

# Graduate Diploma in Early Childhood Education (EGEC)

## Placement Dates and Course Map 2026

For students who commence the course in Semester 1, Block 3 on 27<sup>th</sup> of April 2026

**Group name: APR26 Group**

| Sequence and Block<br>(1B3 = Semester 1,<br>Block 3)                                                          | 1. 1B3<br>2026                                                         | 2. 1B4<br>2026                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | 3. 2B1<br>2026      | 4. 2B2<br>2026                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | 5. 2B3<br>2026          | 6. 2B4<br>2026    | 7. Summer<br>Block (SB)<br>2027                                                                                                                                                       | 8. 1B1 & 1B2<br>(HE 8 Week Block 1)<br>2027                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Unit code                                                                                                     | ECE6009                                                                | ECE6010                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | ECE6011             | ECE6012 and<br>ECE6013                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | ECE6003                 | ECE6008           | Placement<br>Only                                                                                                                                                                     | ECE6014                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| <b>Placement requirement</b><br>= 60 days of placement<br>over the whole course                               |                                                                        | Place, Play & Languages<br>(ECE6010):<br>5 days<br>Community<br>playwork<br>placement                                                                                                                                           |                     | Prof Practice 1<br>(ECE6012):<br>15 days 3 -5 years<br><br><i>Please read notes<br/>below for details on<br/>ECE6012 and<br/>ECE6013 enrolment<br/>and placements<br/>requirements</i>                                                                        |                         |                   | Prof Practice 2<br>(ECE6013):<br>15 days<br>Birth – 35 mths<br><br><i>You need to be<br/>enrolled in<br/>ECE6013 unit in<br/>Block 2B2 2026<br/>(see your CUA<br/>for assistance)</i> | Prof Practice 3<br>(ECE6014):<br>25 days<br>Kindergarten<br>placement<br><b>Final placement</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Block dates                                                                                                   | 27 April –<br>22 May                                                   | 25 May –<br>19 June                                                                                                                                                                                                             | 27 July –<br>21 Aug | 24 Aug –<br>18 Sept                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 28 Sept –<br>23 October | 2 Nov -<br>27 Nov | 11 Jan - 5 Feb<br>2027                                                                                                                                                                | 15 Feb - 12 Mar (B1)<br>15 Mar - 16 Apr (B2)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>Placement dates</b><br><br>Please see note below<br>'Requirements around<br>following placement<br>dates'. | <b>Playwork<br/>Training<br/>to be<br/>offered<br/>from<br/>Week 4</b> | ECE6010<br>Placement dates:<br><b>25 May – 19 Jun</b><br><br><i>Playwork Training<br/>and placement<br/>sessions will be<br/>scheduled during<br/>the block dates,<br/>(equivalent to<br/>5 days)</i><br><i>*see note below</i> |                     | ECE6012<br>Placement dates:<br><b>31 Aug – 18 Sep</b><br><br><i>Note: If self-placing in<br/>a kindergarten, please<br/>check for school<br/>holiday closures<br/>relevant to your state<br/>(eg, Victorian Term 3<br/>School Holidays,<br/>21/9 – 02/10)</i> |                         |                   | ECE6013<br>Placement<br>dates:<br><b>11 Jan – 1 Feb</b><br><br><i>(includes public<br/>holiday make up<br/>day – Australia<br/>Day on 26/01)</i>                                      | ECE6014<br>Placement dates:<br><b>26 Feb – 6 April</b><br><br><i>(includes 2 public<br/>holidays make up days)</i><br><i>Note: Term 1 School<br/>Holidays, 29/03 – 09/04</i><br><br>For all students,<br>including OSP or<br>part-time students, your<br>final kindergarten<br>placement must be<br>completed with the unit<br>ECE6014. |

See page 2 for **important further details** under 'Notes'...

