

Kingsdene Special School and Residential Service

1976 – 2010

Other Names:

- Kingsdene Special School and Hostel
- Kingsdene Special School

Details

Kingsdene Special School at Telopea provided schooling and residential care to children aged 10-18 from March 1976. It was run by the Anglican Home Mission Society's Care Force division, the welfare arm of the Anglican Diocese of Sydney, who described it as being for children and young people with "moderate to severe intellectual disabilities". It closed in 2010 due to a lack of funding to continue operations. At the time of closure Anglicare (the successor to Care Force) stated that it was the only school in Australia providing education and accommodation for children with intellectual disabilities. Following the closure of the school, one of the buildings was redeveloped to support the expansion of work by Anglicare Out-of-Home Care Services.

The residential portions of the Kingsdene Special School included a hostel on the school site (open from 1976 to 2010), and a group home called the Denison Group Home which opened as Denison Cottage at Seven Hills in 1985 before moving next door to the school site in 1986 where it stayed until its closure in 2012. Anglicare also ran two Homes for children with disabilities as part of the Kingsdene program that were not located at the Kingsdene School site. 'Tress' Kingsdene Home opened in 1979 at 222A Pennant Hills Road Carlingford, and moved to 2 Treeview Place North Rocks in 1987 until its closure in 1997. 'Manning' Kingsdene Hostel was located at 28 Gladstone Street, North Parramatta, and ran from 1979 to 1997.

Dave Earl's thesis describes Kingsdene as a "semi-residential high school". It contains the story of Julia, born in the early 1980s, who would spend weeknights at the school and weekends at home with her family (Earl, 2007, p.133).

Gallery



Manning Kingsdene Hostel

Description: This is a photo of the Manning Hostel at 28 Gladstone Street, North Parramatta, which was part of Anglicare's Kingsdene disability program. It shows a two-storey white weatherboard house with a small front verandah. This photo is undated, the date included is an estimate.



Tress Kingsdene Home

Description: This is a photo of the Tress Kingsdene Home at Pennant Hills Road, Carlingford, which was part of Anglicare's Kingsdene disability program. It shows a raised split-level brick house with a garage underneath, and large plants at the front. This photo is undated, the date included is an estimate.



Kingsdene Special School - Telopea

Description: This is a photo of the Kingsdene Special School at Telopea. It shows a wide single-storey brick building, with the words 'Kingsdene Special School' written on the side. Decorations can be seen displayed in the windows.

More info

Related Entries

Run by

- [Care Force \(1979 - 1997\)](#)
- [Anglicare \(1997 - current\)](#)

Resources

- Earl, Dave, [Caring for the Children. Forever: Parent-run organisations for children with disabilities in New South Wales, 1950-1968](#), 2007

Records

For more information and to access your records, follow the links below:

Records

- [Anglicare Children's Homes, Foster Care and Out-of-Home Care Records \(1932 - 2010s\)](#)
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You can view this page online by visiting <https://www.findandconnect.gov.au/entity/kingsdene-special-school-and-residential-service/>