

# COMMUNITY PLAYGROUPS IN DAREBIN DATABASE

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For more information about Playgroups in Darebin, please call the Playgroups Officer on 8470 8347 or email [early.years@darebin.vic.gov.au](mailto:early.years@darebin.vic.gov.au)  
Community Playgroups and Playgroups webpage [www.darebin.vic.gov.au/playgroups](http://www.darebin.vic.gov.au/playgroups) Last updated: 12 March 2024

## ALPHINGTON

Playgroup Name & Cost	Venue	Contact Details	Day & Time
<a href="#">MyTime Peer Support Playgroup</a>  Free.  For anyone with young children who needs extra support. Run by a qualified social worker and childcare assistant.	Alphington Community Centre 2 Kelvin Road, Alphington	9499 7227 <a href="mailto:info@alphington.org.au">info@alphington.org.au</a>	Tuesday during school terms 10.00am to 12.00pm
<a href="#">Japanese Playgroup</a>  Combination of free play and structured time for groups aged 2-3 year olds, and 3.5-5 year olds.	Alphington Community Centre 2 Kelvin Road, Alphington	Maimi <a href="mailto:maimiclass@gmail.com">maimiclass@gmail.com</a>	Monday and Thursday 10.00am – 1.30pm
<a href="#">Playtime in the Garden Playgroup</a>  Free	Alphington Community Centre 2 Kelvin Road, Alphington	9499 7227 <a href="mailto:info@alphington.org.au">info@alphington.org.au</a>	Wednesday 10.00am – 12.00pm

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## BUNDOORA

Playgroup Name & Cost	Venue	Contact Person & Details	Day & Time
<p><a href="#">Darebin Chinese Playgroup</a> Free. (Spoken language Mandarin only).</p>	<p>Darebin North East Community Hub (DNECH) 35 Copernicus Crescent, Bundoora</p>	<p>8401 6700 wsun@vicsegnewfutures.org.au</p>	<p>Thursday 10am – 12pm</p>
<p><a href="#">Play and Learn Playgroup</a> A free Supported Playgroup run by Berry Street Integrated Family Service Facilitators. It incorporates group activities, story time, music, free play, outdoor play and craft. Play and Learn Playgroup is an attachment-based/trauma informed playgroup - all families are required to complete enrolment with a facilitator prior to attending (not a drop in playgroup).</p>	<p>Darebin North East Community Hub (DNECH) 35 Copernicus Crescent, Bundoora</p>	<p>Emma <a href="mailto:NFSplaygroups@berrystreet.org.au">NFSplaygroups@berrystreet.org.au</a></p>	<p>Monday 10am - 11am  During school terms.</p>

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<b>Concord Playgroup</b>	9 Cameron Parade, Bundoora	Enrolments officer <a href="mailto:enrolments@concordplaygroup.org.au">enrolments@concordplaygroup.org.au</a> Website <a href="http://www.concordplaygroup.org.au">www.concordplaygroup.org.au</a>	Monday – Friday during school terms 9.00am - 11.00am or 11.30am - 1.30pm or 2pm – 4pm  Members' drop in sessions Tuesday and Thursday afternoons.
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## FAIRFIELD

Playgroup Name & Cost	Venue	Contact Person & Details	Day & Time
<a href="#">Merri Creek Anglican Playgroup</a>	St Paul's Anglican Church 88A Station Street Fairfield	Jenny 0429 614 243 jenny@merricreek.org	Monday 10am - 11.30am  During school terms.
<p>Activities will provide opportunities for children to develop fine and gross motor skills which includes a simple craft. The sessions finishes with a storytelling, singing and action songs.</p> <p>\$5 per family per week.</p>			

