



## Canberra Destination Playgrounds Study



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*Canberra Destination Playground Study*

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# INTRODUCTION

The *Canberra Destination Playground Study* Report was produced by the Play, Creativity and Wellbeing Project, Centre for Creative and Cultural Research, University of Canberra for the City Renewal Authority, ACT Government. The aim of this Report is to:

- Inform the design of a play space for West Basin
- Contribute to the Better Suburbs conversation
- Assist the ACT Government in planning for future play spaces in the city area

The Report provides an audit Canberra's destination playgrounds. Destination playgrounds are identifiable by a balance of factors, including: size, amount and type of equipment, setting, and remoteness or distance from residences. We selected the following eight Canberra playgrounds because they meet some to all of the destination playground criteria:

- Black Mountain Peninsula Playground, Acton
- Boundless Playground, Barton
- John Knight Memorial Playground, Belconnen
- Kambah Adventure Playground, Kambah
- Pod Playground, Canberra City
- Tuggeranong Town Centre Park Playground, Tuggeranong
- Weston Park, Yarralumla
- Yerrabi Pond, Gungahlin

To further inform the design of any future play spaces in the city area, the audit also included two smaller playgrounds in the Canberra city zone: Commonwealth Park Playground and Glebe Park Playground.

Our Audit consisted of the following at each of the above playgrounds:

- An equipment and facilities audit
- Four on-site surveys and observational studies:
  - i. 2 visits during the 2018 summer school holidays (1 x weekend and 1 x weekday)
  - ii. 2 visits during the 2018 autumn school term (1 x weekend and 1 x weekday)
- A 4 week online survey via the ACT Government *Your Say* website

The online survey was designed to cover all Canberra playgrounds to more clearly identify the role and perceptions of destination playgrounds within the broader Canberra playground context.

## REPORT STRUCTURE

This Report is divided into 4 key sections:

### 1. The role and usage of Canberra's playgrounds

Section 1 draws from the on-site and online surveys and on-site observational research to provide an analysis of: usage patterns of Canberra's playgrounds; the role of playgrounds in the lives of respondents; and attitudes towards these playgrounds.

### 2. Canberra destination and city playgrounds

Section 2 begins with a brief summary and comparative analysis of Canberra's destination playgrounds, followed by an individual analysis for each destination and city playground of usage patterns, perceived roles and attitudes toward each playground.

### 3. Recommendations

Section 3 provides eight key recommendations for current and future destination playgrounds in Canberra based on Report outcomes.

### 4. Canberra destination and city playground equipment and facilities audit

Section 4 provides an equipment and facilities audit of the destination and city playgrounds.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The authors are extremely grateful to everyone in the ACT and regions who took the time to contribute to this study. The response was overwhelming, making this Report more valuable as a result.

The message is clear: people in Canberra are passionate about playgrounds!

# THE ROLE AND USAGE OF CANBERRA'S PLAYGROUNDS

## INTRODUCTION

The Canberra Play Space Audit produced unexpectedly high engagement from people in the ACT and regions, with a significant response rate to both the face-to-face (412) and online survey (958). Such high participation in this audit is a clear indicator of the importance of playgrounds for ACT (and local NSW) residents.

This study found that Canberra playgrounds – both destination and local – play an essential role in the fabric of people's lives. Playgrounds are a feature of the weekly calendar, and many people like to spend between 1-2 hours at playgrounds when they visit.

Playgrounds play a variety of roles for respondents – from entertaining children (most aged between 0-12, but some children are over 12), to engaging children in a range of physical and social activities and exposing children to challenge and risk, to enabling children to interact with the natural environment, to providing parents and carers with the time and space to spend with the children in their care, to celebrating important occasions and/or socialising with family and friends.

While proximity to home is the key reason for visiting local or neighbourhood parks, this becomes less (though still) important for destination parks, with people from the ACT and NSW prepared to travel distances for the particular affordances of these parks (equipment, facilities, natural features, open space, surroundings).

Our research suggests that the vast majority of adults who attend playgrounds have familial relationships with the children they accompany. Playgrounds in Canberra are thus an important (and free) public site for family time and interaction.

However, we also encountered other carers – particularly nannies and friends of family (mostly during the week) – who used playgrounds to entertain the children in their care, and also to socialise with other nannies/adults.

