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Stunning showcase a base for business

■ Gemma Nisbet

The first thing you see upon entering this Dianella home, custom designed and built by Vestra Personal Builders, is the swimming pool.

Framed by big windows and visible from most parts of the ground floor and much of the upper level, the pool sets the tone for the home's indoor-outdoor, entertaining-friendly feel.

Vestra director Tony Princi designed and built the home primarily as a family residence for himself, wife Audrey and their three children. However, it also provides a base, in the form a large office at the front of the home, from which the couple run the business, and is a showcase to give clients an idea of what they can achieve.

"We wanted something based around entertaining and our lifestyle, but we also wanted something we could show clients," Mrs Princi explained.

The focus throughout is on clean, modern lines complemented by luxurious

materials such as travertine cladding to the facade and some internal feature walls, and oversized 1x1m floor tiles on the ground floor.

The split-level ground floor includes the home's main living area, a generous open-plan dining and living area overlooked by the kitchen. As throughout the rest of the home, the living area has fitted cabinetry by International Cabinets.

An alfresco kitchen is connected to the large indoor kitchen via a panel of bi-folding windows, which can be opened up to create a servery. The indoor kitchen is well equipped to cater for considerable numbers, with a Siemens oven stack, walk-in pantry and access through to the laundry, which is connected by a chute to the main family bathroom upstairs.

Up the stone-tread staircase, which has a metal-and-timber balustrade, a gallery effect has been created with a void to one side of the walkway and big windows overlooking the pool to the other. This walkway leads to a large additional living area

incorporating an activity area with built-in bar and a sitting area opening to a balcony overlooking the pool.

There are also three minor bedrooms, each with fitted walk-in robes, and two children's bathrooms — one of which has a spa bath — as well as the main suite on this level. The latter incorporates a bedroom, a stylish, low-maintenance ensuite, walk-in robe and an additional walk-in shoe closet.

"It's my favourite room," Mrs Princi said of the latter.

Energy efficiency was a consideration; Mrs Princi said it had been important to "build a luxury home but still be energy efficient, without sacrificing on finish". As such, all lighting is LED and eco-glass has been used to help ensure that electricity bills are kept under control. The home is also equipped with smart wiring and a Sonos wireless hi-fi system.

It is open for public viewing by appointment.

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