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## KINGSBURY

Playgroup Name & Cost	Venue	Contact Person & Details	Day & Time
<a href="#">Kingsbury Kids Playgroup</a> \$ gold coin per visit	Kingsbury Primary School 1A Maryborough Avenue, Kingsbury	Sarah 0402 335 704 <a href="mailto:Kingsbury.kids.playgroup@gmail.com">Kingsbury.kids.playgroup@gmail.com</a>	Wednesday morning during school terms 9.00am – 11.00am

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## NORTHCOTE

Playgroup Name & Cost	Venue	Contact Person & Details	Day & Time
<p><a href="#">Merri Bush Playgroup</a></p> <p>Free. However families must hold Playgroup Victoria family membership</p>	<p>Multiple venues often near Merri Creek</p>	<p><a href="https://merribushplay.wixsite.com/merribushplaygroup">https://merribushplay.wixsite.com/merribushplaygroup</a> or see the Merri Bush Playgroup Facebook page <a href="https://www.facebook.com/groups/MerriBushPlaygroup">https://www.facebook.com/groups/MerriBushPlaygroup</a></p>	<p>For up to date days and times refer to the website or Facebook page.</p>
<p><a href="#">All Ways Playgroup</a></p> <p>For families formed with adoption/ permanent care and/ or long term foster care</p>	<p>Jika Jika Community Centre Union Street, Northcote</p>	<p>Bernadette 0414 295 508 (text is best) <a href="mailto:Bernadette_t_obrien@hotmail.com">Bernadette_t_obrien@hotmail.com</a></p>	<p>First Thursday of the month 10.00am</p>
<p><a href="#">Jika Jika Playgroups</a></p> <p>Multiple sessions- please contact the centre for details.</p>	<p>Jika Jika Community Centre Union Street, Northcote</p>	<p>9482 5100 <a href="mailto:admin@jikajika.org.au">admin@jikajika.org.au</a> <a href="http://www.jikajika.org.au">www.jikajika.org.au</a></p>	<p>Contact the centre for current playgroups running.</p>

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## PRESTON

Playgroup Name & Cost	Venue	Contact Person & Details	Day & Time
<a href="#">Melbourne Polytechnic Playgroup</a>  Free	Melbourne Polytechnic  77 St Georges Road, Preston (Building F Room F136)	Karen <a href="mailto:Karenpaterson@melbournepolytechnic.edu.au">Karenpaterson@melbournepolytechnic.edu.au</a>	Wednesday during school terms 9.30am to 11.30am
<a href="#">Preston Mosque Playgroup</a>  Free	Preston Mosque  90 Cramer Street, Preston	Rukaya (Islamic Society of Victoria) <a href="mailto:Rukaya.taleb@isv.org.au">Rukaya.taleb@isv.org.au</a>	Thursday 10.00am – 12.00pm
<a href="#">Steiner Inspired Playgroup</a> A playgroup for parents & children to enjoy some time on a Saturday morning in a soft coloured classroom, natural play with trees/plants. Steiner inspired activities include free play, singing, share morning tea, outdoor play, feeding chicken, story, children learning to pack up toys, wash dishes after morning tea. The playgroup age is from 20 months to 3.5 years old. Cost \$100 per term.	At the End of Ford Street, Preston (Wonder World Play Centre)	Jasmine <a href="mailto:gwa20094@optusnet.com.au">gwa20094@optusnet.com.au</a>  0474 227 049 (SMS text)	Saturday 10:00am-12:00pm



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## Family Playgroup

Bridge Darebin

Sofiah

Tuesday

10-11:30am

A fun-filled morning for pre-schoolers aged 0-5 and an opportunity for parents/carers to meet other local families in a relaxed setting. All families welcome.

