

5.2 PLAYGROUP

Policy

Playgroups provide children in family day care with the opportunity to engage in play-based learning in a larger group, which is beneficial for their social, emotional, physical and intellectual development.

Playgroup provides opportunities for educators to develop social and support networks with co-ordination unit staff and other educators.

Procedures

1. Mackay Family Day Care Scheme will employ a suitably qualified co-ordinator to plan and facilitate playgroup sessions.
2. The Mackay Family Day Care Scheme will maintain an area at the office facility reserved exclusively for playgroup.
3. Playgroups may be held at the office playgroup facility or at various venues in and around Mackay.
4. When attending any playgroup educators and staff must adhere strictly to the scheme's "Sun Safe Practices" Policy.
5. Educators who attend playgroup are expected to actively participate in playgroup activities with the children.
6. Educators are responsible for the supervision of children in their care at playgroup.
7. If an Educator needs to leave the playgroup area at any time the playgroup co-ordinator must be advised to ensure all children are adequately supervised at all times.
8. Co-Ordination Unit Staff will develop and maintain a Risk Assessment document for all venues attended as part of the playgroup program. All educators who attend playgroup must have a copy of this document which can be made available to families if requested.
9. Educators will model healthy eating choices when consuming food and beverages at play group.
10. Educators and staff must be extremely vigilant when consuming hot drinks within the playgroup environment.
11. Educators and children are expected to assist with tidying up after each playgroup session held at the office playgroup facility.

Date Implemented	Review Date	Date Updated	Source
2010 May	2011 November 2013 May 2014 November 2016 May 2018 August 2021 January	2017 February 2019 July	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Education and Care Services National Regulations 2011• Kidsafe Queensland (Fact Sheet) - Scalds