

**Playgroups strengthening families
and building wellbeing through
child aware approaches.**



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.



Supporting families



“The safety and wellbeing of children is primarily the responsibility of their families, who should be supported by and within their communities.”

The National Framework for Protecting Australia’s Children
2009–2020 (COAG 2009)

The Power of Playgroup



“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



Family sensitive



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!



Strengths based



“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



Koori Maternity Services Day 2010

Contact



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