

Media Release

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Minister for Workplace Safety
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Friday, 19 March 2021

DITCHING THE DREADED DOUBLE-DROP OFF IN EDGARS CREEK

Edgars Creek families will have access to a new kindergarten and school at the same location, thanks to the Andrews Labor Government.

Minister for Early Childhood Ingrid Stitt and Member for Thomastown Bronwyn Halfpenny today visited Edgars Creek to officially open Ganbu Galinj Kindergarten, which has been built next to Edgars Creek Primary School.

The early learning facility includes a three-room, state-of-the-art, 99-place kinder, maternal and child health facilities and consulting rooms to provide families with a wide range of services.

The Labor Government invested \$1.65 million for the new kindergarten while Whittlesea Council also contributed \$4.9 million towards the project.

The project was funded via the Building Blocks program, which boosts the capacity of kindergartens and modernise facilities.

In an Australian-first, the Labor Government has invested nearly \$5 billion to deliver a full 15 hours of Three-Year-Old Kinder to every Victorian child over the next decade, with the roll-out beginning in 2020.

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.

This investment includes the delivery of new kindergartens on existing school sites to support the roll-out of Three-Year-Old Kindergarten, helping parents ditch the double drop off and making the transition to school easier for students.

The Labor Government is also ensuring that every new primary school set to open from 2021 will have a kindergarten on-site or next door, this includes all 10 new primary schools which opened in 2021 and all six new primary schools opening in 2022.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Early Childhood Ingrid Stitt

"We are delivering a record investment in early years education because it is so important for a child's development."

"Making it easier for parents to ditch the dreaded double drop-off is just part of our work to make sure every child can access great early education close to home."

Quote attributable to Member for Thomastown Bronwyn Halfpenny

"Families moving into and living in the Wollert area now have a fantastic kindergarten that their children can attend. The kindergarten will be even more convenient as it operates alongside Edgars Creek Primary and Secondary schools."