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## PAEDIATRIC RENOVATIONS AT PAMBULA HOSPITAL NEARING COMPLETION

Renovations to the paediatric unit at Pambula District Hospital are expected to be completed by the end of this month.

Greater Southern Area Health Service Eastern Sector General Manager, Ken Barnett, said contractors have finished bathroom renovations and the unit is nearing completion.

“Fixtures, fittings and décor such as beds, cots and DVD players have been purchased.

“We are waiting on external contractors to finish the electrical wiring for the bathroom and install nurse call buttons,” he said.

The renovations are among the recommendations in the recent assessment of paediatric services at Pambula Hospital to enable overnight admissions for children with minor medical conditions and for short periods of recovery.

“For Pambula to be able to admit paediatric patients the children’s area needed refurbishment to conform to current NSW Health Department guidelines,” Mr Barnett said.

“An isolation area for infectious disease is to be built and we are awaiting delivery from the United States of a dedicated paediatric trolley which can be used in emergencies.

“We are also still finalising plans for a play area next to the unit,” he said.

Mr Barnett said nursing staff have already completed a workshop on paediatric care.

“The Paediatric Competency Training workshop was held recently over two days.

“It covered all aspects of paediatric care including common paediatric presentations to hospital such as gastroenteritis and asthma, safe prescribing, basic life support and communicating with families.”

Mr Barnett said the workshop has equipped nursing staff with increased skills and confidence to care for sick children at Pambula Hospital.

“Nursing staff have also been updated on New South Wales Health Guidelines for the Hospitalisation of Children,” he said.

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