



## **\*\*\*Media release\*\*\***

### **A new garden for children**

Children staying at the Austin Hospital can now spend time in a colourful new garden in with raised garden beds and a bright forest mural, that was opened by Minister for Children Maxine Morand.

“The garden provides a lovely place for children and their families away from the hustle and bustle of ward activity,” said Ms Jenny Spiller, acting nurse unit manger of the Paediatrics Ward.

“There were a lot of people who helped this courtyard come to life, but the idea for an outdoor area started with Juanita Phillips, our ‘Charge Nurse’ in the old Austin Hospital.”

During the hospital redevelopment, Mrs Phillips had asked for a courtyard for her young patients and was pleased to see her idea come to fruition. She was surprised when the Minister unveiled a sign painted “Juanita’s Garden” in her honour.

The Minister also visited the recently redeveloped Austin Child Care Centre, which has cared for the children of staff since 1976. The \$1.5 million redevelopment means the centre can now care for 70 children and babies.