# Playgroup information for families

**What is a playgroup?**

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| Playgroups provide opportunities for children and their families to participate in unstructured learning through play to support their development. A playgroup is often run by a facilitator who plans fun and creative experiences on a regular basis. Many public schools run playgroups for parents and children before they start school. |  |

**Benefits of attending playgroups**

Playgroups provide children and families with:

* regular play sessions in a relaxed environment
* opportunities to support children’s learning and development
* regular sessions in a school setting to feel comfortable before a child starts school
* opportunities to meet other families and members of the school community.

**Accessing playgroups**

To find out if your local public primary school offers a playgroup, you can:

* check the school website, or phone or email to ask if they offer playgroup sessions
* request information about the operation of the program, venue, location and session times
* enquire about vacancies in the playgroup sessions.

**Family roles and responsibilities**

When parents or carers attend a playgroup session, they are required to:

* complete a playgroup registration form, outlining emergency contact information and medical conditions
* sign into and out of the school as any visitor would
* attend the playgroup session and participate in the learning experiences with their child.

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