

Media Release

Ingrid Stitt MP

Minister for Workplace Safety
Minister for Early Childhood



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BOOSTING KINDER PLACES IN PARKDALE

More Parkdale families will be able to send their children to kinder closer to home as part of the Andrews Labor Government's investment to help local services meet demand.

Minister for Early Childhood Ingrid Stitt with Member for Mordialloc Tim Richardson today visited Elonera Preschool in Parkdale to announce a \$742,000 investment to deliver a new kindergarten building.

The investment will create 33 extra places at the preschool to cater for kinder demand as we roll out universal funded Three-Year-Old kinder. The project includes a new children's room, storage room and toilets.

It is one of 127 successful grant recipients to share in \$46.9 million through the *Building Blocks* capacity building and improvement grant streams, which provide new kindergarten places and improve learning environments.

The *Victorian Budget 2020/21* invests a further \$38.5 million into the Building Blocks grants program, which supports early childhood providers boost capacity, improve facilities, create inclusive kinders and deliver information technology upgrades.

Applications to the Building Blocks capacity building grants stream are open year-round.

To apply for funding visit www.schoolbuildings.vic.gov.au.

In an Australian first, the Labor Government has committed almost \$5 billion to deliver 15 hours of funded three-year-old kindergarten programs to children in Victoria by 2029.

As part of this roll-out, the government is upgrading infrastructure through a \$1.68 billion co-investment with the early childhood sector to build and expand kindergarten facilities across the state.

Quote attributable to Minister for Early Childhood Ingrid Stitt

"Creating more places for children to attend kindergarten and ensuring they learn in the best facilities is vital to giving them the best start in their education."

Quote attributable to Member for Mordialloc Tim Richardson

"This investment will mean Parkdale families can access state-of-the-art education facilities on their doorstep."