

## HISTORY

In the early 1980s Sister Lois Thomas (Maternal and Child Health Nurse) encouraged mothers of the Centre to seek from Council the upgrading of an empty room behind the Maternal Child Health Centre from which to provide a range of family services. Thus Bowen Street Family Centre was created out of the determination and fundraising efforts of local families.

Soon, demand exceeded the space, so the committee of young mothers researched their needs, lobbied Council and ultimately, after four years of hard work, moved into the existing purpose-built facility in December 1991. The building was extensively renovated in 2005 and in 2007, saw a name change to Bowen Street Community Centre. During 2020 and 2021, upgrades and more refurbishments have happened in the rooms and playgrounds.



## HOW TO CONTACT US

- Phone: **9889 0791**
- Website: [bowenstreet.org.au](http://bowenstreet.org.au)
- Email: [info@bowenstreet.org.au](mailto:info@bowenstreet.org.au)
- We are located at:  
102 Bowen Street Camberwell 3124

## HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED?

Ways in which you can contribute:

- Participate as a playgroup leader, ensuring your group knows of upcoming Bowen Street activities and needs.
- Participate in fundraising activities.
- Becoming a committee member.
- Assist with one of a myriad of volunteer tasks – e.g. accounting, marketing, handyman, ...



# BOWEN STREET COMMUNITY CENTRE PLAYGROUP



## INTRODUCTION TO PLAYGROUP

A welcoming environment for families providing opportunities to explore, play and develop friendships in the local community



*Bringing Communities Together*

## ABOUT PLAYGROUPS AT BOWEN STREET

Through playgroup we aim to meet the needs of families with babies and pre-school children, providing them with an opportunity to become part of a local community.

Bowen Street provides a purpose-built facility that accommodates the needs of small babies and pre-school children with outstanding indoor and outdoor play areas, toys and equipment.

Becoming a parent for the first time is a major life-changing experience. Bowen Street Community Centre offers you a unique environment in which to meet and gain support from other families confronting the same challenges.

New individual families, mothers groups and existing playgroups welcome.

## BENEFITS OF JOINING PLAYGROUP

**By joining a playgroup you and your children gain:**

- A clean, safe, attractive facility where children can learn to play and explore.
- A weekly place to meet where your child becomes familiar with and confident in a stimulating environment with plenty of quality toys to cater for babies to pre-schoolers.
- A facility big enough to accommodate up to fifteen families at a time.
- Close proximity to the Maternal Child and Health Centre, Bowen Gardens, bus stops and two local primary schools.
- The opportunity to be part of your local community.
- A support group of other families who live near you, and an opportunity to make lifelong friends.

## WHAT MY MEMBERSHIP COVERS

- Open 48 weeks a year
- Indoor and Outdoor toys and play equipment
- Cleaning
- Newsletter
- Insurance
- Tea, Coffee and Kitchen facilities
- Reduced rates on party room hire
- Flexible payment terms available – annual, term or pro-rata
- We're a not for profit so our costs are low

## THINGS YOU MAY NOT KNOW

Playgroup is an activity for parents or carers and children to participate in together.

As we are only partially funded by Council and State Government, there are charges for services offered.

Bowen Street Community Centre has a committee of management made up of volunteers who are primarily users of the Centre. As a parent in playgroup we need your help, ideas and contributions.

Playgroups are not exclusive and new members will be added to maintain numbers and accommodate new families in Boroondara.

*"BRINGING COMMUNITIES TOGETHER"*