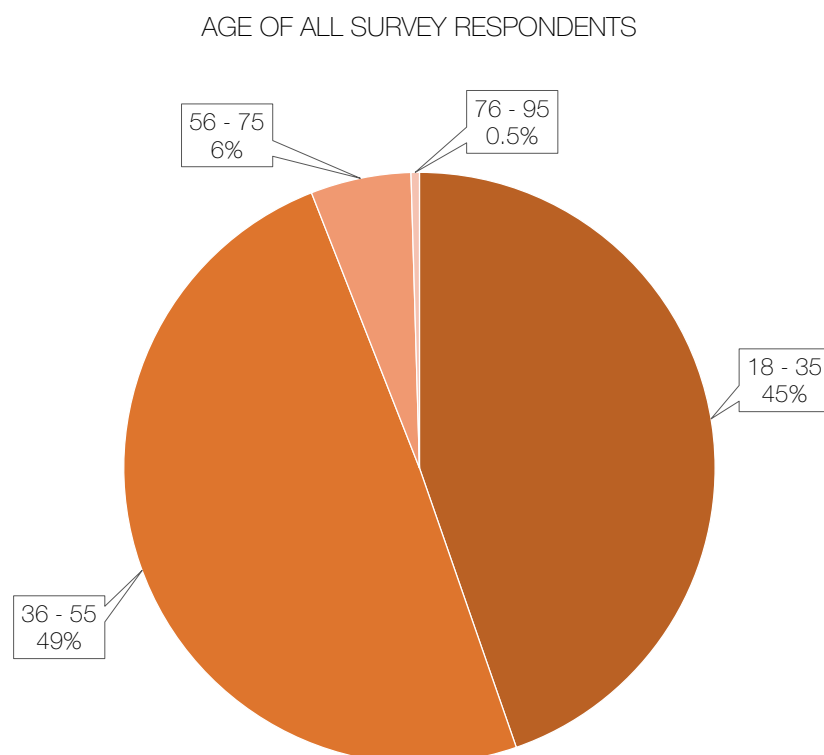
Playgrounds are also a key site for socialising with others – respondents who visit destination playgrounds are as likely to meet up with friends as with family.

## VISITOR DEMOGRAPHICS

### AGE RANGE OF RESPONDENTS

#### ADULTS

The age of adults visiting Canberra parks is fairly evenly spread between the 18-35 age group (45%) and the 36-55 age group (51%).





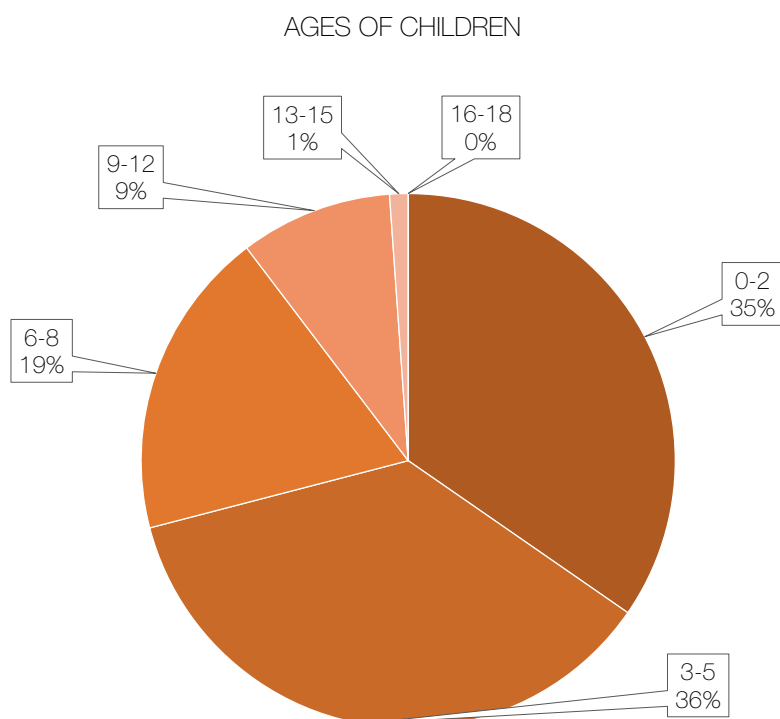
## CHILDREN

Playgrounds in the ACT play the most significant role for children in their early years.

