On 4th September 2012 Minister for Children and Early Childhood Development Wendy Lovell MP, together with the Mayor of Hobsons Bay Councillor Tony Briffa and Williamstown North Ward Councillor Peter Hemphill, turned the first sod of soil marking the beginning of construction of the Newport Gardens Early Years Centre.

Contractors will set up their site compound on 10th September 2012 and will begin construction activities during the following week.

It is anticipated the building process will be completed within 12 months and the site will be open for business in January 2014.

Located on the Newport Gardens Primary School site, it will provide access to an integrated service for families and children from birth to 12 years, ensuring a seamless transition of early years services, long day care and kindergarten through to primary school education.

The new centre will be managed by a not-for-profit organisation providing long day care places and sessional kindergarten places for the zero to six years age group.

A number of early years services will also occupy the facility, such as Maternal and Child Health Service, Early Intervention Services operated by Yooralla and the Hobsons Bay Toy Library. There will also be a number of community rooms for hire.
**Contractor’s access to the site**

The contractors will be accessing the site through a new entrance constructed on Maddox Road. A traffic management plan will be put in place to minimise disruption to the neighbourhood.

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**Enrolment in the long day care and kindergarten programs**

The enrolment process for the long day care component of the Newport Gardens Early Years Centre is now open.

For more information on joining the waitlist for long day care at Newport Gardens Early Years Centre, contact the Early Years Unit at Hobsons Bay City Council on 9932 1000, email earlyyears@hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au or visit the Newport Gardens Early Years Centre Section at www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au

A separate application is required to enrol in Sessional Kindergarten of up to 15 hours at the Newport Gardens Early Years Centre for 2014.

Families can register for Sessional Kindergarten with the Council’s Kindergarten Access Officer on 9932 1000. This process is now open and accepting applications.

For further information, go to www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au

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**Further information**

If you would like any further information on the development, call Community Development on 9932 1000 or email agildea@hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au

To have this brochure in an alternative format, please contact the Council on 9932 1000.

For information in your language, call TIS on 131 450 and ask to be put through to 9932 1000.