

ONEHOPE

P L A Y

GROUPS

FAMILY INFORMATION GUIDE



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# WELCOME

## TO ONEHOPE PLAYGROUPS

We are very excited to have you attend OneHope Playgroups at OneHope Baptist Church this year and hope your time with us each week is enjoyable for both yourself and your children.

All Playgroup sessions are run by volunteers who attend OneHope Baptist Church, most of whom either have pre-school children themselves, or have a love to serve and support young children and families. All volunteers are required to hold a current Working with Children Check and attend a Safe Church training session each year. We are very thankful for our wonderful team, the time and dedication they put into each week, and the way they help make our Playgroups such a special place.

We do hope you enjoy your time at OneHope Playgroup. If you have any queries then please feel free to email Nikki Welsh at [playgroups@onehope.org.au](mailto:playgroups@onehope.org.au) or contact the Church Office on 52490200.

ONEHOPE

PLAYGROUPS



# 2023 TERM DATES

## TERM 1

Monday 6th February – Thursday 6th April

## TERM 2

Monday 24th April – Friday 23rd June

## TERM 3

Monday 10th July – Friday 15th September

## TERM 4

Monday 2nd October – Friday 13th December

\*Please note there will be no Playgroups on Victorian Public Holidays (This includes the Geelong Cup, but not Melbourne Cup)

## **IMPORTANCE OF PLAY**

In the first five years of life, experiences and relationships stimulate children's development, creating millions of connections in their brains. In fact children's brains develop connections faster in the first five years than at any other time in their lives. This is the time when the foundations for learning, health and behaviour throughout life are laid down.

Babies are born ready to learn, and their brains develop through use. Stimulating and caring environments with lots of different activities give children plenty of ways to play, develop and learn, and lots of chances to practise what they're learning. Playgroup is a fabulous environment for you and your child to play, learn and grow together, without the distractions of home, phones and the busyness of life.

## **FAMILY REGISTRATION FORM AND TERM FEES**

One of the core goals for our Family programs at One Hope Baptist Church is to provide a safe, secure, fun and loving environment for children and families who attend. In an effort to ensure this we have in place several processes to protect children, their parents and the church. Part of this process requires completion of a Family Registration Form which you should have received by email prior to the commencement of term. Please ensure you complete this, or ask your leader for a copy in the first few weeks of term.

Term Fees: \$50

Should you be experiencing financial difficulties and paying this fee is difficult for you please discuss with your playgroup leader or playgroup coordinator. Where possible we ask that term fees be paid within 14 days from the invoice date.

## **SIGN IN**

When you arrive at playgroup each week, please sign in, so that we have a record of your attendance and for safety purposes, should an emergency occur during the session.

# PLAYGROUP SESSION OUTLINE

Each week during term time, playgroup starts at 10am and finishes at 11.30am. A team of volunteers arrive prior to the session to set up a variety of free play craft and activities (inside and outside), that support your child's development. We ask that parents/ guardians supervise their own child/ren, and enjoy the playgroup experience together. Modelling play is great way for your child to learn.

## **10:00am - 10:50am**

Free play and craft activities inside and out

## **10:50am - 11:00am**

Tidy up toys and clear and wipe tables

## **11:00am - 11:15am**

Morning Tea

## **11:15am-11:30am**

Story time and songs on the mat.

We finish each session with the goodbye song, the words of which are as follows:



## **Goodbye Song**

“Goodbye, Goodbye to you and you and you.  
Goodbye, Goodbye, may God take care of you.”

## **MORNING TEA**

Each week we enjoy morning tea together. This is a chance to connect with other parents and carers, and catch up on up and coming activities. Please bring a small healthy snack and drink to each session for your child/ren. There may be children within your playgroup session who have allergies, if this is the case we will let you know and ask that you are vigilant and considerate in this matter.

## **IF YOU OR YOUR CHILD ARE SICK**

We ask that should you or your child be sick, that you stay home. Whilst we will miss you, it is important that you care for yourselves and that we protect our playgroup friends and do not spread our sickness. Please reach out if we can support you in any way and let us know if you are away for two weeks or more.

