

Regency Park Centre

1976 – 1992

Other Names: • Regency Park Centre for Young Disabled

Details

The Regency Park Centre for Young Disabled was opened by the Crippled Children's Association of South Australia in 1976. It replaced the Somerton Crippled Children's Home and the Ashford House School. Children suffering from disabilities were accommodated in decentralised wards. The Centre was staffed by therapists and teachers from the State's Education Department. In the 1980s several new residential options were developed including foster care and in-home support. In 1992 the residential section of Regency Park closed.

The Regency Park Centre for Young Disabled was opened by the Crippled Children's Association of SA in 1976. Planned since 1970 and under construction from 1971 the new larger facility was designed to replace both the Somerton Crippled Children's Home and the Ashford House School – a day school for children with cerebral palsy. Children from Somerton Home moved into the new Centre in 1976. Children who stayed at the centre were accommodated in decentralised wards or 'villas'. Parents could also stay on site in motel style accommodation while learning how to help their children.

A *Women's Weekly* article from May 1976 reported that children at Regency Park had 'disabilities such as cerebral palsy, spina bifida, muscular dystrophy, amputations, asthma and many others.'

The new Regency Park Centre cost \$6,250,000 and was opened by the then Governor of South Australia, Sir Mark Oliphant. It was staffed by therapists and teachers from the State's Education Department. The headmaster at its opening was Frank Braybon.

In the 1980s a variety of new residential options were developed for children including foster care and in-home support.

In 1992 the residential section of Regency Park was closed.

More info

Chronology

- Somerton Crippled Children's Home (1939 - 1976)
 - **Regency Park Centre (1976 – 1992)**

Related Entries

Run by

- [Crippled Children's Association of South Australia, Inc. \(1939 - 2004\)](#)

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