

Media Release

The Hon Martin Foley MP
Minister for Health
Minister for Ambulance Services
Minister for Equality



Friday, 23 April 2021

IMAGINATION TREE INSPIRING SICK KIDS TO RECOVER FASTER

A giant 'imagination tree' spanning four levels in the foyer of Victoria's world-class Monash Children's Hospital has been officially opened.

Minister for Health Martin Foley today launched the Moose Imagination Tree, which is an interactive space for sick children and families, imagined by The Walt Disney Company and built by Moose Toys.

The Monash Children's Hospital was opened in 2017 and provides care for more than 100,000 children each year.

The 'Imagination Tree' rises through four levels of the hospital providing play, creative and relaxation spaces.

The 16-metre tall interactive space has been created to help children recover during their stay in hospital, no matter how long, as well as entertaining their siblings who are visiting. It helps improve the hospital experience for sick kids and give families a break during what can be a stressful time.

It features a series of activities and spaces for children and adults alike to explore, play and relax on each level, with dazzling light and sound displays, fun play areas with games, hanging artefacts and peaceful spaces to unwind.

The 'Imagination Tree' has been made possible by Moose Toys and The Walt Disney Company.

The Andrews Labor Government is continuing to increase funding for Monash Health – Victoria's largest health service – so more people can access the world class care they need, when they need it.

The first stage of the new \$76.3 million emergency department at Monash Medical Centre is now complete, meaning families in Melbourne's expanding south-east have better access to emergency care close to home.

It includes a new emergency department and triage entrance, dedicated children's emergency area, resus bay and new technology. The entire expansion is expected to be completed in mid-2022.

It's part of the Labor Government's \$8 billion pipeline of health infrastructure – the biggest health building program in the state's history.

Quote attributable to Minister for Health Martin Foley

"We know a stay in hospital can be hard for kids, and stressful for their loved ones which is why it's great to have this wonderful space at Monash Children's Hospital where they can have fun and relax."

Quote attributable to Member for Clarinda Meng Heang Tak

"We're continuing to deliver for local families and are proud to have built a world class hospital providing the very best healthcare in purpose-built facilities for kids, closer to home."

Quote attributable to Member for Oakleigh Steve Dimopoulos

"This incredible facility will help kids across the southeast on their journey to recovery."

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