

Sandgate Maternal and Child Welfare Home

1944 – 1983

Other Names:

- Sandgate Home
- Child Welfare Home Sandgate

Details

The Sandgate Maternal and Child Welfare Home, at Sandgate, opened in March, 1944 as a government-run convalescent and emergency care home for children. It accommodated children whose mothers were seriously ill and for whose care no other suitable arrangements could be made. From 1901 to 1942, the same building in Flinders Parade, Sandgate, had been the site of the Broadhurst Convalescent Home. From 1983 the facility became known as the Sandgate Centre and provided both long and short term residential care for intellectually impaired children.

The Sandgate Maternal and Child Welfare Home was a government-run institution that cared for those children whose mothers were seriously ill and for whose care no other suitable arrangements could be made. The care provided was of a temporary nature and relieved pressure on the Diamantina Receiving Depot at Woolloowin that was caring for the children of servicemen whose wives were admitted to hospital.

The Home was run by nursing sisters on a hospital care basis. According to the Heritage Register:

Quarters for the nursing staff were altered and enlarged during the late 1940s, and new buildings added to the site during the mid 1950s included dining and recreation rooms, these buildings were demolished in June 1997.

By 1977 the complex consisted of the original house and other dormitory buildings. Children stayed for a maximum of 3 weeks, then either returned home or were transferred to the Red Cross Home at Margate. After the Margate Home closed in 1975, the children remained at Sandgate for as long as necessary.

Where children appeared to be 'abandoned', the Children's Services Department were notified and steps were taken to make them wards of the State.

In August 1983 the property was transferred to the Intellectual Disability Services section of the Health Department and became known as the Sandgate Centre.

Gallery



138 Flinders Parade, Sandgate

Description: This image of 138 Flinders Parade, Sandgate in 1994 shows the building that housed the Broadhurst Convalescent Home, the Sandgate Maternal and Child Welfare Home and the Sandgate Centre. Please note: This image was previously available online in the Queensland Heritage Register but has since been replaced.

More info

Chronology

- **Sandgate Maternal and Child Welfare Home (1944 – 1983)**
 - The Sandgate Centre (1983 - 1994)

Related Entries

Run by

- [Health and Home Affairs Department \(5 December 1935 - 26 September 1963\)](#)
Date: 1944 - 1963
- [Health Department, State Government of Queensland \(26 September 1963 - 3 April 2012\)](#)
Date: 1963 - 1994

Related Organisations

- [Diamantina Receiving Depot and Infants' Home \(1910 - 1962\)](#)
The establishment of the Sandgate Maternal and Child Welfare Home in 1944 relieved pressure on the Diamantina Receiving Depot and Infants' Home.
- [Broadhurst Convalescent Home \(1901 - 1942\)](#)
The Broadhurst Convalescent Home operated on the same site as the Sandgate Maternal and Child Welfare Home.

Resources

- [Janet Camilleri interviewed by Val Donovan in the Forgotten Australians and Former Child Migrants oral history project \[sound recording\]](#), National Library of Australia website, 2011
- [Sandgate Children's Home](#), Worker, 5 May 1947
- [New ward for Sandgate Home](#), Courier Mail, 21 February 1945
- Camilleri, Janet, [My time in Sandgate Children's Home](#), Middle Aged Mama, 2013

Records

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

Records

- [Case Files - Maternal and Child Welfare Home, Sandgate \(1965 - 1983\)](#)
 - [Sandgate Maternal and Child Welfare Home Files \(1943 - 1957\)](#)
 - [Admission Cards - Maternal and Child Welfare Home, Sandgate \(1976 - 1979\)](#)
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You can view this page online by visiting <https://www.findandconnect.gov.au/entity/sandgate-maternal-and-child-welfare-home/>