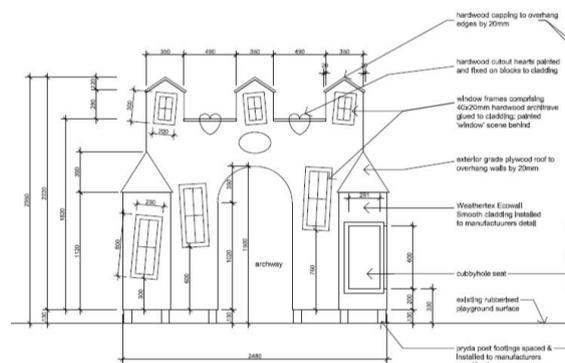


Local tradies donate their time to build a magical cubby house for the children of The Shepherd Centre

3 July 2017, Sydney, Australia - [hipages](http://hipages.com.au), Australia's number one place to hire trusted tradies, called out to local tradespeople to volunteer and build a magical cubby house for the children of [The Shepherd Centre](http://www.shepherdcentre.org.au), a leading organisation helping children with hearing loss learn to listen and speak. The engagement with the initiative was very strong and the real-life version of the cubby house was built last month. It will be revealed to the families on 11th July in Newtown.

The story started last December, when hipages ran an online competition inviting kids all over Australia to submit a drawing of their dream cubby house. The winner of the contest was 7 year-old Tayla from Whittlesea, VIC, who submitted her drawing of *The Royal Palace of Mischief and Magic*.

hipages then gathered a team of local volunteer tradies to build a real life version of Tayla's magical cubby house on The Shepherd Centre's playground in Newtown. The hipages volunteer tradies first transformed her drawing into a blueprint, working closely with the therapists of The Shepherd Centre to make the cubby suitable for the children of the centre.



Tayla's dream cubby and the blueprint inspired by her winning drawing

The local tradies all donated their time pro-bono for the project, building the cubby house over a week. The real-life version of the cubby house will be revealed to the kids and families of The Shepherd Centre on Tuesday, 11 July.



The hipages tradies working pro-bono to bring the Dream Cubby to life

ENDS

For more information and interviews, or to attend the reveal day, please contact: Guillaume Papillon, hipages' PR & Communications Manager
guillaumepapillon@hipages.com.au, 0405 074 109

About hipages:

Founded in 2004, hipages is Australia's number one place to find and hire trusted tradies. A service available on app and online, hipages connects helps consumers find verified and licensed tradies in their local area while helping tradies grow their business through innovative technology, finding them more local jobs, which they can manage on the go. With over 90,000 tradies listed in 1,300 categories and over 100,000 jobs posted by Australian consumers every month, hipages is the leader in its category. hipages.com.au

About The Shepherd Centre:

The Shepherd Centre is a NSW-based not-for-profit organisation specialising in early intervention to help children with hearing loss develop spoken language skills. Since its foundation, The Shepherd Centre has opened up a world of sound for more than 2,000 deaf children. The organisation is recognised as a world leader in the field of early intervention Auditory-Verbal Therapy, providing families with assistance to develop their child's spoken language, so they can reach their full potential. The Shepherd Centre relies heavily upon fundraising and donations to support close to 450 Australian families who turn to them for help each year. Funds raised by The Shepherd Centre help give deaf and hearing impaired children access to critical therapy support to help them learn to listen and speak, and to reach their full potential in the classroom – and in life. shepherdcentre.org.au