

NEWS RELEASE

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Playgroup NSW appoints a new General Manager of Programs & Quality at a pivotal time of growth

Playgroup NSW is pleased to announce the appointment of Melissa Hill to the position of General Manager Programs & Quality.

Melissa joins Playgroup NSW after an extensive career working in senior and operational roles with children, families, and young people affected by significant socio-economic challenges and disadvantage.

Melissa brings to the organisation program management experience in child and family services, volunteer programs and early childhood services. She has played a lead role in the development of practice and quality frameworks and has knowledge and experience in community development and community volunteer service models.

“This leadership role will contribute significantly to the achievement of the Playgroup NSW Strategic Plan and will support the organisation’s growth and diversification in coming years”, said Playgroup NSW CEO, Nadene Lee.

Melissa will lead her team to drive quality, service delivery, governance and compliance across all Playgroup NSW programs, including parent-led community playgroups, supported playgroups and peer support groups, ensuring quality outcomes and objectives are delivered.

“I am pleased to share that Melissa joins us at a time of notable growth, where removing the membership fee that posed a barrier to families engaging with us has resulted in the tripling of members to 33,000, covering over 80% of NSW postcodes”, said Nadene. “We are very pleased to welcome Melissa, and look forward to joining together to achieve the Playgroup NSW vision to make Playgroups accessible to all families with children 0-5 in NSW, resulting in



enhanced development, wellbeing and support for carers and children; and thriving communities”.

About Playgroup NSW:

As the peak body representing playgroups across NSW, Playgroup NSW is part of a national federation that leads in engaging families and communities in early childhood development. For over 45 years Playgroup NSW has supported children and families to come together for playgroups and other activities that promote early childhood development and build connections between families and in communities. Programs and services aim to be universally inclusive and cater for families with children 0-5, with a particular focus on children 0-3 in NSW. We provide specialised support for a range of vulnerable communities, including parents and carers that are experiencing social or geographic isolation, for children with a disability, Indigenous families and more.

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