



Media Release

July

Joe Hockey declares Artarmon childcare centre open

Eco-friendly Artarmon Butterflies International Early Learning & Childcare Centre, was officially opened by the Hon Joe Hockey MP on Thursday July 1.

Mr Hockey, the Shadow Treasurer and Member for North Sydney, opened the childcare centre at a ceremony welcoming the new centre and the benefits it will give to local families.

Butterflies licensee, Norma Burke, said she was excited about the official opening and believed Butterflies put children's safety, their families and the environment first.

"Often many families struggle to find childcare facilities that are equipped with everything that is important to them," Ms Burke said.

"Butterflies is an environmentally friendly childcare centre built strictly with childcare needs in mind, we care for children aged from six weeks to five years, so safety is of the upmost importance.

"We spent over \$40,000 on 465 square meters (1.5 tennis courts) of soft lay surface to protect our 68 enrolled children and the environment."

The soft play area, with colourful 2-D inlays of animals and game panels that give educational play experiences, is made from 400 worn down truck tyres that otherwise would now be land fill or dumped illegally.

Mr Hockey welcomed the opening of the Butterflies Child Care Centre.

"I am pleased that local parents have a safe and environmentally friendly place for their children to learn and grow."

"It's fantastic to see another great local business open up that is not only concerned about the safety and wellbeing of their clients, but about doing what they can to protect the environment."

Ms Burke said it was important for children to have the best play area while also learning about protecting the environment and being 'environmentally friendly.

"It is also one of Butterflies' firm philosophies that we acknowledge the range of diverse lifestyles of families," Ms Burke said.

"We have a genuine regard for all children and their language, culture and achievements. The family is valued and their diverse backgrounds are empowered, challenged and reflected in our programmes through anti-bias education,"

Butterflies Artarmon is a childcare centre that is a family for families. The opening will see many North Shore parents relieved of the stress of finding a childcare centre that ticks all the right boxes.

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