



# IMMUNISATION

The ACT Playgroups Association recognises that immunisation is a matter to be decided by each family. ACT Playgroups is an active member of Playgroup Australia, and this Organisation encourages States and Territories to develop a policy regarding vaccine preventable diseases and attendance at playgroup.

## Playgroups in the ACT:

Will continue to welcome all new members to Playgroup, remembering to keep in mind the philosophy and objectives of Equal Opportunities Legislation. A Playgroup may ask about the immunisation status of children on commencement, but any information provided (there is no obligation to do so), is confidential and should remain with the contact. The contact will only use this information to advise Playgroup members if there is an outbreak of a disease for which immunisation is available and will seek further information from ACT Playgroups or their local Child Health Clinic as required.

In the wake of the COVID-19 Pandemic, some Playgroups may set their own vaccination requirements.

## Infectious Diseases and Sick Children

If children are unwell, they should not attend Playgroup. Not only will the child be unable to participate happily, but it is also unfair for other babies, children, and adults to be exposed unnecessarily to viral and bacterial infections.

It is important to exclude children while they are infectious and parents and carers must consider the wellbeing of other children at Playgroups, including those at special risk such as babies too young to be immunised and children or adults with compromised immune systems. Playgroup members should be encouraged to be considerate about the comfort and wellbeing of all Playgroup members.

The minimum exclusions that apply to preschools, day care centres and schools also apply to playgroups.

This is available from the ACT Government web site: [Health \(act.gov.au\)](https://www.health.act.gov.au) or [Home | NHMRC](https://www.nhmrc.gov.au)

We ask parents to rely on medical advice, not opinions of other playgroup members or anecdotal information.

Should you have any further questions, please contact ACT Playgroups on 1800 171 882 or [play@playgroupact.org.au](mailto:play@playgroupact.org.au)