



Welcome to Term 2, 2025

NEWSLETTER

Term 2 2025

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Early Intervention Update

Our Early Intervention team has had an exciting start to the year, with a continued focus on collaboration, innovation, and quality support for families.

We're thrilled to be working in partnership with the University of Canberra to host Occupational Therapy students completing their project-based placements. These students bring fresh perspectives and enthusiasm to our work, while gaining valuable hands-on experience alongside our team. The students join us for 8-week blocks, immersing themselves in the PlayAbility community. During their time here, they develop practical skills working with families and also create programs and training materials to share with PlayAbility staff, helping to enhance the skills of everyone involved. Our students are excited to meet and work with all our PlayAbility families during their placements!

As we continue to grow and adapt our services, we want to ensure all our families know about the full range of support available. Your keyworker or therapist is always happy to chat about the different services we offer and how they can support your family. Whether it's play therapy, psychology, speech pathology, or the ongoing support from our therapy assistants, there are many ways we can work together to help your child thrive.

Feel free to reach out and connect with your keyworker or therapist if you'd like more information or are interested in accessing any of our additional services. We're here to support you every step of the way.

We wish to acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the land and waters of the Bega Valley and pay our respects to Elders past, present and future.



Bec and Sophie, our Occupational Therapy students, delivered an insightful presentation on the importance of understanding interoception—our internal body awareness—and how it influences behaviour and all areas of life. They also explored sensory processing and sensory profiles, sharing practical strategies to support children in regulating themselves both at school and at home.

A big thank you to Sophie and Bec for such an informative and valuable session!



What services does PlayAbility Offer?

Keyworker Model – A Closer Look

At PlayAbility, we understand that navigating your child's support journey can sometimes feel overwhelming. That's why we've implemented the **Key Worker Model**—a streamlined approach where one dedicated staff member becomes your family's main point of contact.

As your child's Key Worker, we are here to make life easier by working closely with you and coordinating all the different supports your child needs. Think of us as your go-to person for everything! We'll collaborate with other therapists and professionals to ensure all the strategies and supports are tailored to your child's needs, helping them make steady progress across all areas of their care.

One of the best parts? We take on a lot of the coordination work—organising appointments, assessments, and reports, so you don't have to. Whether it's helping you prepare for NDIS plan reviews or guiding you through important meetings, your Key Worker is there every step of the way. Key Workers also provide therapy sessions using a blend of strategies from various allied health professionals and our own expertise, ensuring a holistic approach to your child's development.

Our role goes beyond just providing therapy; we're here to support you emotionally, offer advice, and be there in any setting—whether at home, school, or the community. By building a partnership with your family, we help set goals, link you with other services, and provide consistent support to help your child thrive.

With your Key Worker, you can expect a smoother, more coordinated journey, ensuring your child receives the best care in the most supportive way possible.

Key Worker Services at a Glance:

- Advocacy and support
- Assessments and referrals
- Coordination of supports and services
- Therapy sessions and resource provision
- Goal setting and planning
- NDIS preparation, navigation, and budgeting
- Parent support, advice, and empowerment



We're here to be part of your team and make your family's journey a little easier.

Play Therapy

Play therapy is a powerful, evidence-based approach that allows children to express themselves, explore emotions, and build important social and emotional skills in a safe, child-centred space. Through play, children can communicate in ways that feel natural and non-threatening, making it especially effective for those who may find verbal communication difficult. It's a valuable tool in helping children process their feelings and develop coping strategies.

Psychology

Psychology is essential in helping families understand their child's developmental needs, behaviours, and emotional experiences. Our psychologists work collaboratively with parents and caregivers to build their understanding, provide practical strategies, and support the mental wellbeing of both children and their families. They are a great resource for families needing support with emotional challenges or behavioural concerns.

Speech Pathology

Speech pathologists play a vital role in supporting children's ability to communicate effectively. This includes helping with speech sounds, language development, understanding and using words, social communication, and early literacy skills. Supporting a child's communication skills strengthens their ability to engage with others, participate in learning, and express their needs confidently.

Occupational Therapy

Our Occupational Therapy Partners work with children to enhance fine motor skills, sensory processing, coordination, and cognitive function, supporting their overall development.

Therapy Assistants

Therapy assistants are an essential part of our team, helping to maintain consistency and frequency of supports for children and families. Working under the supervision of qualified therapists, they deliver goal-based activities that reinforce learning and skill development in everyday settings. Their involvement ensures children can continue progressing between sessions and allows families to feel supported more regularly.

We also want to acknowledge the incredible dedication and hard work of our entire Early Intervention team. Every day, they go above and beyond to support families and help children. We're proud of the work being done and excited for what's ahead as we continue to grow and evolve our services in partnership with families and the community.



