



Caring for children and families across Victoria

Main Office and Very Special Kids Hospice

321 Glenferrie Road
Malvern Vic 3144
Free call: 1800 888 875
Reception: 03 9804 6222
Hospice: 03 9804 6218

Brunswick

Level 1/233
Sydney Road
Brunswick Vic 3056
Phone: 03 9388 0759

Peninsula

1973 Frankston-
Flinders Road
Hastings Vic 3915
Phone: 03 5979 1000

Barwon

86 Surf Coast Highway
Torquay Vic 3228
Phone: 03 5261 5544

South Western

Unit 7, 124 Koroit Street
Warrnambool Vic 3280
Phone: 03 5561 0987

Gippsland

34 Kay Street
Traralgon Vic 3844
Phone: 03 5174 9279

Central Victoria

40 Eastwood Street
Ballarat Vic 3350
Phone: 03 5332 9686

Hume

399 Wyndham Street
Shepparton Vic 3630
Phone: 03 5823 3204

“

I don't know where we would've turned if Very Special Kids wasn't there to provide our family with emotional and physical support. It's the only place in Victoria that provides respite for Kyan's complex medical condition. ”

Robyn Scott, mother of Kyan



Caring for children with life-threatening conditions and their families

Children's hospice and family support



Very Special Kids cares for children with life-threatening conditions by providing a children's hospice and professional support services to families.

When a child is diagnosed with a life-threatening condition, it is the beginning of a journey that is unpredictable and full of challenges that impact all family members in different ways.

Very Special Kids helps more than 900 families across Victoria with ongoing support that starts from the diagnosis of a child's condition all the way through to bereavement.

All services are free-of-charge.

Hospice & family accommodation

- ✚ **Respite care** at Very Special Kids Hospice, which is Victoria's only children's hospice. Children with life-threatening conditions receive specialised 24 hour nursing and medical care. The hospice features soft-play areas, gardens, a music therapy room, a multisensory room, fun-filled school holiday programs and weekend activities
- 🏠 **Onsite family accommodation** allows families to be close to their child during a stay at Very Special Kids Hospice or provides a convenient base to access to medical appointments in greater Melbourne
- 🏡 **Holiday cottages at Glen Osmond Farm** in Woodend are purpose-built and can sleep up to eight people in three bedrooms. A rustic wooden barn is also available for play and entertainment
- 🌿 **End-of-life care** in peaceful surroundings at Very Special Kids Hospice with support from a dedicated team of medical and nursing professionals

Family support services

- ♥ **Emotional support and counselling** from a dedicated Family Support Worker. An experienced clinician assists with strategies and resources to help manage the many adjustments that may be required in their family life
- 👪 **Sibling support program** helps children who have a brother or sister with a life-threatening condition by meeting other siblings for peer support, explore their own emotions and enhance self-esteem
- 👤 **Trained volunteers** support families at home and during admissions at Very Special Kids Hospice or Royal Children's Hospital
- ☀️ **Family activities** where parents and children meet other families experiencing similar challenges. Activities include camps, family fun days, coffee mornings and the annual Christmas Party
- 🌿 **Bereavement program** including counselling, parent evenings, annual parents retreat, peer activities, sibling days, annual Remembrance Day, anniversary cards and Continuing Links newsletter



“ When Lily was born, everything was so unknown. Very Special Kids has given our family so much support and the respite care at the hospice is invaluable. ”

Jessy Renshaw, mother of Lily