

**For immediate release  
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### **iPads enhance educational programs for local children at Toukley Preschool**

Toukley Preschool can continue to enhance its learning programs and processes, especially in relation to children with additional needs, thanks to the delivery of four new iPads, funded under the 2014 Wallarah 2 Community Grants Program.

Toukley Preschool is a community-based organisation that has provided education, care and support for children and their families in the Wyong area for more than 45 years.

The Preschool recognises that they are just one cog in the world of each child. This has led them to look for ways to continue to enhance the ways they provide for, and cater to, the individual needs of children in their care.

With a high number of children at the centre with additional needs, the iPads are set to play an important role in allowing the Preschool to follow through with tailored learning processes that the children are undertaking outside of school in therapy sessions and at home. The technology will also play an important step in creating a shared sense of inclusion among all the children.

Julie Tockuss, Director of Toukley Preschool said, "Our focus is on the development and happiness of children in our community and I am delighted that we are now able to improve the environment at the Preschool further, for the benefit of all the children.

"iPad technology is something we have used with great success in the past. However, we were limited in our ability to really capitalise on the equipment as it was borrowed from home or was the personal property of our teachers and carers.

"It is truly amazing to see how using something as simple as an iPad can transform the lives of children with additional needs. iPads are the ideal resource for children with autism, language delays, behavioural issues and other learning difficulties. One of the reasons they are so valuable to our children is that they are easily accessible and we can quickly change and adapt the apps to suit whatever activity the children are undertaking.

"iPads also work especially well because they appeal to the tactile nature of children, so even if language is a barrier, the children can communicate and access information on the iPads with the touch of a finger.

"As a community preschool we rely heavily on the generosity of the community to ensure we can continue to offer the best to the children. We are very thankful to Wallarah 2 for providing our children with this technology so that they may have the best start in life."

Peter Smith, Community Manager of Wallarah 2 Coal Project, said his organisation was pleased to support a grass roots community organisation where benefits of their funding were so easily identifiable.

**-MORE-**

**brilliant logic**

Central Coast PO Box 4427 East Gosford NSW 2250  
Sydney PO Box 530 Woollahra NSW 1350

P 02 4324 6962 F 02 4321 0762 ABN 11 066 317 771  
[www.brilliantlogic.com.au](http://www.brilliantlogic.com.au)

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"With the introduction of iPads into the classrooms, Toukley Preschool will be able to cultivate their educational program and the development of children by allowing them to take control of their own learning.

"This is a fantastic organisation doing great things for our community and we are thrilled to assist them to support their kids."

For more information visit [www.wallah.com.au](http://www.wallah.com.au).

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**For more information, interviews or photo opportunities:**

**Nerissa Magee**

[nmagee@brilliantlogic.com.au](mailto:nmagee@brilliantlogic.com.au)

02 4324 6962

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