

Media Release

The Hon Lizzie Blandthorn MP
Deputy Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council
Minister for Children
Minister for Disability



Friday, 9 August 2024

NEW KINDER SPACES COMING FOR YARRA JUNCTION

The Allan Labor Government is giving more children the best start in life, with a brand-new kindergarten opening in Yarra Junction.

Minister for Children Lizzie Blandthorn today officially opened the brand-new Cire Early Years Learning Hub which includes a kindergarten and a community hub.

The project was funded by both the Labor Government and Cire Services Inc.

The Government allocated \$2m towards the project through a Building Blocks Capacity Building grant in the *Victorian Budget 2020-21*.

The new space brings essential services together, featuring meeting rooms for allied health services. There is also a 118-place long day care service which will also provide a funded kindergarten program for both 3- and 4-year-olds.

By integrating the new kinder with other services, the hub will make accessing services easier for families and children by enabling them to access care and services in one place.

The *Victorian Budget 2024/25* includes \$19 million for Building Blocks Improvement and Inclusion Grants.

Through our nation-leading \$14 billion Best Start, Best Life reforms, the Government is transforming early childhood education to help children thrive, save families money and support parents to return to work or study if they choose.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Children Lizzie Blandthorn

"We're delivering more early childhood services right across Victoria, so more children and families can benefit from two years of quality play-based learning before they start school."

"Integrating the new kinder with other services for families and children makes it easier for busy parents to manage their little ones' lives and receive care and services in one place."

Quote attributable to Member for Northern Victoria Jaclyn Symes

"This new kinder at Yarra Junction will give more children in the area the chance to attend a great local kindergarten, where they can learn, play and make new friends."