



## Playground Upgrade, Lalor Park Childcare Centre, 1999-2000 Blacktown City Council



Softfall

Sturt Noble Associates was engaged by Blacktown Council to design and document a major playground upgrade for Lalor Park Childcare Centre. The purpose of the upgrade was primarily to create a more varied play environment than provided by the presently uninteresting playground.

Our aim was to also design and develop artwork that triggers the imagination, is adventurous and tactile, and adds culture in a lively and playful way. The art work is abstracted reality and provides the possibility of discovery and surprise. It is integrated into the playground in

a harmonious way and incorporate educational and whimsical notions.

The final design incorporated a large number of changes to the playground spaces. Wet pour soft fall incorporating different colours, shapes and motifs replaced the existing artificial grass. New sandpits were created and shade structures provided. Blank brick walls were rendered and a mural installed to one large wall area. A naturalistic play area was created in a previously disused part of the Kindergarten. This incorporates a sandstone boulder river course; digging patch and mosaic tiled water play area. Planting of shade trees and ornamental plants was carried out to further enhance the amenity of the playground. A sculptural concrete water tough was constructed in addition to the installation of a number of play features based on the themes of dinosaurs.



Feature



Feature wall