Early Intervention and Therapy Supports

Our Team

Suzie Eruera - Early Childhood Coordinator /
Specialist Teacher

Pauline Mendes - Therapy Support Manager /
Speech Pathologist

Karin Champagne—Specialist Teacher

Lucy Gollan—Specialist Teacher

Sue Hill—Specialist Teacher

Holly Sutor-Fogarty—Specialist Teacher

Catherine Brown—Specialist Teacher

Anna Baker—Specialist Teacher

Kellie Chapman—Specialist Teacher

David Grainger—Specialist Teacher (Holiday
programs)

Brooke Russell—Development Specialist (On
Maternity leave)

Phil Power—Early Childhood Specialist

Hannah Lenthall—Allied Health Assistant

Valerie Schmid-Oke—Play Therapist

Tracy Ryman—Psychologist

Feedback

PlayAbility welcomes and values your feedback. It is a vital component of our monitoring and review process and enables our service to evolve and improve.

If you are unhappy with any part of your service, you have the right to make a complaint. Talk to your key worker, email, text or write a letter to us or complete a feedback form and place it in the feedback box at either our Bega or Eden centres.

Feedback can be anonymous and you are welcome to have an advocate during any part of the process. Please ask any staff member for a copy of the Feedback and Complaints policy or you can find it on our website.

Scan the QR to complete a Feedback, Complaints and Compliments Form Online.



At PlayAbility we are dedicated to make sure all children, and their families have equal access to social and disability supports without discrimination, irrespective of race, language, religion, ethnic origin, ability or other status.

Your generous donation can make a significant impact.

If you would like to donate or find our more please scan the QR code or click the link to our website:



[PlayAbility Inc | Registered NDIS provider](#)



DONATE NOW!

**LET'S CREATE A
BRIGHTER FUTURE!**

GIVE A LITTLE, HELP A LOT

PlayAbility can now accept donations through our website!

Your donation will go straight into improving services for children and families in the Bega Valley

**DONATIONS OVER \$2 ARE TAX
DEDUCTIBLE**

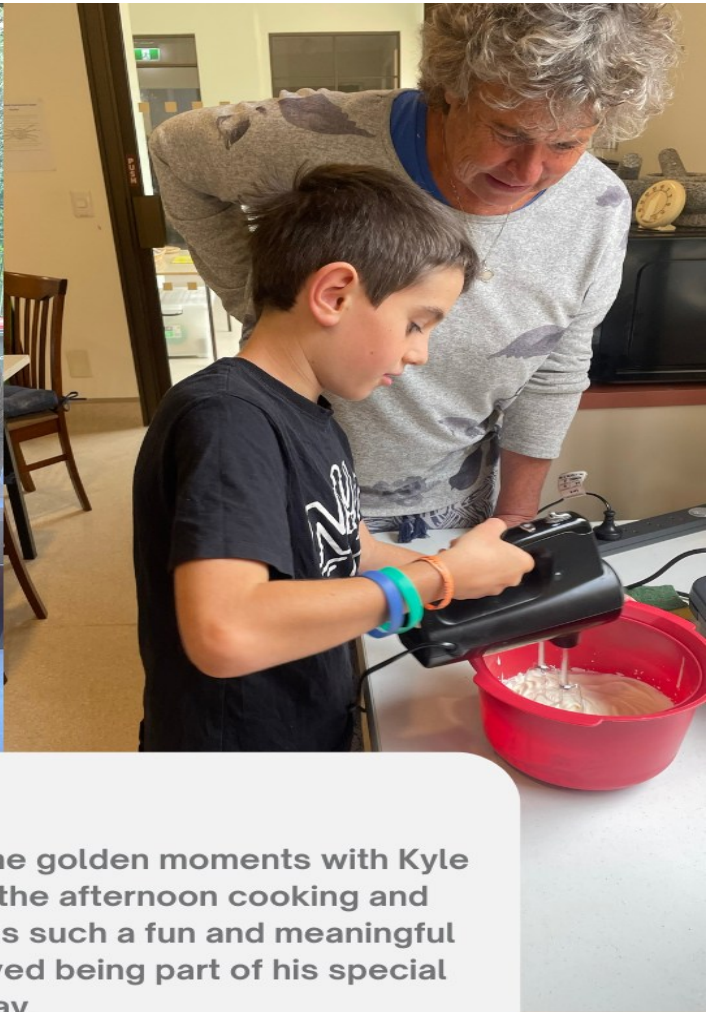


VISIT OUR WEBSITE
www.playability.com.au

CONTACT US
02 64961918



Good news stories!



We were lucky to share some golden moments with Kyle on his birthday, spending the afternoon cooking and making trifle together. It was such a fun and meaningful session, and we truly enjoyed being part of his special day.



Holiday Woodworking Group



Woodworking workshop

Six children between 8 -12 years of age and 3 parents attended.

Despite the rain it was an enjoyable and successful event held at Playability's Bega premises.

