

## COVID-19 Update

Thursday 17th September, 2020

Hi Everyone,

We wanted to write to you now that the Government has announced the roadmap to reopening and the impact this will have on playgroups in Victoria. Congratulations to everyone in Regional Victoria for working so hard to be able to move to Step 3. I know those of us in Metropolitan Melbourne are a little envious.

### What does the roadmap to re-opening mean for Playgroup?

Taking into consideration the steps outlined for both Metro Melbourne and Regional Victoria, it is unlikely playgroups will meet again for 2020. It is only at the Last Step that social gathering numbers will enable more than 10 people to meet. It seems likely that Regional Victoria will get to the Last Step sooner. This is disappointing and highlights the many benefits we know children and their families gain from participating in playgroup. Please check the [DHHS website](#) for a full outline of what happens in each step.

As many of you are aware, the Playgroup Victoria team have been hosting [Playgroup at Home LIVE](#) sessions via Zoom and other opportunities for families across the week. It has been wonderful to see hundreds of children and their families join these sessions every day. There is something on every weekday. We are going to continue to run these for the rest of the year and into next year.

Families can register to attend any of these sessions for FREE. See below for what we have on offer and click on the links to register for a session:

### **Baby Playgroup at Home LIVE**

Mondays at 10am

These sessions are tailored to children from birth to 12 months

[Learn more HERE](#)

### **Playgroup at Home LIVE**

Tuesdays and Fridays at 10am

These sessions are for all ages

[Learn more HERE](#)

### **Move it 4 Kids**

Alternate Wednesdays at 10am and Thursdays at 11am

These sessions are for all ages

[Learn more HERE](#)

### **All Come Out to Play!**

Alternate Wednesdays at 10am

These sessions are for all ages

[Learn more HERE](#)

### **PlayConnect at Home LIVE**

Thursdays at 10am

These sessions are for all ages, tailored toward children with Autism Spectrum Disorder, developmental delay or behavioural concerns.

[Learn more HERE](#)

## MyTime at Home LIVE

These sessions run on selected dates and will address issues for parents and carers raising children with disabilities.

[Learn more HERE](#)

Our [Playgroup at Home Facebook group](#) is growing every day, if you are not already a member please feel free to join [HERE](#).

This is a place to stay connected with the playgroup community and share your experiences.

## Free Family Membership

As we announced in June, we are offering Free Family Membership. We are pleased to now extend the offer until the end of December. This will give you access to all member benefits including; our activity tip sheets and themed booklets, the playgroup toolkit and resources and much more. If you are already a member, you will receive an email reminder to renew your membership and take advantage of the free 6-month offer. If you are not yet a family member and would like to join, please head to our website via the following link:

[Become a member](#)

*Redeem the offer using the promo code **FREE6MONTHS***

## Getting Back to Playgroup Guide

Our [Getting Back to Playgroup Guide](#) is available [HERE](#) on our website. This booklet includes downloadable templates, resources and checklists designed to assist you in preparing your playgroup to get back to meeting again.



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We all look forward to the time when playgroups can resume meeting in Community centres, schools, playgrounds and other venues across Victoria. For now, please remember we are here to support you in keeping your playgroup together.

Be safe and well,

*Danny Schwarz*

**CEO**