71% of children who visited playgrounds with respondents were aged 0-5, with the percentage evenly spread between 0-2 year olds (35%) and 3-5 year olds (36%).

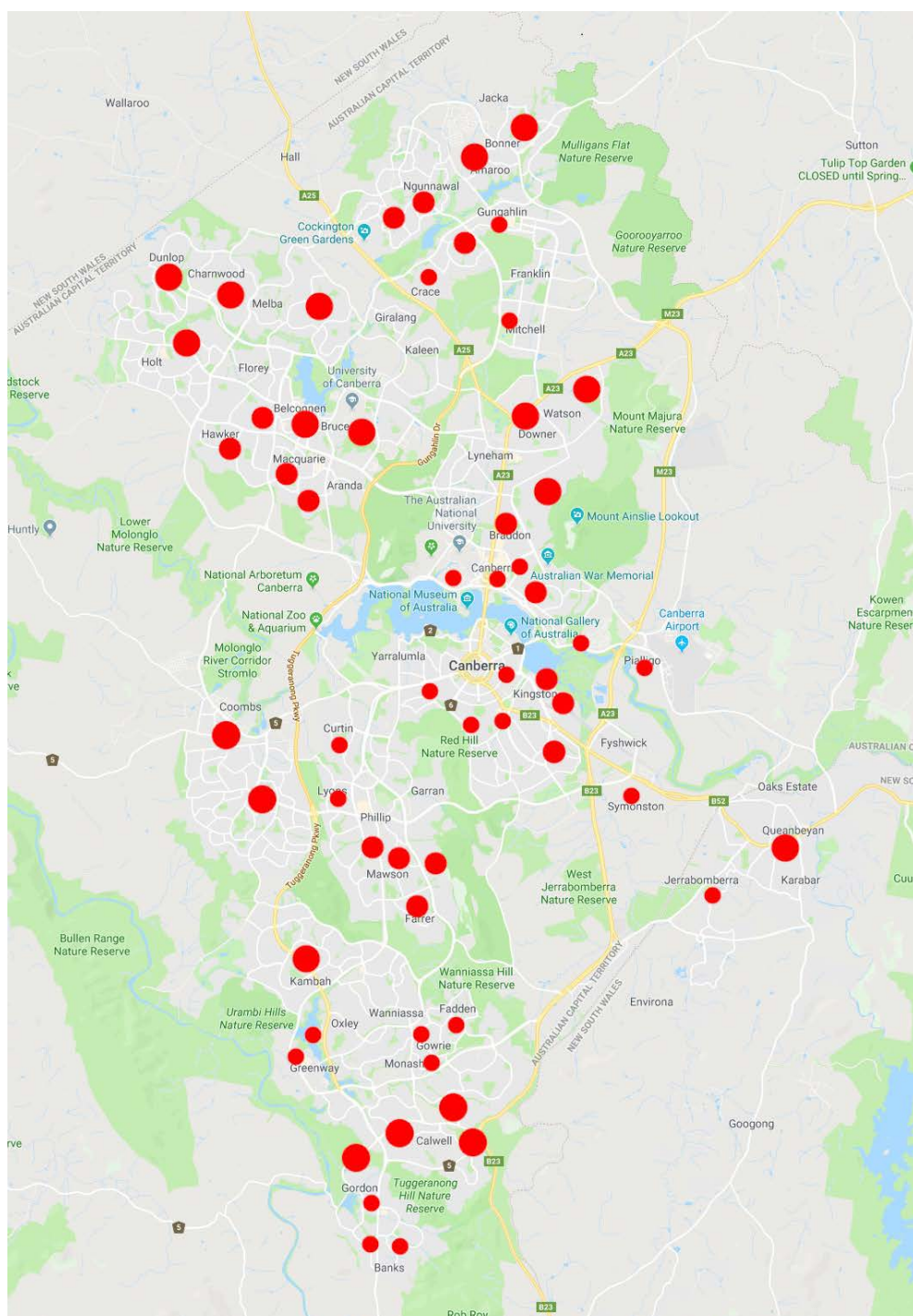
Visitation then reduces by nearly half with each age group – with only 19% of visiting children in the 6-8 age group, and then 9% aged 9-12. Few children over 12 attend playgrounds with adults who participated in this survey.

