

# Project: Guardian Early Learning Group



Inspired by the building blocks of Planex's standard range, SJB Architects worked with Planex to design a customised mobile storage solution suitable for children.

## Guardian Early Learning Group

Guardian Early Learning Group own and operate more than 55 early learning centres in Melbourne, Sydney, Brisbane, Adelaide and Canberra, making them one of the leading childcare centre providers in Australia. The Guardian Early Learning model is based on the Reggio Emilia learning framework, which encourages self-directed learning and the use of flexible environments that promote creativity and interaction across groups. Planex worked closely with senior architect Christina Markham (SJB architects) in response to SJB's brief for the Early Childhood Learning Centre for eight centres across VIC, QLD, SA and ACT.

## The Brief

The brief for the first childcare centre fit-out in Charlotte Street, Brisbane (opened June 29th) involved creating units that could be customised to suit the client, catering to a child-friendly, nurturing and collaborative atmosphere. This included being fully mobile and creating products for a flexible environment. There were strict plans around area calculations to take into account when choosing from a number of different Planex units. Inspired by the standard Planex range, Christina worked with Planex to reengineer customised S-Series mobile shelving for children. Castors make the S-Series the perfect solution for childcare facilities, allowing for maximised floor space. The product features open shelving and lockable doors. In addition, staff lockers were created based on the new xLocker series.

"In order to respond to the child-friendly requirements of the brief, the products have modified finishes. The customised storage units were created to store children's toys, ensuring it has flexibility to enable educators to set up the dimensions of units, making it low in height to interact and see over, but still high enough to create a level of division between spaces." Christina Markham, SJB.

The design of the Planex products and selection of castors ensures there is no risk of children injuring themselves or getting their hands or feet stuck in the cabinet. The specific child safety requirements made this project different from others, because of these features, which is why Planex's highly customisable ethos worked well, and the whole process was seamless.





### Project Milestones

- : Customised S-Series mobile shelving for children
- : Child friendly castors allow for maximised floor space
- : Locker systems with new joining system for fast assembly, reconfigure and reuse

### For The Evolving Workplace

As an Australian family-owned furniture designer with over 40 years' experience locally manufacturing steel storage, Planex was able to provide the client with individualised, flexible storage in a range of powder-coat finishes. With designed-in longevity and the ability to reuse, reconfigure and recycle as needs change Planex's unique storage range can meet scalable requirements as needs change with time.

Incorporating sustainability from concept to manufacture, the Planex range is made in Melbourne using over 95% locally sourced materials, manufactured in an ISO14001 and ISO9001 certified production facility from 100% recyclable BlueScope steel, is designed for disassembly and VOC-Free.

### Planex

Specialists in adaptive steel furniture, Australian family-owned furniture designer Planex manufacture storage and locker systems designed for evolving workplaces.

Find out more about Planex locker systems:

Visit [www.planex.com.au](http://www.planex.com.au)

Email [info@planex.com.au](mailto:info@planex.com.au)





Copyright Planex 2022

Information in this document may be subject to change without notification

**Head Office / Manufacturing**

191 Princes Highway Hallam

VIC Australia 3803

PO Box 125 Hallam 3803

Tel: +61 3 8795 1100

Fax: +61 3 8795 1122

Email Head Office: [info@planex.com.au](mailto:info@planex.com.au)

**National Sales and Distribution**

Adelaide

Brisbane

Canberra

Hobart

Perth

Sydney

Tel: +61 3 8795 1100

Email: [info@planex.com.au](mailto:info@planex.com.au)

[www.planex.com.au](http://www.planex.com.au)



“In order to respond to the child-friendly requirements of the brief, the products have modified finishes. The customised storage units were created to store children’s toys, ensuring it has flexibility to enable educators to set up the dimensions of units, making it low in height to interact and see over, but still high enough to create a level of division between spaces.” Christina Markham, SJB