Playgroups strengthening families and building wellbeing through child aware approaches.

Janine Regan
Playgroup Victoria

- 40,000 children a week are growing and learning through playgroups in Victoria.
- PV supports members by providing information, resources, training and support to ensure playgroups remain vital and grow within Victorian communities.
“The safety and wellbeing of children is primarily the responsibility of their families, who should be supported by and within their communities.”

“Child abuse can’t be solved by child protection and welfare services alone. It requires population-based measures and the strengthening of protective factors such as parent-child attachment and social support.”

Emeritus Professor Dorothy Scott
2012
Effective engagement of family unit
Single point of contact
Connection to services
Observation of parent – child interaction
“Soft” assessment
Referrals
Parenting strategies
Empowerment
Child inclusive

A chance to “be.”

A sense of belonging

A safe environment

Stage appropriate

A sense of agency

Fun!
“Trust is key. Women come because this is their space. The playgroup is non threatening, it’s 2 hours of freedom from stress and pressures for them.”

Supported playgroup facilitator
Collaborative

MCH
Agencies
Local councils
Family support
Early intervention
Health professionals
Libraries
Culturally competent

Connection with community
Relationships
Collaboration
“Informed not –knowing”
Parenting practices
Sharing culture
Celebrating diversity
Contact

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