

L'Estrange Park - contribution to construction of a children's playground

Partner: City of Botany Bay Council
Total funding: \$150,000
Year: 2009 (project completed in July 2012)
Category: Community health and wellbeing

The L'Estrange Park playground has been designed to cater for two age groups, with a large mound which provides a distinct divide in the arrangement of the playground. The ground to the west of the mound, along Sutherland Street, is designated for children aged 2-6 years old.

A sand play pit, comprising of toy diggers, sand and water play items caters for the younger user, while the bicycle track, swing set, jungle unit (slides and climbing walls) and spinner were provided for the slightly older children. The giant mound has rubber boulder steppers and an exciting embankment slide.



The play equipment to the north of the mound caters for those aged 6-12 years old. It has an explorer dome and embankment net for climbing and coordination skills and a giant Giants Birds Nest swing set for the adventurous. Parents have been catered for with a gazebo and seating throughout the park.

A brilliant feature of park is that it was designed to fit around the prominent root system of two *Ficus macrophylla* (Fig) trees that have existed on the site for more than 40 years.

The boardwalk and retaining wall around the swing feature are suspended on floating foundations which are anchored by concrete piles so that the trees remain unaffected by the development.