218 High St, Preston

[sofiah@bridgedarebin.org.au](mailto:sofiah@bridgedarebin.org.au)

Free

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## RESERVOIR

Playgroup Name & Cost	Venue	Contact Person & Details	Day & Time
<a href="#">Ichigo Japanese Playgroup</a> \$25 per term	Reservoir Neighbourhood House - 2B Cuthbert Road, Reservoir	Shinano <a href="mailto:ichigoplaygroup@hotmail.com">ichigoplaygroup@hotmail.com</a>	Wednesday during school terms 10.00am to 12.00pm
<a href="#">Merri Steiner Playgroup</a> (Facilitated by a Steiner teacher) \$200 per term	Reservoir Baptist Church 157 Purinuan Road, Reservoir	Manjari – Enrolment Officer <a href="mailto:merristeinerplaygroup@hotmail.com">merristeinerplaygroup@hotmail.com</a>	Wednesday and Friday 9.30am - 11.30am (please note days may change over term depending on level of interest)
<a href="#">Open Playgroup</a> Gold coin donation per visit	Reservoir Neighbourhood House - 2B Cuthbert Road, Reservoir	Reservoir Neighbourhood House Front Office 9462 4611 admin@reservoirnh.org.au Facebook <a href="https://www.facebook.com/Reservoir-Neighbourhood-House-456169914403744/">https://www.facebook.com/Reservoir-Neighbourhood-House-456169914403744/</a>	Thursday during school terms 10:00am to 12:00pm
<a href="#">Geckos (German) Playgroup</a> Community language & culturally specific play group (German) - families interested in bilingual education welcome to attend. For 0-3 years.	5a Carrington Road, Reservoir (Geckos German Community School)	Stefanie 0420353842 stefaniebernard@geckos.org.au	Saturday 10.00am to 11.30am Cost \$100 per term, quarterly or yearly payment options available.

African Australian Playgroup	Blake Street Kindergarten 109 Blake Street, Reservoir	Fowzia 0432 119 430 Fowzia.Issa@darebin.vic.gov.au	Monday 10.00am – 12.00pm
St Mark's Playgroup	St Mark's Anglican Church 21 Beatty Street, Reservoir	Karen 0481 194 123 <a href="mailto:Hill135@optusnet.com.au">Hill135@optusnet.com.au</a>	Thursday 9.30am – 11.00am
Reservoir Presbyterian Church Playgroup	St Andrew's Presbyterian Church 81 Edwardes Street, Reservoir (in the hall behind the Church)	Suzy 0403 316 977 <a href="mailto:playgroup@reservoirpc.org.au">playgroup@reservoirpc.org.au</a>	Tuesday 9.30am – 11.00am  School terms
Reservoir Playgroup	Wright Street Senior Citizens Hall 2 Wright Street, Reservoir	Megan 0423 855 525 megandelaney22@hotmail.com	Wednesday during school terms 10.00am – 11.30am
St Gabriel's Playgroup	St Gabriel's Primary School 237 Spring Street, Reservoir	Hayley / Laura 9469 3513 enquiries@sgreservoir.catholic.edu.au	Thursday 9am-10am  School terms
Free			
\$20 per term			
\$20 per term			
\$7.50 per family per session. Messy and sensory play. Also provides craft activities and quiet areas. Suitable for children aged 0-6 years.			
Have a cuppa whilst we connect with you and your family. For children aged 1-4 years. Free.			

<p><b>Darebin Creek Playgroup</b> An informal playgroup where kids can have an unstructured play in nature while parents connect. Come for a chat, a cuppa and take a breath in nature.</p>	Darebin Creek, Reservoir	<p>Lea 0419 878 287 (sms text message) <a href="mailto:lea_thornton@hotmail.com">lea_thornton@hotmail.com</a></p>	<p>Wednesday 9 30am-11 30am One Saturday a month  Free</p>
<p><b>My Time Reservoir</b> A free peer support group. Provides support network and advice for families with children with additional needs. Run by a qualified Kindergarten Teacher and Behaviour therapist.</p>	<p>Reservoir Neighbourhood House  2C Cuthbert Street, Reservoir</p>	<p>Loan <a href="mailto:loan@mytimevic.com.au">loan@mytimevic.com.au</a></p>	<p>Thursday 9.30am -11.30am</p>
<p><b>Play Connect Talk Playgroup</b> A free family violence informed playgroup for preschool children and parents to connect. You will be joined by a trauma-informed therapist and speech therapist. This group is a space for children of all abilities to play in a welcoming environment. Morning tea provided.</p>	<p>Reservoir Neighbourhood House  2C Cuthbert Street, Reservoir</p>	<p>Meg  0456 822 108 <a href="mailto:mfurhoff@berrystreet.org.au">mfurhoff@berrystreet.org.au</a></p>	<p>Tuesday 10am-11.30am</p>

