

**Irish Childcare Group Opens €4 Million Facility in Wicklow**

***Opening Creates 35 New Jobs in Delgany, Co. Wicklow***

Responding to significant parental demand for premium childcare services in North Wicklow, The Park Academy Childcare Group has invested €4 million into developing a state-of-the-art, purpose-built childcare and after school facility in Eden Gate, Delgany. The opening, the Group's second in Wicklow, will create 35 jobs in the region.

The opening of the new facility in Eden Gate is part of The Park Academy Childcare Group's recent expansion programme across South Dublin and Wicklow. The Group recently opened two new state-of-the-art childcare facilities in Beacon South Quarter, Sandyford and Ireland's first purpose-built after school club in Thornwood, Booterstown.

"We have noticed an increase in demand for childcare and after-school places over the past number of months from parents returning to full-time employment as a result of the recent economic down-turn" says Mary McGibney, Director of The Park Academy Childcare Group. "Due to this increased demand in Wicklow, a high density commuter belt for Dublin, we have taken the decision to develop our largest childcare facility in Eden Gate, Delgany."

The new purpose-built facility is 8,500 square feet and includes a special nautical themed play area, an in-house chef and extensive landscaped gardens. Designed to the highest international standards The Park Academy Childcare at Eden Gate provides education and care from babies up to afterschool care for children up to 6th class.

Founded by Mary McGibney and Geraldine Cobbe, The Park Academy Childcare Group developed Ireland's first purpose built crèche in 1995 and through its ongoing programmes of research, innovation and best practice, continues to be a leader in the Irish childcare industry today. The Park Academy is recognised within the industry as 'setting the standards' to which others aspire.

**For further information, call 1890 273 243 or see [www.theparkacademy.ie](http://www.theparkacademy.ie).**

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