

## Gender neutral toilet facility design

### CASE STUDY: Lady Northcote Recreation Camp

Lady Northcote Recreation Camp is a Victorian Govt Sport and Recreation Camp, managed by YMCA Victoria. In 2015/16 the camp undertook to redevelop the toilet facilities located within their camp Dining room building.

During the design phase, the team at the camp took time to consider the following factors:

- an increase in young people attending camp who are transitioning gender or who identify as gender diverse and who required a solution to accessing bathrooms/toilets
- a desire to create the same experience at camp for as many visitors as possible, ensuring everyone feels included, welcomed and comfortable
- ensuring bathrooms will be still relevant and suitable for societal needs for next 10+ years
- a need to meet the operational demands of the toilet facility; to cater for the diverse groups attending camp (eliminating female and male toilets meant that when single gender groups are at camp, they have access to the whole toilet facility, therefore more toilets & hand basins available to them)
- use of space available to construct new toilets, eliminating the urinal (outdated, single gender use and hard to keep clean), use of signage to indicate gender-neutral facility.

The Camp Manager, Mr Rob Cummins, consulted with 15 different camp user groups to understand their needs and have input to the design. All feedback received regarding the camp's desire to convert existing male and female toilet facilities to a gender-neutral toilet facility design was very positive and welcomed.

Following the construction of the new gender-neutral facilities, the camp has not experienced any issues with the toilet design.