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<a href="#">Australian Breastfeeding Association - playgroup and drop in session</a>	Reservoir Neighbourhood House 2C Cuthbert Ave\, Reservoir	Nicole 0409151164 for SMS text <a href="mailto:darebinaba@gmail.com">darebinaba@gmail.com</a>	Fridays, monthly 10am - 12noon (drop in any time)
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A free, unstructured playgroup. A qualified breastfeeding counsellor will be available at most sessions to offer any support on breastfeeding or related topics. Open to all families no matter how they feed their babies. The playgroup is a chance for families to socialise, chat, play with their babies and, if required, seek support.

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## THORNBURY

Playgroup Name & Cost	Venue	Contact Person & Details	Day & Time
<p><a href="#">NIMBA Playgroup</a></p> <p>\$2 per meeting. For families with 'multiple' births (e.g. Twins, triplets). Must be a NIMBA member, however non- members are welcome to come for a trial.</p>	<p>Clyde Street Community Hall 64 Clyde St, Thornbury</p>	<p>Kelly <a href="mailto:playgroup@nimba.amba.org.au">playgroup@nimba.amba.org.au</a></p>	<p>Friday, fortnightly during school terms 9.30am to 11.30am</p>
<p><a href="#">Friday Morning Playgroup</a></p> <p>\$1 per family, per meeting</p>	<p>Thornbury Early Years Centre 2a Raleigh Street, Thornbury</p>	<p>Dan <a href="mailto:dantatton@hotmail.com">dantatton@hotmail.com</a></p>	<p>Friday 9.30am to 11.30am</p>
<p><a href="#">Nature Play Learning Bush Playgroups</a></p> <p>\$160 a term</p>	<p>Theobald St entrance to Darebin Creek bushland area (Fez's Wetland)</p>	<p>Victoria <a href="mailto:n8tureplaylearning@gmail.com">n8tureplaylearning@gmail.com</a></p>	<p>Monday 9.30am – 11.30am Tuesday 9.30am – 11.30am Wednesday 9.30am – 11.30am Thursday 9.30am – 11.30am Friday 9.30am – 11.30am</p>
<p><a href="#">Darebin &amp; Friends Rainbow Playgroup</a></p> <p>Darebin &amp; Friends Rainbow Playgroup is a safe space for LGBTIQ+ and gender diverse</p>	<p>Thornbury Early Years Centre 2A Raleigh St Thornbury</p>	<p>Cathleen <a href="mailto:cathleen.zahra@outlook.com">cathleen.zahra@outlook.com</a></p>	<p>Friday 12.30 to 3.00pm</p>

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families only, with children aged  
0-5, to play, make friends and  
support one another.

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## Neighbouring Playgroups (Brunswick East)

Playgroup Name & Cost	Venue	Contact Person & Details	Day & Time
<a href="#">CERES Nature Playgroup</a> Nature based play. The Early Years Educators will connect your children with nature, allow them to explore & discover the wonders of the natural world. Cost \$280.	CERES Community Environment Park Corner Roberts & Stewart Streets, Brunswick East	Lauren/Deanne <a href="mailto:studentprograms@ceres.org.au">studentprograms@ceres.org.au</a>	Monday 10.00am – 12pm Tuesday 10.00am – 12pm During school terms

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## Language Specific and Speciality Playgroups

