

**MACLEAY VALLEY**

# **Playgroups**

**Learning through play.**

**For children aged 0-6 years and their  
parents or carers.**

**A guide to the Playgroups  
of the Macleay Valley**

**Schools as Community Centres  
23 Marsh Street, P O Box 24  
West Kempsey NSW 2440  
Phone 0402885051**

## What is Playgroup?

Playgroups are an informal weekly session of usually two or three hours, where parents, grandparents or carers and their babies or children aged from 0-5 years can meet together in a safe, relaxed and friendly environment.

**For children** playgroup provides an opportunity to play, learn, have fun and make new friends. Children will also develop new and important social and physical skills through play and interaction with other children. These activities can give children more confidence when starting preschool and Kindergarten.

**For parents** playgroup provides an opportunity to meet other parents, make friends and share ideas and experiences. Parents can also gain skills to help children at home and assist in the development of their child to better prepare them for school.

**Who can attend?** Everyone is welcome at Playgroups, mums, dads, grandparents, carers, children, babies and families with special needs.

**Where are they held?** Playgroups are held in a variety of venues, such as a community centre, school, community halls, churches, parks, family support centre or preschool.

**Who manages Playgroups?** Parents can form a committee to manage a playgroup and be affiliated with the Playgroup Association NSW Inc for insurance purposes. Churches as well as preschools can also manage groups.

Family Support Services or Community based services also offer playgroups in the Kempsey Shire; these are usually called supported playgroups. Staff will be available to offer individual and family support and are able to make referrals to other services if needed. Supported playgroups are often provided at no cost and may offer transport as well.

If you would like some information and/or support about Playgroups, contact the Schools as Community Centres facilitator on the number below.

Every effort has been made to ensure the information in this booklet is correct and up to date. However, if you are aware of any inaccuracies or would like to make a change to any of the information, please contact:

Karen Hall  
Schools as Community Centres  
P.O. Box 24  
23 Marsh Street  
West Kempsey NSW 2440

Phone: 0402885051  
Fax: 02 6562 6538  
Email [karen.l.hall@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:karen.l.hall@det.nsw.edu.au)

To contact Playgroup NSW Association, please call:

Playgroup NSW Call Centre Number: 1800 171 882

Playgroup website: [www.playgroupnsw.com.au](http://www.playgroupnsw.com.au)

**Kempsey Kids Corner and The Red Shed-Kempsey Supported Playgroup** are two facebook sites that often have information about family activities happening in the Macleay. It also has useful parenting information or helpful hints about children's craft activities.

Updated: 26/02/2016

## **Kempsey Playgroup at the Red Shed**

This is a Supported Playgroup for parents or carers with children aged 0 - 5. (The play area is wheel chair friendly.) Family support workers are available to provide support and assistance during playgroup time. Parenting courses "Triple P" and "Bringing up great kids" are also available.

Activities include arts and crafts, games, music, story-telling and more. Morning tea and lunch is provided for parents and children.

**Contact:** Trudy at Kempsey Family Support Service

**Phone** 6563 1588

**Where:** Kempsey Family Support  
21 Verge Street, Kempsey

**When:** Wednesday mornings between 10.00am and 12.00

**Cost:** Free. (Transport is available.)

**For more information see "The Red Shed-Kempsey Supported Playgroup" on facebook.**

## **Tot Spot On Verge**

For young parents aged 14-24 years with children 0-5 years. Kempsey Family Support Services provides support for younger parents.

**Contact:** Megan Dunbar at Kempsey Family Support Service

**Phone:** 6563 1588

**Where:** Kempsey Family Support Service  
21 Verge Street, Kempsey

**For more information contact Megan Dunbar and also see facebook "Young mums and tot spot on Verge"**

## **Frederickton Playdate**

For parents with children aged 0-5 years, please bring a small morning tea or fruit to share.

**Contact:** Julie Williams, Frederickton Public School

**Phone:** 6566 8217 (school phone number)

**Where:** In the school hall

**When:** Monday mornings from 9.30am to 11.00am

**Cost:** Free

## **Kempsey Mini Movers.**

The aim of Mini Movers is to develop children's gross and fine motor skills, social skills, language acquisition, self-confidence and the development of parental confidence as educators. Activities include, singing songs, animal themes, craft activities, play games, equipment for children to play on, it's great fun.

