RUYTON GIRLS' SCHOOL
Playgroup Handbook

RUYTON GIRLS' SCHOOL 12 Selbourne Road Kew 3101 Victoria AustraliaTel +61 3 9819 2422

RUYTON

Welcome to Our Playgroup

Welcome to Ruyton Playgroup. Your Ruyton journey starts here. Our Playgroup is designed to connect our School with the wider community and we welcome boys and girls aged 18 months to three years old and their parents and/or carers.

At Ruyton, we see the child as capable and competent from birth. Our learning experience are curated by experienced staff and are designed to be open ended and to encourage curiosity, awe and wonder.

Throughout the year we will explore and celebrate significant days and events that are relevant to our community, for example Book Week. On these occasions our programme may be altered to reflect the various occasions and we invite parents and carers to fully immerse themselves in such experiences with the children.

Kathryn Bertram
Playgroup facilitator

Sarah Denholm
Director of Early Learning

Nicole Ginnane
Deputy Principal/Head of Junior School

RUYTON

Your Playgroup Adventure

Learning and discovery

Our playgroup is designed to enhance the possibilities for learning for children aged 18 months to three years. The experience offers opportunities for children to further develop physical, social, emotional, cognitive and language skills.

A typical session

Playgroup runs every Friday of the school term from 9am to 10.30am. The session will include exploring provocations and possibilities, along with music and story.

Your role

The role of parents and carers is to engage in the experience of Playgroup with your child, as well as interacting with your child and other members of our Playgroup. Our Playgroup Facilitator will guide you in discovering the possibilities of learning and development with your child.

Please arrive on time for your session. This is so your child has time to settle in and become familiar with their new environment. Sign the Register of Attendance at Junior School Reception. Please also locate the Playgroup Facilitator so she is aware of you and your child's attendance.

Our Playgroup Facilitator

Ms Kathryn Bertram is our playgroup facilitator. Kathryn holds a Bachelor of Early Childhood Education, and a Diploma in Children's Services. She is an experienced educator who has worked in our Preprep programme and holiday care programme for a number of years. Ms Sarah Denholm, Director of Early Learning and Mrs Nicole Ginnane, Deputy Principal/Head of Junior School will be in attendance at sessions to answer any questions you may have about Ruyton Early Learning or Ruyton Girls' School.

Location

Please arrive at Junior School Reception via entrance number 7 on Wellington Street. Playgroup will be in the area referred to as the Open Space. The Kitchen facilities are adjacent to this space.

Bathroom Facilities

There is a bathroom with nappy change facilities near Junior School Reception.

Morning Tea

Please bring along a morning tea snack for yourself and your child. We ask that snacks do not contain nuts or seeds.

Mobile phones

Playgroup is a time to be with your child. Please switch your mobile to silent mode and refrain from using your mobile phones unless it is an emergency.

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Photo Permissions

We like to celebrate the fun learning and creative activities of our Playgroup. Photos will be taken from time to time to document your child's Playgroup journey. These photos may be used in the Ruyton School newsletter, on our website or in future promotional materials.

We respect the possiblity that you may not wish to have your child photographed. Please fill out the attached form and return it to the Facilitator to indicate your specific photo permissions.

Parking

Parking is available in the streets around the School, but please note that there is a two hour limit in the streets closest to the School. *(Please see map at the back of the handbook.)*

Attending Playgroup

Please sign in and sign out of each session of Playgroup at reception in the Junior School prior to entering the Open Space where Playgroup is held. In the event of an emergency situation, it is necessary that the School has a record of all persons on the property. It is a further requirement of Ruyton Playgroup that a register for all sessions is maintained.
Our Playgroup differs from your local community playgroup in that our aim is to provide an environment for you and your child to engage with each other and to be a part of our School community.

Please bring a change of clothes for your child.
PLEASE NOTE: the parent or carer is in charge of their child at all times.

Safety

Our staff are all First Aid trained and we have a nurse on site and procedures to guide us in the event of an emergency. In the interest of protecting the health and wellbeing of all Playgroup members, we ask that anyone who is unwell or suffering from an infectious disease does not attend Playgroup.

Individual and Shared Experiences

Our Playgroup provides individual and group experiences for your child to explore and discover. We encourage the children to take turns, share resources including play equipment, with other children and to show patience.

During our shared group time we would love for all of children to join in, however we respect the rights of the child and recognise that children sometimes prefer to withdraw, observe or may partially participate.

We hope you will enjoy and appreciate this valuable opportunity to engage with your child and enjoy the Playgroup experience together.

RUYTON

100 Languages Poem

The Hundred Languages
No way. The hundred is there.
The child
is made of one hundred.
The child has
a hundred languages
a hundred hands
a hundred thoughts
a hundred ways of thinking
of playing, of speaking.
A hundred always a hundred
ways of listening
of marveling, of loving
a hundred joys
for singing and understanding
a hundred worlds
to discover
a hundred worlds
to invent
a hundred worlds
to dream.
The child has
a hundred languages
(and a hundred hundred hundred more)
but they steal ninety-nine.
The school and the culture
separate the head from the body.
They tell the child:
to think without hands
to do without head
to listen and not to speak
to understand without joy
to love and to marvel
only at Easter and at Christmas.
They tell the child:
to discover the world already there
and of the hundred
they steal ninety-nine.
They tell the child:
that work and play
reality and fantasy
science and imagination
sky and earth
reason and dream
are things
that do not belong together.
And thus they tell the child
that the hundred is not there.
The child says:
No way. The hundred is there.

-Loris Malaguzzi (translated by Lella Gandini)
Founder of the Reggio Emilia Approach

Ruyton Girls' School

Playgroup

Photo Permission Form

Date: _____

Name of Parent/Carer: _____

Email: _____

Tel: _____ Mobile: _____

Childs Name: _____ Age: _____

I _____ give my permission for Ruyton Girls' School to use photos of my child _____ in the following;

- ◯ Social Media
- ◯ Promotional advertising for Playgroup
- ◯ School Website
- ◯ Ruyton Publications
- ◯ I do not give my permission for my childs photos to be used in relation to Ruyton Girls' Playgroup.