



Playtime is a ministry of Gymea Baptist Church, and is run by parents who attend the church.

Who? Children aged 0 – 5 years with a parent, grandparent or carer.

When and Where?

Monday to Friday 10am – 12noon during the school terms at:
Hotham Cottage (next to the Gymea Baptist carpark)
12 Hotham Rd, Kirrawee (closest cross street: Tea Gardens Ave)

Our indoor facility is carpeted and air conditioned and we have an outdoor grassed area for play.
(Please check with Playtime Coordinator for availability on your preferred day)

How much? \$4 per week per family

What to bring and wear? Bring morning tea & drink for your child, sunscreen, a hat & possibly a change of clothes for waterplay days. Wear play clothes suitable for sand play, painting and craft.

Why?

We are about supporting parents and carers in the precious, early years of raising children. We want to encourage connection and build relationships within the group. We have lots of fun and varied activities for kids and adults to enjoy.

Care and Discipline

Parents/carers are responsible for the children in their care.

- Children should be **supervised at all times** i.e. whether inside or outside. Children are NOT to be left unattended in cars, the backyard area or anywhere inside without their parent/carer.

*When **eating** children should be seated at the tables (or outside).

- Please be responsible for **cleaning up** after your child; for example at morning tea time, when using the bathroom or during craft/painting activities.

- Each parent is responsible for **disciplining** their own child. Please be sensitive and considerate towards other parents and other children in this matter. If you have any concerns about another child or parent we ask that you speak to the playtime leaders.

- To keep our mornings running smoothly and to fit in all the great things we have planned please support the playtime leaders by **assisting with pack-up** when needed and moving from one activity to the next with your child, ie especially inside to outside.



- We love that our parents are chatty and friendly however we ask that you please be considerate and **listen** when your leader is trying to give announcements, instructions for craft, or running singing and storytime. These are times to be with your child. (There are lots of other times to chat!)

- If you or your child is **sick please do not come to Playtime**. It is a place with babies, small children, pregnant mums and grandparents, all of whom are vulnerable. Some guidelines are: wait 24hours after vomiting, diarrhoea, fevers, coughs that are persistent, runny noses that are thick, coloured mucus. It's advisable to check all rashes with your GP. Please notify your coordinators by sms if you will be away so that we can prepare craft and activities.

*We encourage you to **come each week** so that we have regular groups. This helps the parents and kids to get to know each other, build relationships and offers the group consistency. We love to have new families join us but please check with your leaders before inviting new people as we have a limit on numbers and waiting lists for some days.



What do we do?

The coordinators of our Playtime aim to provide a safe and caring environment where children and parents/carers will find friendship and support and enjoy participating together in activities each week.

At Playtime we would like to encourage you to get involved with your child. So, especially at times when we are singing, listening to a story or doing an activity, we ask that you sit with your child and enjoy sharing the time together. This will model to your child how to join in, what to do and we believe it helps develop the parent/child relationship.

Sample Morning Program



10am Arrive. Freeplay

In Summer we may start outside: sandpit, equipment, balls, water play etc

In Winter – inside activities – playdough, colouring, toys, puzzles, books, dress-ups.

10.30am Morning Tea – Please **no nuts** of any kind.



Children sit at the tables to eat and drink. Bring a drink and food for your own children. You are welcome to bring a birthday cake to share when it's your child's birthday.

Parents take turns bringing adult morning tea to share. Tea/coffee provided.



10.45 Singing/storytime

Parents/carers and children. Join in for "playschool" type children's songs. Join in, do the actions, have fun!

Storytime – let's listen to a story being read.

11.00 Craft/Activity Time

Our program changes each term & usually follows a theme
(Gluing, painting, cooking, making)



11.20 Free Play

Inside or outside, depending on the weather.

11.50 Pack up, clean up, everyone helps.

12.00 Home time. See you next week!

Rosters

We encourage parent participation! You can help out by taking a turn to:

- run an activity
- read a story
- vacuum and clean up
- set up/pack up toys
- lead singing time
- bring morning tea for parents/carers

Your leaders will talk about this throughout the year.

GyMEA Baptist Church

You are invited to join in the other activities at church.

Sunday Service times are 8.30am and 10.30am on Sunday morning and 6.00pm in the evening. Both morning services have a **children's program** that runs throughout the school terms.

GyMEA Baptist Church offers prayer support, Bible Study groups, Men's and Women's ministry, youth activities, special kids' days, school holiday events and more.

Hopefield

Hopefield is a part of our church and offers counselling and parent support programs that are available to the whole community.

Contact the church office on 9521 4611 for more information.

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GyMEA Baptist Church

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GBC

January 2020