**Contact:** Kathryn Hines Phone: 6561 5095

**Where:** The Uniting Church Community Centre  
Wide Street, West Kempsey.

**When:** 9.30am to 11.30am on Mondays, during school term.

**Cost:** \$4.00 per session for one child \$1.00 for the second.  
Families provide their own morning tea.

## **Holy Trinity Play Centre South West Rocks.**

The Play Centre is Christian based, and works to a flexible and structured program with indoor and outdoor play. For parents and carers with children 0-6.

**Contact:** Judy Meehan Phone: 6566 6535

**Where:** Holy Trinity Anglican Church Hall  
15-19 McIntyre Street, South West Rocks.

**When:** Wednesday between 10.00am and 12.00 noon during  
The school term.

**Cost:** Registration \$5.00 per term per family plus \$2.00 a  
session per family or \$3.00 per day for visitors.

### Tiny Teddies Playgroup.

For parents with children aged 0-5 years and includes a variety of activities.

**Contact:** Krystal Brady

**Phone:** 0401012010

**Where:** St Josephs Primary School Hall, Kemp Street, West Kempsey.

**When:** The first Thursday of each month from 9.30am to 11.30am Only during the school term.

**Cost:** Gold coin donation per family.

Open to non-Catholic Families – All Welcome. Tea/coffee provided, please bring your own morning tea.

### Crescent Head Playgroup.

Activities include story time, song, dance and craft activities.

**Contact:** Alison Kiovu

**Phone:** 6563 1625

**Where:** The Community Hall, Bakers Drive, Crescent Head

**When:** Wednesdays 10am to 12.00 during school term.

**Cost:** \$1.50 each week for parent / carer and child, \$1.50 for the second child. Children under 12 months free. \$40.00 annual year fee includes Insurance cover.

(Please bring a piece of fruit)

Roster system for Morning tea & Crafts

### Upper Macleay Stay and Play

Stay and play sessions, which aim to improve young children's development by increasing community connections and helping families come together to nurture and support their children. Come and join in with lots of fun activities and interactive games. All families welcome, suitable for children 0-5 years old.

Fruit provided for morning tea.

**Contact:** Anneke Vanderwey

**Phone:** 0499161003 or facebook "macleaystayandplay"

**Where:** Upper Macleay Pre-school, 77 Main St, Willawarrin

**When:** Fridays 9.15am to 12 noon during school term

**Cost:** Free

### Dalaigur Playgroup - a Schools as Community Centres Supported Playgroup

For parents/carers with children 0-5 years. Help your child prepare for preschool and school. A supported playgroup with arts, crafts, literacy/ numeracy activities, fun and play.

**Contact:** Karen Hall

**Phone:** 0402885051

**Where:** Playgroup Room, Dalaigur Preschool, Nancy Ellis Street, Green Hill

**When:** Tuesdays 10.30am to 1.30pm during school term.

**Cost:** No Cost and morning tea/lunch is provided.

### Lower Macleay Stay and Play - Gladstone

Stay and play sessions, which aim to improve young children's development by increasing community connections and helping families come together to nurture and support their children.

Come and join in with lots of fun activities and interactive games.

Children have access to the school's outdoor park.

All families welcome, suitable for children 0-5 years old.

Fruit provided for morning tea.

**Contact:** Anneke Vanderwey

**Phone:** 0499161003 or on Facebook "macleaystayand play"

**Where:** Gladstone Public School library, 13 Kinchela Street

**When:** Thursdays 9.15am to 12 noon during school terms

**Cost:** Free

### Scribbly Gum Dalai Stay and Play

Stay and play sessions, which aim to improve young children's development by increasing community connections and helping families come together to nurture and support their children.

Come and join in with lots of fun activities and interactive games.

All families welcome, suitable for children 0-5 years old.

Fruit provided for morning tea.

**Contact:** Anneke Vanderwey

**Phone:** 0499161003

or find us on Facebook "macleaystayand play"

**Where:** 32 Nicholson Street, South Kempsey

**When:** Wednesdays 10.00am to 1.00pm during school terms

**Cost:** Free