

Garden paved with creativity

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CHILDREN will learn the value of work and play in a bold garden design plan by Westgarth Kindergarten.

The kindergarten has employed design consultant **Carolyn Lunt** and landscape architect Sarah Yeomans to develop a three-year plan for the kindergarten's outdoor space.

The design includes a new deck, paving, trickle pond and outdoor stages with indigenous plants and shrubs.

Kindergarten children will be able to put their stamp on the garden by decorating pavers.

Ms Lunt, who holds education and horticulture degrees, said children needed a variety of options for work and play to keep them stimulated.

The Northcote resident is writing a book, *Just Outdoors*, about the importance of children interacting with their environment.

``The new garden has a lot of play areas for children," Ms Lunt said.

``Since kids can be here between 7am and 6.30pm, you've got to provide something to keep them busy that whole time."

Kindergarten director Doug Fargher gave up a new office to allow the funds to go towards the outdoor areas.

The design is intended to complement the indigenous forest landscape of nearby Westgarth Primary School.

The kindergarten will hold an open day on July 20 from 11am to 1pm.