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## **HSBC Malta Foundation and Hudson Foundation Finance Extension of Inspire Foundation's LinC Day School Playground**

Thanks to the generous support of HSBC Malta Foundation and Hudson Foundation, Inspire Foundation's Learning in Context (LinC) will be installing a new extension to its Day School playground in 2026 at its Bulebel education building.

Launched in March 2019 with just 15 learners, the LinC programme today supports 45 children from Year 1 to Year 7 with exceptionally high support needs. Most of these children have been diagnosed with learning disabilities and communication difficulties. Unable to be catered for in mainstream school settings, they follow an adapted curriculum at LinC, delivered through a differentiated approach focused on functionality.

This playground which was financed by HSBC Malta Foundation and Hudson Group Foundation and installed early in 2025 has already had a transformative impact, with children showing significant improvements in regulation, calmness, and readiness to learn after their play sessions. Following the success achieved, Inspire is seeking to extend the resources available in this playground to provide additional sensory regulatory play equipment such as trampolines, a roundabout, swing seats and other sensory equipment – essential tools for stimulating the sense of balance and the position, movement of the body, thus reducing anxiety, and enhancing communication, learning, and behaviour.

When approached, HSBC Malta Foundation and Hudson Group Foundation immediately and enthusiastically agreed to support this extension to the playground to provide these young children with these additional resources that will be so beneficial to their needs.

Phase 2 of the playground project was officially launched by Alfie Borg from the Hudson Foundation at the HEART exhibition display at Mercury Shopping District, St Julian's at the end of last year.

"At HSBC Malta Foundation, we believe that every child deserves the opportunity to thrive in an environment that supports their unique needs. By investing in the extension of the LinC playground, we are helping to create a space where children can regulate, learn, and grow with confidence," said Geoffrey Fichte Chairperson for the HSBC Malta Foundation.

In conclusion Alfie Borg, Founder and Chairman for the Hudson Foundation commented, "Hudson Foundation is proud to continue supporting Inspire Foundation in its mission to provide inclusive and therapeutic learning environments. This playground extension is more than just equipment – it is an investment in the well-being, happiness, and future of these children".

"This extension represents a crucial step forward in ensuring that our learners have access to facilities that meet their unique needs," said Antonello Gauci, Chief Executive Officer, Inspire Foundation. "We are deeply grateful to HSBC Malta Foundation and Hudson Foundation for their continued support, which allows us to provide not only education but also the therapeutic and sensory tools that make learning possible."

HSBC Malta Foundation has long been committed to supporting projects that cultivate inclusion, education, and community wellbeing. By financing initiatives such as the LinC playground, the Foundation continues to champion opportunities for children with diverse needs, ensuring they have access to environments that nurture their growth, independence, and quality of life.



***Photocaption: From the Left: Geoffrey Fichte Chairperson HSBC Malta Foundation, Alfie Borg CEO Hudson Group and Claire Galea representing Inspire Malta***

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