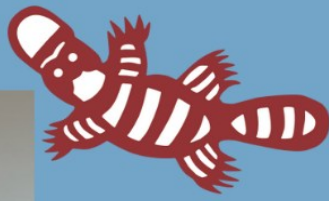
The children completed their projects and were proud of their tool boxes which were made from recycled timber.

The BBQ was well savoured and enjoyed by all.

A huge thanks to David Grainger for organising and pulling the workshop together .

Thankyou to Mary for volunteering her time and David Mitchell for cooking the sausages.

The children were keen for further workshopsso watch this space!

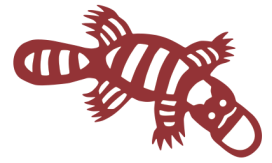


Thank you to all the staff who attended our Staff Development Day. It was a fantastic day of learning and collaboration. A special thanks to those who contributed by sharing information and helping to bring the day together – your efforts made it a great success.





Welcome to PlayAbility Family Support



Who we are:

PlayAbility Family Support is an all-inclusive service. Our aim is to **empower** children and their families to set and **achieve** real and measurable goals in **education, development, wellbeing, social, emotional** and **health**. These family-centred goals are achieved through strength-based programs focused on creating a world where children feel connected to their **identity, community** and **culture**.

What we do:

- Mobile Toy and Parenting Resource Service
- School transition programs and school collaboration
- Navigating the NDIS and access
- Supported Playgroups (Outdoor reconnect play session)
- Supported Community groups
- Referrals to other services
- Internal referrals to Early Intervention Specialists
- Paperwork and support letters for housing, Centrelink, care and education.
- Home visits
- Connecting families to parenting groups
- Transport assistance
- Attending appointments (Dr, Dentist, EYAT, CIFS, EACH)
- Development and implementing collaborative Family Planning



For more information please call our office on 6496 1918

Referrals

For service providers, NDIS plan managers/coordinators please use the referral form on our website.

Referrals to PlayAbility Inc

We can also link you up with our family support team. Please see above for details about their services or ring our office on 6496 1918.





MOBILE TOY LIBRARY AND PARENTING RESOURCE SERVICE

DISCOVER OUR WIDE RANGE OF TOYS FOR ALL AGES.
IF YOU SEE US OUT AND ABOUT, POP OVER FOR A CHAT.
FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL US 6496 1918



MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
May 5th EDEN Playability Playgroup 3 Crown Lane 10:30 - 11:30am	May 6th BEGA Littleton Gardens Zingel Place 9:30 - 10:30am	May 7th TATHRA Playgroup Lions Park 10:30 - 11:30am
May 12th TOWAMBA Playgroup Nungutta Street 10:30 - 11:30am	May 13th Toy Truck & Pop Up Playgroup KIAH Hall 10:15 - 11:45am	May 14th FREE SERVICE
May 19th CANDELO John Gordon Memorial Park 10:30 - 11:30am	May 20th BEGA Sapphire Neighbourhood Service Playgroup, Uniting Church Hall 10:30 - 11:30am	May 21st ROCKY HALL Preschool 9 - 10am
May 26th	May 27th Toy Truck & Pop Up Playgroup KIAH Hall 10:15 - 11:45am	May 28th BERMAGUI Apex Park 10:30 - 11:30am
June 2nd EDEN Playability Playgroup 3 Crown Lane 10:30 - 11:30am	June 3rd BEGA Littleton Gardens Zingel Place 9:30 - 10:30am	June 4th TATHRA Playgroup Lions Park 10:30 - 11:30am
June 9th TOWAMBA Playgroup Nungutta Street 10:30 - 11:30am	June 10th Toy Truck & Pop Up Playgroup KIAH Hall 10:15 - 11:45am	June 11th
June 16th CANDELO John Gordon Memorial Park 10:30 - 11:30am	June 17th BEGA Sapphire Neighbourhood Service Play Group, Uniting Church Hall 10:30 - 11:30am	June 18th ROCKY HALL Preschool 9 - 10am
June 23rd	June 24th Toy Truck & Pop Up Playgroup KIAH Hall 10:15 - 11:45am	June 25th BERMAGUI Apex Park 10:30 - 11:30am
June 30th EDEN Playability Playgroup 3 Crown Lane 10:30 - 11:30am	July 1st BEGA Littleton Gardens Zingel Place 9:30 - 10:30am	July 2nd TATHRA Playgroup Lions Park 10:30 - 11:30am

PLAYABILITY SUPPORTED PLAYGROUPS



MONDAYS

PLAYABILITY CENTRE IN EDEN
3 CROWN LN, EDEN

TUESDAYS

APEX PARK IN COBARGO
ALONG COBARGO BERMAGUI RD

WEDNESDAYS

PLAYABILITY COTTAGE IN BEGA
35 PARKER ST, BEGA



Contact Us
02 6496 1918



Email Us
admin@playability.com.au

TERM 2, 2025

Monday the 5th of March
until Wednesday the 2nd of
July.



From
10:00am - 11:30am
*Kindly bring a piece of
fruit with you.*

