

Media Release

The Hon Lizzie Blandthorn MP

Deputy Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council

Minister for Children

Minister for Disability



Friday, 7 November 2025

NEW KINDERGARTEN ON THE WAY FOR MELBOURNE'S NORTH

The Allan Labor Government is making sure children in the growing communities of Melbourne's north have the kinder infrastructure they need for a quality education.

Minister for Children Lizzie Blandthorn today announced more than \$4.7 million in funding to deliver a new integrated children's centre at the Brunswick Early Years Hub.

The new kindergarten, opening in 2028 on Albert Street, will meet demand from local families and provide up to 124 places for local children.

Today's announcement is part of the Labor Government's Building Blocks Partnership with the City of Merri-bek which is now delivering 12 projects – creating up to 509 new kindergarten places with state contributions of up to \$16.52 million.

Since 2021, the Labor Government has entered 19 Building Blocks Partnerships across Victoria supporting 115 new and expanded kindergartens and creating thousands of new places for children where they're needed most.

More than 145,000 children and their families are saving up to \$2,600 per child each year through the Labor Government's Free Kinder program, which is available at 97 per cent of kinder programs across the state.

The Labor Government is investing billions to build and expand hundreds of kindergartens across the state, supporting the delivery of 15 hours of three-year-old kindergarten each week by 2029 and up to 30 hours of Pre-Prep each week by 2036.

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

Quotes attributable to Minister for Children Lizzie Blandthorn

"We're investing in early learning infrastructure because we know the early years are critical for every child's development and for Victoria's future."

"This project builds on 11 others already announced with Merri-bek Council, showing our strong focus on meeting the demand in growing communities."

"Families will save thousands each year per child thanks to Free Kinder, and this new service means more children in Brunswick can share in those benefits."