between **\$7.50 to \$16.80 per hour**. Ages **6 weeks to 6 years of age**, although older children are sometimes also accepted.

Occasional care

For casual care only. **Cost is hourly**. It is usually run through a centre. Meals are usually provided. Expect to pay between **\$12.50 to \$13 per hour**. Ages **6 weeks to 6 years**.

Preschool

For children between **3 to 5 years**. Preschools have a structured education program. They usually run between **9am – 3pm**. Meals may or may not be provided. Expect to pay between **\$45 to \$80** per day.

Before and after school care

For **school-aged children** only, commonly run at their school. Meals are usually included. Hours are usually from **7am – 9am** for morning care and **3pm – 6pm** for evening care, on school days. Expect to pay between **\$15 to \$30 per morning** and **\$25 to \$45 per evening**.

School holiday programs

These are usually themed programs running for school aged children, e.g. sports programs. They are **typically charged per day** and cost between **\$115 to \$235 per day**.

Other options

Other options include professional and informal baby-sitting services, nannies and au pair services.

Childcare close to the University

There are a number of childcare services both on and close to the University's main campus, and one on Cumberland campus, offering occasional care, long daycare, and family daycare. A [list of these services](#) is provided by the University. Some of these services offer discounts to University students who hold a [USU membership](#). **Note that long waiting lists may apply for childcare.**

Rebates and concessions

The Australian government offers childcare payments for eligible parents and guardians. Usually you have to be an Australian resident or Australian citizen, although some visa holders may also be eligible.

[Check your eligibility](#) for childcare payments.

[Find out more](#) about childcare options and costs.

Bringing children to uni

Children are welcome on campus as long as they are under the supervision of their parents. Children will not be permitted to access spaces with potential hazards or that pose significant risk, such as laboratories. There may be times when your usual childcare arrangements fall through, and you may have to bring your child to class. In this situation **make a request to your unit**

coordinator or person delivering the lecture or tutorial. Research students should **consult your supervisor** and fellow students if sharing a work space.

For more info, [read the University's policy](#) about children on campus.

If you have unexpected carer commitments which impact your ability to do assessments, including exams, you may apply for [special consideration or special arrangements](#).

Breastfeeding on campus

In Australia it is your legal right to breastfeed, including in public. And under the federal Sex Discrimination Act 1984, it is illegal in Australia to discriminate against a person either directly or indirectly on the grounds of breastfeeding.

All University of Sydney campuses have [parent rooms](#) with **baby change facilities** and **feeding rooms**. Many of these rooms are private and lockable. Some may require special access with a swipe card, which you can arrange by contacting the **building administrator** or **precinct officer**. Parent rooms are located in many buildings at all campuses.

Facilities such as parent rooms and feeding rooms are provided for comfort and convenience, but this does not mean they are the only places you can breastfeed your child – it is legal to breastfeed in public in Australia.

Australian Breastfeeding Association

The [Australian Breastfeeding Association](#) provides practical breastfeeding support and information, training, education and resources to ensure skilled, knowledgeable and practical breastfeeding support. You can also find out more about the Sex Discrimination Act 1984 which makes discrimination against a breastfeeding person an illegal action.

24 hour Breastfeeding Helpline: **1800 686 268**

Other resources

- **University of Sydney** [childcare resources list](#)
- **University Child Care Information Office**
Level 5, Jane Foss Russell Building, Darlington Campus
(02)8627 2004
child.care@sydney.edu.au
Opening hours: 9am – 5pm, Monday to Friday
- **USYD Student Parents Network**
The USYD Student Parents Network can help you to develop friendships

with other students with children. The group's aim is to connect you with other parents studying at the University, to share experiences, help each other and meet new friends. SUPRA is a partner in the network. [Join the Facebook group](#) to share tips, experiences and learn about events for you and your family.

- **Sydney University Sport & Fitness** have [school holiday programs](#)
(02) 9351 4960