



# Welcome to Henley Parish Playgroup



## Introduction

Henley Parish Playgroup is a place for you to gather with other parents and caregivers, where your children can play with you in a facilitated environment. Please read through this information and complete the membership form on your first visit. We hope you enjoy your playgroup experience with us and look forward to sharing many fun times together.

Playgroup is both enjoyable and beneficial. It is an excellent opportunity for your children to experience group activities, learn to socialise and play in a range of situations. It also gives you the chance to meet other parents, grandparents and carers, make friends and share parenting ideas. Feel free to ask any questions or provide feedback as we welcome new ideas to our playgroup.

## About Henley Parish Playgroup

### TIME:

Our Playgroup runs on Tuesday mornings during the school term, it begins at 9:30 and finishes at 11am.

### ATTENDANCE RECORD:

Please fill in the attendance record at the start of each session. It is located on the welcome table.

### COST:

Your contribution of \$5:00 per family to cover resources, equipment and tea and coffee is appreciated. If you require financial assistance please see the Coordinator.

### SPICE PLAYGROUP:

Henley Parish Playgroup is a Supported Playgroup in Catholic Education (SPICE). This is a joint venture between our primary school, Star of the Sea School and our Parish. Our insurance covers you while you are in the hall but not travelling to or from the Playgroup.

A supported playgroup has a coordinator who plans and runs the session each week. Our coordinator has undertaken the SPiCE Training and they attend workshops every year so they can bring you new and exciting learning experiences. All volunteers hold a current Working with Children police clearance.



## Henley Parish Playgroup Activities

Activities offered during Playgroup include: - painting, sensory play, construction play, imaginative play, music time, story time and more. It is a chance for parents, caregivers and grandparents to play and interact with their children in a relaxed, supported environment.

Playgroup will begin at 9:30am with indoor play activities. At around 10:30 the children will come together with their parents/carers to listen and join in with a group story and have fruit together. Coming together as a group is an important part of Playgroup and is good preparation for kindergarten and school.

Please encourage your child to participate with you, or sit quietly to watch the group. It can be distracting for those joining in if parents are talking, so let's all sing along and have fun together. Remembering that you are the primary educators of your children therefore children learn the most from you.

Playgroup ends with a shared song time immediately following a story. This provides the opportunity for children to say goodbye to their friends, until they meet again next week.

## Dates for 2024

Dates for term 1:

**Week Two to Week Eleven**  
**06 Feb 2024 - 09 April 2024**

Dates for term 2:

**Week Two to Week Ten**  
**07 May 2024 - 02 July 2024**

Dates for term 3:

**Week Two to Week Ten**  
**30 July 2024 - 24 September 2024**

Dates for term 4:

**Week One to Week Eight**  
**15 October 2024 - 03 December 2024**

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## INFORMATION BOARD

Please check the Playgroup Information Board as this will display upcoming events and information that may be useful or of interest.

## REFRESHMENTS

Tea and coffee are covered by the entry donation and are available in the kitchen area. Please be mindful of hot beverages when you are near children especially in play areas and please ensure that you wash your own dishes.

## FRUIT TIME

Please bring a piece of fruit for your child(ren) to eat at story time. We appreciate your support to encourage children to wash their hands before we sit down to eat. Please advise the Playgroup Coordinator of any food allergies that your child(ren) have and note that this Playgroup has a strict **NO NUTS** policy.

## SMOKING

This Playgroup is a SMOKE FREE ZONE.  
No Smoking is permitted on, or around, the Playgroup Grounds.

## FIRST AID

There is a First Aid Box and Manual located in the kitchen.

## ACCIDENTS / INCIDENTS

If your child happens to be involved in an accident/incident at Playgroup, you will be required to complete the appropriate form. These forms are located in the folder on the sign in table. Please speak with your Playgroup Coordinator for assistance.

## EMERGENCY EXIT

In the event of a fire or other emergency, you are required to gather your child(ren) and vacate the premises. The emergency exits are located on both sides of the building. We then gather at the assembly area – located in the carpark at the rear of the building. The Playgroup Coordinator will collect the Attendance Sheet and check that everyone is accounted for so please ensure you cross your name off before leaving the assembly area.

## CLEANING UP

Playgroup relies on assistance from parents so please share in the clean up duties at the end of each session. Toys need to be packed up and put away in the cupboard, tables, paint pots and brushes need to be washed, play dough placed in the containers and all dishes washed and put away. Thank you for your support.



**NURTURING CHILDREN,  
STRENGTHENING FAMILIES,  
BUILDING COMMUNITIES.**

**Kylie Casey - Playgroup Coordinator**  
**ESO – Star of the Sea School**

Further information, guidelines and forms can be found in the Playgroup Folder, located on the sign-in table or by asking the Playgroup Coordinator.

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