## ABBREVIATIONS:

SB = Summer Block, WB = Winter block

**Modes of Delivery:** ORT = Online Real-Time; OSP = Online Self-Paced; IP = In Person/on-campus; HY = Hybrid (IP & OSP)

**Campus Codes:** ZA = Online Campus; G = Footscray Nicholson; CT = City Tower

## IMPORTANT NOTES:

1. **You must be enrolled in the unit to commence your placement.** If you are not enrolled in the unit, there will be no placement available on your WIL record. **Ensure you are enrolled in the correct unit sequence.** Please contact your Course Unit Advisor for any enrolment queries via [AskVU](#), or [Ask Your CUA](#). If your enrolment is correct but there is no placement available on WIL, please contact [inplace.edu@vu.edu.au](mailto:inplace.edu@vu.edu.au).
2. **Community Playwork Placement** is equivalent to 5 days.
  - Both OSP and IP students are placed into groups with other students and a mentor employed by VU to support you.
  - It is best to do this placement with the unit **ECE6010 after completing the Playwork Training in ECE6009**. You must complete it with successful result recorded on WL before commencing ECE6014.
  - This placement involves attendance at pop-up playspace with a group of students in your cohort, and an Early Childhood Teacher employed by VU to mentor you.
  - Days and times for both OSP and IP students will be advised with further information available at the **Playwork COMM Page**.
  - You will need to complete your WIL profile for this placement, but you do not need to enter it as a placement on WIL.
3. **Placement days** that fall on Public Holidays (and not rescheduled on calendar above) and placement missed because of special circumstances (illness etc) will need to be made up. **Make up days are not to occur on days that you have class.** Arrange with your Centre and notify EGED Placements Office of the change of your dates via [EPO Change of Placement Dates online form](#).
4. **Professional Practice 1 & 2: ECE6012 and ECE6013:** You will enrol in both ECE6012 and ECE6013 in the same block. This allows for some students to have more flexibility when they complete their ECE6013 placement. Ensure you understand the following requirements:
  - **ECE6012 contains your first centre-based placement.**
    - You must attend all Week 1 classes for this unit before attending placement.
    - This unit has assessment tasks and you will be supported and assessed by your VU lecturer. This will determine your grade for the unit.
    - The unit also has hurdle tasks for placement that you must discuss and reflect on with your mentor, who will complete your placement report and submit at the end of your placement. You must also submit these to Hurdle Tasks Dropbox in the VUC space.
  - **ECE6013 is a 0 Credit Point online unit and your second centre-based placement.**
    - You will do this placement after your 6012 placement, in most circumstances.
    - There is content to prepare you for this placement and hurdle tasks that you must discuss and reflect on with your mentor and submit to the Dropbox in the VUC space.
    - Your placement report (completed by your mentor) is the requirement to pass this unit.
    - All students need to attend all Week 1 classes for ECE6012, be enrolled in ECE6013, and review the content for ECE6013 before commencing their ECE6013 placement.

## 5. Requirements around following the placement dates:

- Please understand that we have created this course map and placement calendar with specific dates to support you in completing your course requirements **in one year** (two semesters). **Deviating from this plan may delay your course completion**, so we strongly advise that you follow it if course completion in one year is important to you. **You cannot complete the course in less than this time frame.**
- **Students who opt-in to a Partnerships office sourced placement** (by completing the EPO Placement Request form) **MUST** complete all placements **as per the placement calendar dates on the table above**, unless otherwise advised by the EGECE Placements Office.
- The kindergarten placement **must be your last placement, after you have completed all other placements**, and cannot be completed prior to the commencement of the ECE6014 unit unless special circumstances apply.

## 6. Notes on Self-Placement, including if you self-place outside of the placement calendar dates:

- If you are self-placing, we still encourage you to follow the placement calendar dates, especially if you need to complete the course in one year.
- You must have successfully completed the units ECE6009, ECE6010 and ECE6011.
- Organise your ECE6012 and ECE6013 placements to begin after week 1 of ECE6012, and complete prior to the unit ECE6014.
- The ECE6014 kindergarten placement **must be your last placement** and cannot be started prior to the commencement of the ECE6014 unit.
- Please allow 3 to 5 business days between placements before starting the next one, unless your assessment report has been submitted on time.
- Do not leave all your placement until the end of the course. Do not attempt to study full-time (including OSP) and complete placement full-time, at the same time.
- **On-campus (IP/HY) students:** your ECE6013 placement must not interfere with attendance in class or assessment task submission. Placement days in general, including make-up days, cannot interfere with attendance in class.
- **OSP students:** your ECE6013 placement must not interfere with assessment task submission (for example, this is not valid reason for an assessment task extension or special consideration).
- **Please allow 2 weeks' notice for the self-placement to be approved (confirmed) by the EGECE Placements Office.** Late submissions will not be approved.
- **Please do not start or attend your placement without University email confirmation due to legal implications, such as insurance cover. Placements completed or running without University confirmation email will not be accepted, and you will be asked to re-do your placement.** If your placement status is showing on your WIL record as 'Pending', 'Incomplete' and 'Not Approved', **your self-placement is not approved, and you cannot start or continue with your unconfirmed placement.** Please check your WIL record and your VU email regularly for the feedback from the EGECE Placements Office, in the case we require further information from you.
- Once your Self Placement is CONFIRMED, you will receive an email with your placement confirmation details. The email will be sent from WIL to your VU student email account and to your placement centre. Please contact your placement centre ASAP or within 48 hours to:
  - confirm your placement dates and attendance,
  - ask the centre if they have received your placement documentation and
  - confirm the time of arrival on the first day and discuss the induction process.