

Connecting Generations

Intergenerational Playgroup

Playgroup Victoria Support Guide





“Playgroup brings us so much happiness and joy. We have so much fun and laughter with everyone in here. We just love coming, it’s excellent and it’s good all round for every one of us- old, middle and young.”

- Older playgroup participant

What is Playgroup?

Playgroup is an informal gathering where parents, carers and children aged zero to five years come together in a relaxed and friendly environment to connect, play and learn. Playgroup is an important step between birth and kinder, a vital developmental period where the foundations are laid for the years to come. With a focus on play, playgroup aims to enrich the early years, supporting all areas of development- physically, socially, emotionally and cognitively- in a nurturing and stimulating environment where their primary educators, their primary carers, are close by. Playgroup is also an important social connect for caregivers and families, providing a sense of belonging and support.

About Playgroup Victoria

Playgroup Victoria is a peak body, not-for-profit, incorporated association committed to helping all Victorian families discover the benefits of playgroup. We advocate for playgroup to be recognised as integral to learning, development, and well-being during early childhood. We support the empowerment of families to create community and nurture their children, through relationships and play.

Since 1974, Playgroup Victoria has promoted, resourced, supported and encouraged families to connect and establish playgroups. Today, over 6,000 families attend more than 2,500 playgroup sessions each week in Victoria. Our objective is to continue to strengthen the playgroup experience and engage communities through local partnerships and relationships to improve and enable playgroup access.



What are Intergenerational Playgroups?

Intergenerational playgroups are social gatherings that connect pre-school children (aged 0 to 5), their parent or carer, and older adults.

Intergenerational playgroups bring together young children and their parents/carers and older people (three generations), for enjoyable and creative activities to mutually engage with. Intergenerational playgroups provide socialisation and can be a means of interpersonal, cognitive and physical stimulation. Aged care facilities hosting intergenerational playgroups can make the opportunity accessible for residents, and potentially decelerate the physical, cognitive and mental consequences of ageing.

Ageing adults deserve the opportunity to maintain, or regain, their sense of joy in life and their ability to live a fulfilling and rewarding life. Tiny hands may be the helping hand to do so.

Starting an Intergenerational Playgroup

Playgroup Victoria has worked with staff in community-based services and the age care sector who are well-informed about older people's needs, interests and wants. We assembled dynamic and creative working groups to ensure the intergenerational playgroup will be successful for all.

Through collaborative efforts with like-minded services, we have developed intergenerational opportunities for older people in their communities. We are in a unique position, equipped to acquire knowledge and build understanding about the success factors, including: design, planning and the ability to deliver sustainable intergenerational playgroups. This has enabled us to develop program documentation to assist and support interested parties in establishing thriving and meaningful intergenerational playgroups.

If you have an interest in establishing an intergenerational playgroup, Playgroup Victoria offers a selection of services to support you. Read on to learn more.





Testimonial

“Playgroup Victoria’s Intergenerational Playgroup resources have been an invaluable tool for our playgroup community. The resources are thoughtfully designed, practical, and engaging, making it easy to create meaningful connections across generations.

What makes these resources even more impactful is the collaborative approach taken during their development. Playgroup Victoria staff worked closely with playgroup facilitators, actively listening to feedback and incorporating our ideas to ensure the resources truly met the needs of both participants and facilitators. Playgroup Victoria took into consideration the ability and mobility of participants. As one of the groups had very limited mobility, the focus of resources was on music and instruments to be more inclusive.

This collaborative effort has resulted in resources that are not only user-friendly but also deeply aligned with the values and goals of intergenerational playgroups. We’re incredibly grateful for their dedication and the positive impact these resources continue to have on our playgroups.”

- Rachel Manning Coordinator Early Years (Health and Wellbeing) Leanne Michaud Team Leader Playgroup

How can Playgroup Victoria Support You?



Intergenerational Playgroup Toolkit

Gain access to our Intergenerational Playgroup Toolkit, containing useful resources, forms, templates and guides such as:

- Editable Welcome Book for Families
- Venue Checklist and Risk Assessment Templates
- Enrolment, Attendance and Incident/Injury Forms
- Session Evaluation Guides
- Tip Sheets for Games, Activities, Songs and Books
- Yearly Playgroup Session Planner
- Respectful Relationships Guide
- Infection Prevention Fact Sheet
- Sanitation and Cleaning Guides
- Posters and Other Promotional Tools



Intergenerational Playgroup Handbook

Written and designed by Playgroup Victoria, the handbook is your essential guide to building and maintaining a vibrant and engaging intergenerational playgroup.

What's included in the handbook:

- Getting Started - Planning, safety, venues, and building relationships
- Running Playgroups - Play ideas and activities, snacks, and hygiene.
- Promotion - Online strategies, community outreach, and editable posters for your venue.

Packed with downloadable tools and expert advice, the handbook has everything you need to create a welcoming, successful playgroup!



Promotional Templates

Welcome and encourage families to join your playgroup with the help of our colourful posters!