Playgroup Name & Cost	Venue	Contact Person & Details	Day & Time
<a href="#">Darebin Chinese Playgroup</a> Free. (Spoken language Mandarin only).	Darebin North East Community Hub (DNECH)  35 Copernicus Crescent, Bundoora	8401 6700 <a href="mailto:wsun@vicsegunewfutures.org.au">wsun@vicsegunewfutures.org.au</a>	Thursday 10am – 12pm
<a href="#">Geckos (German) Playgroup</a> Community language & culturally specific play group (German) - families interested in bilingual education welcome to attend. For 0-3 years.	5a Carrington Road, Reservoir (Geckos German Community School)	Stefanie 0420353842 <a href="mailto:stefaniebernard@geckos.org.au">stefaniebernard@geckos.org.au</a>	Saturday 10.00am to 11.30am  Cost \$100 per term, quarterly or yearly payment options available.
<a href="#">Ichigo Japanese Playgroup</a> \$25 per term	Reservoir Neighbourhood House 2B Cuthbert Road, Reservoir	Shinano <a href="mailto:ichigoplaygroup@hotmail.com">ichigoplaygroup@hotmail.com</a>	Wednesday 10.00am to 12.00pm During school terms.
<a href="#">NIMBA Playgroup</a> \$2 per meeting. For families with 'multiple' births (e.g. Twins, triplets). Must be a NIMBA member, however non- members are welcome to come for a trial.	Clyde Street Community Hall 64 Clyde St, Thornbury	Kelly <a href="mailto:playgroup@nimba.amba.org.au">playgroup@nimba.amba.org.au</a>	Friday, fortnightly during school terms 9.30am – 11.30am

<p><b>MyTime Peer Support Playgroup</b></p>	<p>Alphington Community Centre 2 Kelvin Road, Alphington</p>	<p>9499 7227 <a href="mailto:info@alphington.org.au">info@alphington.org.au</a></p>	<p>Tuesday 10.00am – 12.00pm</p>
<p>Free. For anyone with young children who needs extra support. Run by a qualified social worker and childcare assistant.</p>			
<p><b>Japanese Playgroup</b></p>	<p>Alphington Community Centre 2 Kelvin Road, Alphington</p>	<p>Maimi maimiclass@gmail.com</p>	<p>Monday and Thursday 10.00am – 1.30pm</p>
<p>Combination of free play and structured time for groups aged 2-3 year olds, and 3.5-5 year olds.</p>			
<p><b>African Australian Playgroup</b>  Free</p>	<p>Blake Street Kindergarten 109 Blake Street, Reservoir</p>	<p>Fowzia 0432 119 430 <a href="mailto:Fowzia.Issa@darebin.vic.gov.au">Fowzia.Issa@darebin.vic.gov.au</a></p>	<p>Monday 10.00am – 12.00pm</p>
<p><b>Darebin &amp; Friends Rainbow Playgroup</b></p>	<p>Thornbury Early Years Centre 2A Raleigh St Thornbury</p>	<p>Cathleen <a href="mailto:cathleen.zahra@outlook.com">cathleen.zahra@outlook.com</a></p>	<p>Friday 12.30 to 3.00pm</p>
<p>Darebin &amp; Friends Rainbow Playgroup is a safe space for LGBTIQ+ and gender diverse families only, with children aged 0-5, to play, make friends and support one another.</p>			

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<a href="#">Australian Breastfeeding Association - playgroup and drop in session</a>	Reservoir Neighbourhood House 2C Cuthbert Ave\, Reservoir	Nicole 0409151164 for SMS text <a href="mailto:darebinaba@gmail.com">darebinaba@gmail.com</a>	Fridays, monthly 10am - 12noon (drop in any time)
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A free, unstructured playgroup. A qualified breastfeeding counsellor will be available at most sessions to offer any support on breastfeeding or related topics. Open to all families no matter how they feed their babies. The playgroup is a chance for families to socialise, chat, play with their babies and, if required, seek support.

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