## **WAITING LIST**

One Hope Playgroup is popular within the community and as such places are highly sort after. If you are unable to attend over a couple of weeks or longer, or no longer require your place please advise your playgroup leader. If we do not hear from you, we will endeavour to make contact with you. If we are unable to get hold of you after three attempts we may offer your playgroup place to the next family on the waiting list.



## PLAYGROUPS SOCIALS

Our socials pages are a great way to keep updated with information and reminders. Connect with us on Facebook & Instagram.



Onehopeplaygroup



OneHope Playgroup

## EXPECTATIONS OF PLAYGROUP FAMILIES

At OneHope Playgroup we believe a great playgroup is one where people feel welcome, where people and property are respected, and everyone participates wholeheartedly in activities.

Adults, we ask that you...

- Participate in your child's experience at Playgroup.
- Supervise your children at all times.
- Provide a positive learning environment for the children by using encouraging language with all present.
- Join in during singing and storytime, this is great role modelling for all future learning environments.
- If you are concerned about the actions of another child, let the parent or carer know as soon as is practicable and only step in to prevent injury.

Children, whilst at Playgroup...

- Are encouraged to treat other children in a considerate manner.
- Will treat toys and equipment with care.
- Sit at the table during snack time and not move around with food or drinks .



## FAMILY FUN DAY

Each year we offer a Free Family Fun Day for all involved in Playgroups at OneHope Baptist Church. This is a fun day for all the family with lots of activities, craft, face painting and jumping castle. Keep an eye on details at [www.onehope.org.au/events](http://www.onehope.org.au/events)

## CONNECTION AND FRIENDSHIP AT ONEHOPE

There are many other opportunities for connection and friendship for all family members at OneHope including:

- Sunday services with Youth & Kids program
- After school programs for upper primary, youth and young adults
- Womens events
- Mens events
- Small Groups
- Counselling Supports

For more information please chat with your playgroup leader or visit [www.onehope.org.au](http://www.onehope.org.au)

# OUR COMMITMENT TO BE A SAFE CHURCH

We affirm that all people have the right to be emotionally and physically safe, respected and have their views and opinions valued at all times. We also live in a country that legislates for people's safety.

Our policies and procedures have been developed to help us live out our Biblical mandate and our responsibilities under Australian legislation.

## Our Policy aims to:

1. Minimise the risk of abuse, ministry misconduct and the misuse of positional power
2. Ensure that all cases of suspected abuse and ministry misconduct are handled thoroughly
3. Ensure that leaders and programs are safe
4. Ensure that all people are respected and valued

## We commit to:

- Safe recruitment of leaders
- Adequate training of leaders
- Continued supervision of leaders
- Responding to allegations of risk or harm
- Safe environments in our ministry programs



# IF YOU HAVE A CONCERN

We would encourage you to raise this with the immediate Ministry Leader as the responsible person. If they are not available or you feel uncomfortable reporting your concern to that person, we would encourage you to contact a Staff Team Member or a Safe Church Concerns Person.

The role of the Safe Church Concerns Person is to receive all complaints, concerns and queries about abuse & misconduct.

This is a two-fold role:

1. This person will assist in the process of reporting abuse to the relevant authorities, and;
2. Should also be able to provide pastoral care and debriefing with persons who have concerns about abuse and/or misconduct.

The Safe Church Concerns Persons is not responsible for the implementation of all safe ministry procedures, or for doing all the risk assessments (that is the responsibility of individual teams) but rather the one to respond to concerns of abuse and misconduct.

## SAFE CHURCH CONCERN PERSONS:

Danielle Leal & Kent Allan

0478 483 171

[safechurch@onehope.org.au](mailto:safechurch@onehope.org.au)

**If a child is in immediate danger, call Victoria Police on 000**



## *how* HOW WE CARE

We love you being part of the OneHope Playgroup family. Sometimes we are faced with challenges with work, health, relationships, parenting and family life. We have people within the church community who are willing to walk along side you and support you and your family during these times. Please let one of the leaders know if we can help you in any way.



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