Our digital templates are editable, giving you the opportunity to personalise the information. Share via email, on social media or with local organisations such as community centres, councils, doctors and schools. You may also like to print and place on local notice boards to enhance connections with your wider community and get more people involved in your group.



Playgroup Registration

12-month registration with Playgroup Victoria to kick off your first year. Playgroup Registration comes with a range of benefits to support your playgroup, including:

- Public Liability and Property Insurance for Community Playgroups. Public Liability insurance is your playgroup's protection if your playgroup is found to be legally responsible for personal injury to a third party or damage to their property
- The option to advertise your playgroup on our Find a Playgroup page, the most searched page on our website
- The option to have your playgroup showcased across our social media platforms
- Playgroup welcome pack, containing digital and printable resources for your playgroup, such as posters, postcards, information sheets and templates
- Access to our play ideas library, with over 100 downloadable activity sheets
- Access to the Playgroup Toolkit - home to stacks of playgroup tools and resources
- Downloadable activity booklets with themes including Music, Community, Messy Play and more
- Access to the Wild Things Bush Play Set-Up Guide, supporting play in the great outdoors
- Access to the Playgroup Learning Portal, containing two hours of workshop videos
- Monthly e-newsletters filled with the latest playgroup news and updates
- Exclusive offers and event opportunities with our partners



Training

Self-paced training is delivered through seven modules, accessible via an online portal. Participants have 12 months of access to the training. Each module includes a quiz that must be completed prior to starting the next. Upon successfully completing all modules and quizzes, participants will receive a certificate of completion.

The modules are:

- *Module 1: Introduction to Intergenerational Playgroups*
- *Module 2: Playgroup Venue and Safety*
- *Module 3: The Playgroup people*
- *Module 4: Promoting your Playgroup*
- *Module 5: Planning your Playgroup*
- *Module 6: Running your Playgroup*
- *Module 7: Playgroup Feedback and Evaluation*



Mentoring

Mentoring will be conducted by an experienced Playgroup Victoria team member and will include:

A pre-playgroup tour* to support planning, including:

- Your mentor viewing the playgroup space
- Discussion of potential set up within that space
- Discussion about using templates in the Intergenerational Playgroup Kit – for example, risk assessment and recording keeping

One playgroup session visit* in the first few weeks. Visit support may include:

- Identification of areas of need
- Role modelling and advice

Individual mentoring (up to three hours per term):

- A scheduled video or audio call to discuss about what's going well, challenges that have arisen and possible opportunities to enhance your playgroup.

Online network opportunities with other intergenerational playgroup facilitators from around Victoria:

- A chance to connect and share practice wisdom, innovation and peer support via an online platform, workshops and/or newsletters

**Either in person or online*



Services and Pricing Overview



Each component is priced per site (for example, aged care facilities in different suburbs).
There can be up to 10 users per site.

**All prices are exclusive of GST*

COMPONENT	DESCRIPTION	CHARGE
Resources, Promotion and Registration	<p>Playgroup Resources Access to the Intergenerational Playgroup Toolkit and Handbook. This includes access to over 20 different downloadable resources, including templates, program plans and guides.</p> <p>Promotional Templates Access to customisable promotional flyer/poster templates. This pack includes ready-to-use Canva templates, with various template designs you can edit with your own details. These can be used as digital files or printed out.</p> <p>Playgroup Registration 12-month registration with Playgroup Victoria to kick off your first year. Playgroup Registration comes with a huge range of benefits to support your playgroup to flourish.</p>	\$150*
Training	<p>Self-paced training is delivered through seven modules, accessible via an online portal. Participants have 12 months of access to the training. Each module includes a quiz that must be completed prior to starting the next. Upon successfully completing all modules and quizzes, participants will receive a certificate of completion. The modules are:</p> <p><i>Module 1: Introduction to Intergenerational Playgroups</i> <i>Module 2: Playgroup Venue and Safety</i> <i>Module 3: The Playgroup people</i> <i>Module 4: Promoting your Playgroup</i> <i>Module 5: Planning your Playgroup</i> <i>Module 6: Running your Playgroup</i> <i>Module 7: Playgroup Feedback and Evaluation</i></p>	\$400*
Mentoring	<p>Mentoring will be conducted by an experienced Playgroup Victoria team member and will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>A pre-playgroup tour* to support planning</i> • <i>One playgroup session visit* in the first few weeks</i> • <i>Individual mentoring (up to three hours per term)</i> • <i>Online network opportunities with other intergenerational playgroup facilitators from around Victoria</i> <p><i>*Either in person or online</i></p>	\$650*

Full Package Option

\$1000*

Purchase our services as a full, intergenerational playgroup setup package and save \$200! This service offering combines: training, mentoring, resources, promotional assistance and playgroup registration.

**Price exclusive of GST*



**Resources,
Promotion and
Registration**



Training



Mentoring



For more information please contact:

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Victoria**

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Playgroup Victoria acknowledges the traditional owners of country throughout Australia and their continuing connection to land, sea and community and we pay our respect to them, their cultures and to the elders past and present.