



Equal Access Playgrounds Policy

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1. Scope

This policy applies to the provision of new and upgraded playgrounds provided on Council owned or managed land (excluding childcare centres).

2. Purpose

Council recognises the importance of play in facilitating the healthy physical, psychological and social development of children. This policy aims to ensure that inclusive play opportunities are equitably provided for children of all ages and abilities throughout the City.

3. Policy

- 3.1 Council will aim to provide a network of high quality playgrounds which incorporate a stimulating play and learning environment for all children regardless of ability or age.
- 3.2 Playground design shall reflect the principles of accessibility and inclusiveness to provide quality play opportunities for all children.
- 3.3 New or upgraded playgrounds will seek to increase accessibility for children with disabilities in a shared and inclusive environment that encourages participation.
- 3.4 Playgrounds will be equitably distributed throughout the City and be located within an easy walking distance for all children to encourage healthy living and independent access.
- 3.5 Council will undertake meaningful engagement with the community, particularly children, to inform inclusive playground design.
- 3.6 Playgrounds will provide children with an appropriate level of risk and challenge whilst complying with relevant Australian safety standards.
- 3.7 Nature play is to be incorporated into playgrounds to maximise play value through opportunities for exploration, imagination and creativity.

Equal Access Playgrounds Policy		
Owner: City Assets & Environment	Area: Recreation Facilities and Public Spaces	POL No: 081
Date of Commencement: 8 October 2002	Approval Authority: Council	Date Approved: 10 July 2017
Amendment 1	Date of Next Review: May 2022	Review Period: every 5 years



4. Definitions

Inclusiveness - Opportunities for participation that create a strong sense of belonging, where, regardless of difference, prejudice and persecution is not tolerated.

Nature Play – Elements from the natural environment such as trees, plants, sand, logs and boulders.

Playground – An area containing equipment and other elements that facilitates opportunities for childrens play.

5. Associated documents

- AS 4685:2014 (Playground Equipment and Safety)

History

- Version 1 – Council Minute 6550 (8 October 2002)
- May 2017 – Amended to ensure consistency with Council policy template

REFERENCES	Disability Discrimination Act 1992 AS 4685:2014 (Playground Equipment and Safety)
POLICIES	Access and Equity Policy Asset Management Policy Public Art Policy
ATTACHMENTS	

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