The percentage of children over 12 who visit destination playgrounds is low, but higher than for parks overall, because destination playgrounds offer older children more play opportunities, and are also more likely to involve gatherings with family and friends. However, older children at destination parks still represent a much smaller proportion than younger children. A key recommended change from respondents is to increase the amount and quality of available equipment for older children. (It is important to note that this audit does not represent usage of skate parks and bike parks in the ACT, both of which are predominantly used by children 12 and over).



## VISITOR RESIDENCE (ACT AND QUEANBEYAN AREA ONLY)

Respondents to this survey live throughout the ACT and across the NSW border in the Queanbeyan area as the map below (indicative only) demonstrates. There were also responses from residents of Hall, Murrumbateman and Yass.



## MOST POPULAR PLAYGROUNDS IN CANBERRA

Destination playgrounds are by far the most popular playgrounds in Canberra, occupying 7 of the top 10 places. The top two destination playgrounds are also the two newest destination playgrounds, Boundless and Pod. They are nearly twice as popular as the third most visited playground, John Knight.

The local/district playgrounds that appear in the top 10 are comparatively larger-scale playgrounds with multiple and/or interesting play equipment.

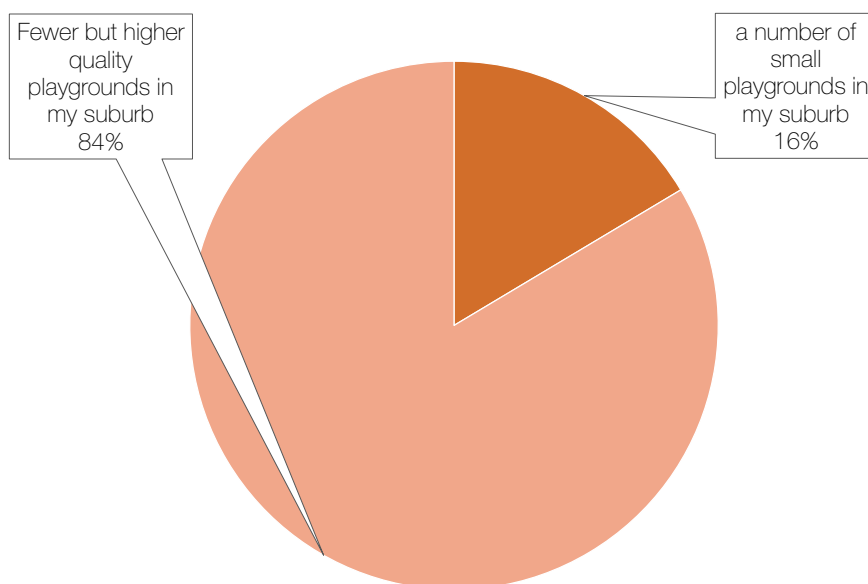
| Playgrounds in Canberra                     | Number who selected as most visited playground |
|---|--|
| Boundless Playground, Parkes                | 221  |
| Pod Playground, Arboretum                   | 219  |
| John Knight Memorial Park, Belconnen        | 120  |
| Kambah Adventure Playground, Kambah         | 90   |
| Weston Park, Yarralumla                     | 87   |
| Community Recreation Park, Moncrieff        | 65   |
| Yerrabi Pond District Park, Gungahlin       | 58   |
| Fadden Pines                                | 40   |
| Playground near Chifley Shops               | 39   |
| Black Mountain Peninsula Park, Acton        | 36   |
| Horse Paddock' Park, O'Connor               | 29   |
| Tuggeranong Town Park, Tuggeranong          | 27   |
| Telopea Park, Nature Play Space             | 24   |
| Coolleman Court playground, Weston          | 24   |
| Glebe Park, Canberra City                   | 21   |
| Western Foreshore Park, Belconnen           | 19   |
| Commonwealth Park Playground, Canberra City | 19   |

|  |    |
|--|----|
| Giant Mushroom Playground (Belconnen Markets)        | 18 |
| Franklin Recreational Park                           | 15 |
| Jamieson Shops Playground (outside Ricardos)         | 15 |
| Throsby Park (off Throsby Lane, near Griffith shops) | 15 |
| Point Hut Pond District Park (Gordon Playground)     | 15 |
| Heritage Park, Forde                                 | 14 |
| Corroboree Park, Ainslie                             | 13 |
| Kippax Shops Playground                              | 11 |
| Loftus St Playground, Yarralumla                     | 11 |
| Duffy Local Playground                               | 11 |
| Eddison Park   | 10 |

