

Talire School

1950 – 1980?

Other Names: • Talire School for Mentally Disabled Children

Details

Talire School opened in 1950. The Retarded Children's Welfare Association ran it between 1952 and 1954 when the government took it over. It was a non-residential School which provided an education for day students with intellectual disabilities. Talire School closed during the 1980s.

Talire School was possibly the first of its kind in Australia. It opened in an old hall in Moonah with six students. Although the accommodation and equipment was modest, it was able to employ a teacher.

According to Alison Alexander, there are two versions of the origins of Talire School. That of the Retarded Children's (later Citizens') Welfare Association, was that Harold Gigney was the instigator. His son had Down's Syndrome and this led Gigney to be a driving force for both Talire and the Association. The *Mercury's* version was that Mental Health Association established Talire with the help of a parents' auxiliary.

After the establishment of the Retarded Children's Welfare Association in 1952, its committee ran the school. To provide better premises, they purchased Warwick Lodge, a historic house on the corner of Risdon Road and the Brooker Highway.

In 1954, the Education Department took the school over. Ten years later, they demolished Warwick Lodge to build more modern facilities.

By 1969, Talire had 100 students aged between six and 16.

Gallery



Talire School for Mentally Disabled Children: children playing at school



Talire Special School students learning how to read, write and spell



Talire Special School students in art class

More info

Related Entries

Run by

- [Retarded Children's Welfare Association \(1952 - 1982\)](#)

The Retarded Children's Welfare Association ran Talire School until 1954 when the government took it over.

Related Organisations

- [Mental Health Association \(c. 1945 - current\)](#)

The Mental Health Association may have established Talire School.

- [Education Department, State of Tasmania \(1885 - current\)](#)

From 1954 onwards, the Education Department ran Talire School.

- [Wingfield School \(1942? - 1965?\)](#)

In April 1957, the Director-General of Health Services suggested that children with intellectual disabilities, who attended Wingfield School, could go to Talire School instead.

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