Playgroup Victoria MCH Approach
Vivienne Cunningham-Smith, CEO
Playgroups in Victoria

• 3500 community playgroups meeting each week
  – Multiple session
  – Single session

• Over 100 agencies running supported playgroups each week for vulnerable children and families
• Provides infrastructure for community playgroups to exist:
  – Support and resourcing of volunteer parent committees and those taking leadership roles
  – Managing risk through insurance and advice
  – Consultants to assist with venues, playgroup issues

• Provide the professional development to agencies conducting supported playgroups

• Deliver supported playgroups
PVTV

• General modules on
  – How to Start a Playgroup
  – What is Playgroup

• Member Introduction modules
  – Committees Made Easy
  – Running an Effective Playgroup

• Annual Leadership workshops
  – Fundraising and promoting your playgroup
  – Play a Playgroup
PlayMap

Your online tool for planning playgroup sessions

Categories
1. EXPLORATION
2. LITERACY AND LANGUAGE
3. ACTIVE PLAY
4. MUSIC
5. IMAGINATIVE
6. CONSTRUCTION
7. ART AND CRAFT
8. DISCOVERY
9. SOCIAL PLAY

Session 1 activities:

SESSION DAY/DATE

SESSION 1

ACCEPT SELECTION

SAVE AS PDF   PRINT   EXIT
Playgroup Member Consultant

Northern region – Rosanna Di Grazia

Lodden Mallee – Buloke, Campaspe, Central Goldfields, Gannawarra, Greater Bendigo, Loddon, Macedon Ranges, Mildura, Mount Alexander, Swan Hill. **Northern metro** – Banyule, Darebin, Hume, Moreland, Nillumbik, Whittlesea, Yarra.

Southern region – Rita Caruana

Playgroup Member Consultant

Eastern region – Trudy Jordan


Western region – Carol Gray

PlayConnect

- Supported playgroups for children with autism
- No diagnosis necessary
- Sites:
  - Coburg
  - Thomastown
  - Echuca
  - Mooroopna
  - Brighton
  - Cranbourne East
  - Lakes Entrance
  - Glen Waverley
  - Ferntree Gully
  - Laverton
  - Werribee
  - Romsey
  - Geelong
MyTime is a parent support group for mums, dads and other people caring for a child with a disability or a chronic medical condition.

MyTime provides time to socialise and share experiences with other people who are in a similar situation. Each group is facilitated by an experienced worker whose role is to lead and support the group. There is also a play helper at each session who provides activities for the children who attend with their carer.

MyTime groups are located throughout Victoria and are available for those who are eligible to receive the Carer Allowance (Child). To find out more about your local MyTime group, visit www.mytime.net.au or call the MyTime Manager at Playgroup Victoria on 1800 171 882.
The MCH Strategy: Redesign of Playgroup Collateral

Playgroup is the natural step from a mother's or parents group. Playgroup is a group of parents/carers and their children under five meeting together to play and socialise. Most playgroups meet once a week for a couple of hours in a variety of venues such as maternal and child health centres, kindergartens, halls, community centres, schools and even private homes.

Going to playgroup connects you to your local community. Parents often talk about going to playgroup every week for themselves just as much as for their child's benefit. How often the playgroup meets and how structured or unstructured the playgroup is, is up to the families that attend.

A parent is the first educator of their child and playgroup provides the perfect opportunity for you to take pleasure in this role. When children play they develop language, use their imagination, explore, experiment, learn, practise new skills and express ideas and emotions.
12–18 month visit

CHILDREN
LEARN &
GROW
THROUGH
PLAYGROUP

Phone 1800 171 882 or click on ‘Find a playgroup’ at www.playgroup.org.au
Find a Playgroup

Find a playgroup

Playgroups all over Victoria have vacancies for new families. To find them, simply fill in the boxes below, browse through the Find a playgroup directory and make contact with the ones that interest you. For the most accurate results, search via municipality. Avoid contacts listed as volunteers and parents with young children to avoid being solicited to volunteer.

If you prefer to go to a playgroup that suits a special interest (whether it be cultural, Steiner or anything else), add us on 1800 171 882 and we’ll be happy to help.

Contact us

While every care is taken to ensure information on the Find a playgroup directory is correct, we depend on playgroups to contact us with any changes to their details by emailing playgroups@playgroup.org.au.

The Find a Playgroup directory is strictly for people wanting to join a playgroup and not for commercial use. Proprietors of companies found using this information will be contacted by Playgroup Victoria.

If you are unable to find the information you are looking for through our ‘Find a Playgroup’ search, please contact our office on 1800 171 882 between 9am and 5pm Monday to Friday and we would be happy to help you over the phone.

To use the ‘Find a Playgroup’ search function, type in the municipality / suburb or postcode and select from the drop down menu. Then press the ‘find’ button at the bottom of the screen.

Municipality
Suburb or postcode
Distance

Search category

- Baby
- Christian
- Cultural Specific
- Dads
- Disability
- Grandparents
- Indigenous
- Montessori
- Foster
- Steiner
Launching the New Parent Collateral

THE JOURNEY OF PARENTS AND CHILDREN

BIRTH -0
MATERNAL & CHILD HEALTH 0 YEARS
NEW PARENT GROUP 0-6 WEEKS
PLAYGROUP 0-3 YEARS
KINDERGARTEN 3+ YEARS
We will transition your new parents groups into playgroups

• At 4 week mark ring or email your Playgroup Member Consultant with the contact name of a parent or parents in the group

• The PMC will then work with the group to transition them to a playgroup including
  – Their preferred options:
    – Stay as a group and join a multi session playgroup
    – Meet as a single playgroup
    – Transition individually
  – Finding a venue
  – Setting them up with workshops and resourcing
Its that simple

Northern region – Rosanna Di Grazia

Southern region – Rita Caruana
Eastern region – Trudy Jordan

Western region – Carol Gray
Playgroup Victoria Display

- Postcard for you on the new strategy
- Examples of the postcard and magnet which you will get from DEECD
- Information on My Time and PlayConnect
- Victorian Playgroup Conference May 1st and 2nd
  www.layingthffoundations.com.au
Thank you
Playgroup Victoria
www.playgroup.org.au
1800 171 882