

## MEDIA RELEASE

7 June 2022

### **The Y Ballarat to deliver new concept in early education for Ballarat**

#### **Images and Photo opportunity:**

**What:** Architect Renders of the Y Learn and Swim Centre, Brown Hill Ballarat  
Photo opportunity can be arranged with key Y Project Staff on-site

**Where:** 40 Water Street, Brown Hill

**When:** tba

The Y Ballarat is very excited to announce that its innovative concept incorporating Early Learning and a Swim School in one location is on track for completion in early 2023.

The Centre, being constructed in Water Street Brown Hill, will offer long day care, kindergarten and swimming lessons. Having the different services all located in one state-of-the-art facility means a huge time saving and convenience for busy families.

Catering for ages 6 weeks to 5 years old, the centre will be open 50 weeks of the year, opening Monday to Friday 7am - 6pm. The long day care and kindergarten will offer 114 places, with a funded 3 and 4 year old program.

The Y Ballarat is known for its experience in delivering high quality Early Learning programs, managing 88 kindergarten services across the State, which include Lucas Kindergarten, located west of Ballarat.

With more than a 100 year history of teaching people to swim and be safe around water, the Y is perfectly place to bring this expertise to the Early Learning environment. The Y's thoroughly developed learn-to-swim curriculum will be offered in a 17 metre, warm water swimming pool.

In addition to delivering swimming lessons to children in the Early Learning programs, lessons will also be available to the community, with the pool opening 7 days a week.

"Quality early learning experiences are recognised as being so essential in a child's development.

We are really excited to be developing this unique model of early years education to support the next generation of young people and the local community. The Y Learn and Swim centre will offer Kindergarten, Long Day Care and Swimming Lesson programs, a unique offering in Ballarat and across Victoria," said Craig Mathieson, Acting Chief Executive Officer, the Y Ballarat.

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#### **THE Y BALLARAT**

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We believe in the power of  
inspired young people

“Our vision is to equip children with learning skills for life. Whether this be in anticipation of starting at school or to be able to swim and be safe around water, we see this as our opportunity to empower young people.

Not only will it support busy families that may find their time stretched, but it will also offer another swim school facility in a different area of Ballarat, at a time when the region has seen incredible growth,” Mr Mathieson added.

Expressions of interest are currently being taken and the community can keep up with the latest centre developments via the website, [Ylearnandswim.org.au](http://Ylearnandswim.org.au). Enrolments will open later in the year.

### **About the Y Ballarat**

At the Y, we believe in the power of inspired young people. The Y Ballarat’s services include: Children’s Services (including Early Years Management, Long Day Care and OSHC), and Youth and Community Programs. The Y, formerly the YMCA, has a long history delivering programs for the Ballarat community, established in 1878.

### **About the Y**

As a national movement, we provide a wide range of programs and services in over 500 communities across Australia, including rural and remote communities. The Y is a community not-for-profit and the oldest youth organisation in the world.

For further details visit: [yballarat.org.au](http://yballarat.org.au).

### **Contact**

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