

Media Release

The Hon Daniel Andrews MP
Premier



Monday, 7 September, 2015

MONASH CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL CELEBRATES SPECIAL MILESTONE

Construction of the new \$250 million Monash Children's Hospital has reached a significant milestone, with the building reaching its full height.

Premier Daniel Andrews, Minister for Health Jill Hennessy, and local Members of Parliament today celebrated the building's 'topping out' milestone by signing a beam which will be installed in the state-of-the-art hospital in Melbourne's south east.

The 'topping out' milestone signifies the completion of the hospital's external structure, with the focus of work now moving towards the façade and the internal fit-out.

The new contemporary, purpose-built Monash Children's Hospital will serve the growing communities of south east Melbourne, the Mornington Peninsula, and Gippsland, treating an additional 7000 children every year.

The hospital will include 230 beds (96 paediatric beds, 12 dedicated children's cancer day beds, 20 same day beds, 10 paediatric intensive care beds, 30 neonatal intensive care cots), and 28 beds providing special mental health services for children and adolescents.

With 27 consulting rooms, the new hospital will provide an additional 60,000 outpatient treatments for children each year, and there will be three dedicated children's operating theatres and a children's procedure room.

In the *2015-16 Victorian Budget*, the Andrews Labor Government invested \$3.8 million to build a helipad on the rooftop of the Monash Children's Hospital, which was cut from the project by the former Liberal Government.

A rooftop helipad means Victorians facing life threatening emergencies, when transported by helicopter, will be able to be transferred more quickly to receive the urgent care they need.

Construction of the new hospital is on track to be completed in late 2016, with patients to be admitted in 2017.

Quotes attributable to Premier Daniel Andrews

"This new hospital will give children in Melbourne's south east the best care they need, in state-of-the-art facilities."

"We're investing in our health system to ensure all Victorians can get the care they need, when they need it."

Quotes attributable to Minister for Health Jill Hennessy

"This is a significant milestone for the project, and it's great to see the Monash Children's Hospital really take shape."

"We've stepped in and provided funding for a rooftop helipad for the Monash Children's Hospital which was cut by the former Liberal Government, because we know it will help save lives."