

Glenwood Gumnuts Playgroup

Playgroup suburb
Glenwood

Volunteer Name
Nicole



Venue type

- Community Centre
- Church
- Park
- School
- Preschool
- Other



How many playgroups do you run each week? 1 per week.

Average attendance
Adults: 18 Children: 24

How many years has your playgroup been operating? 20 years.

How many years have you been leading your playgroup? 1 year.

How do you advertise your playgroup? I put up a post on local Facebook pages. Hills mums, Western Sydney mums, Glenwood, Kings Langley, Blacktown. I also reply to questions about playgroups or things to do on these pages. I tag playgroup NSW as well as a link to our playgroup on the Playgroup NSW in the response. I then respond quickly to email inquiries from the playgroup NSW website. It has worked so well. We have many families coming along and saying how much they appreciated the quick replay as well as being friendly and full of information.

What makes a good playgroup thrive? Being available, open and friendly (in email and in person) I make sure I greet new families on arrival. I find if you aren't able to greet them within the first 10mins they don't return and leave early.

What creative and fun activities do you do at your playgroup? Each week I have a theme. I also ask families for their input into their cultural events and activities their children like. We sing songs, read books and use musical instruments, only for 10-15mins. The rest of the 2hrs is child choice of a variety of theme based activities as well as favorites such as the kitchen play, balls and obstacle course and of course our huge permanent play structure. I also set up a craft or play dough at a table. Each term I organize a family activity morning tea. This term we are having grandparents morning tea. Our last session of the year is a Christmas party where everyone brings a plate of food to share and santa come to hand out gifts to the children.

Do you have any templates or resources that you have created? I have been in early childcare for over 15 years and have collected many activities templates and stencils. I have folders of lesson plans and boxes of resources.

Do you do any fundraising for your playgroup? Can you share any tips? We don't fundraise. Each family pay \$30 per term and that is how we pay our hall hire, replace equipment, pay craft supplies, pay for refreshments at our family morning teas.

Please share with us the impact of playgroups (on children, parents, communities and you): We offer a safe space to be the parent they want to be and able to seek ideas and information without feeling judged. I'm often reminding mums that playgroup is not just for the children to play and develop social skills but of us! Our local government also saw our potential and hosted a "welcome the babies" event alongside our playgroup. Michelle Rowland and the Blacktown mayor hosted the event.

Describe your playgroup in 3 words? Welcoming, friendly and fun!

MAP NSW

