



Desert Rose Playgroup 2025

We welcome you all to the Desert Rose Playgroup. We are so pleased to have you join us this year and looking forward to getting to know your family. Below we have included some helpful information about our playgroup.

Our morning rhythm is generally:

Families arrive at 9:00am. Please wait outside until you are welcomed inside.

Story time

Bread making

Fruit chopping, drawing/craft, and free play

Packing away

Song circle

Morning tea

Outside play

Goodbye song circle

Families depart at 11:00am.

Rhythm and repetition: Having a strong sense of daily rhythm helps children to feel safe and secure. We aim to follow the same rhythm each week and we encourage families to follow the playgroup routine as much as possible. In Steiner education we believe that in the early years of life, children learn predominantly through imitation. They will follow your lead as you move peacefully between activities or sit happily for circle time.

Circle time: Some children may not be ready or feel uncomfortable sitting for our circle time and may be happier playing quietly. This is completely fine! The best thing you can do as a parent is to participate joyfully. They will most likely join in as they become more familiar with the playgroup environment.

Timing: Please try to arrive before story time begins. It is a special time in our playgroup morning, and it can be distracting for the children if people are arriving at this time.

Many hands make light work: During packing up time we encourage the children to join in the tidying by working alongside the adults who take time and care to return the toys to their happy resting places. After outside play we ask parents to please help tidy up where their child has been playing in the garden. Our garden is shared space with the Cassia Kindergarten and we need to ensure it is left as it was found for the Cassia children to enjoy.

Our furry friends: Saying hello to the Guinea pigs is a favourite part of our playgroup morning. Please ensure you supervise your children and make sure they don't feed our furry friends or lift the lid of their cage. We don't want any sick guineas or squashed fingers!

At the end: When playgroup finishes children are often tired and ready to go home. We encourage everyone to leave promptly once the group finishes. Please use the gate closest to the playgroup room (opposite the library) to arrive and depart from.

Interruptions: We kindly ask you to leave your mobile phones in your bag during playgroup. If you need to make a phone call, please step outside the room.

Singing: We sing a lot at playgroup, please join us in our singing! Whether it be our hand washing song, or the blessing before fruit, or our pack away song - we love to hear you joining in! Soon your children will know what's about to happen just by hearing the songs.

Morning tea: Please bring a piece of fruit per child to share.

We hope you and your children enjoy the playgroup experience. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to ask.

Warmly,

Linnea (Monday Facilitator)

Jemima (Playgroup Coordinator and Thursday/Friday Facilitator)

Caitlin (Tuesday/Wednesday Facilitator)