## SMALLER OR LARGER PLAYGROUNDS IN CANBERRA?

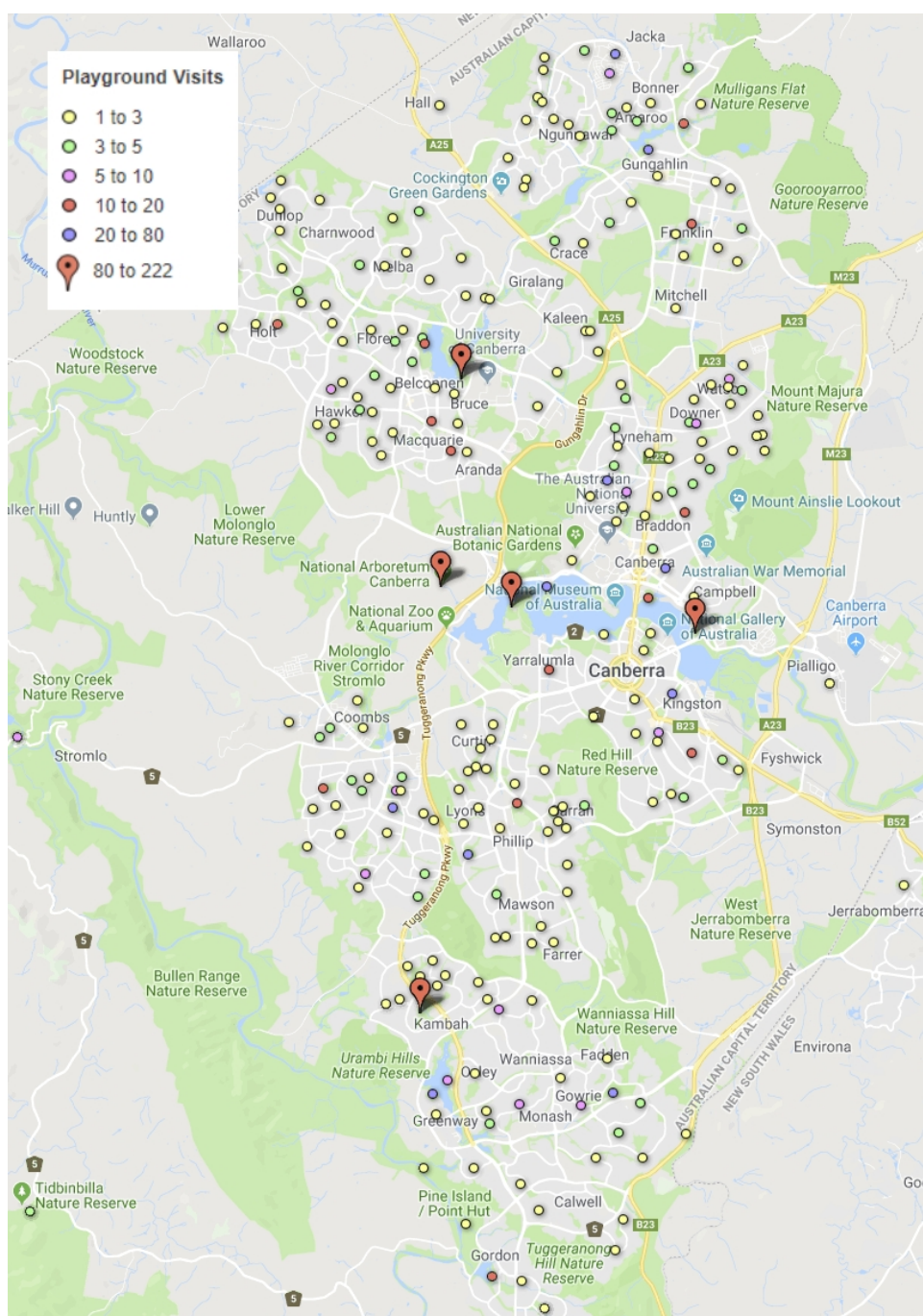
Respondents were asked whether they would prefer to have a number of small playgrounds in their suburb, or fewer but higher quality playgrounds in their suburb. The overarching majority (84%) responded that they would prefer fewer and better quality playgrounds. This correlates with the visitation practices of respondents – with many more people visiting destination playgrounds and larger-scale local playgrounds (as represented in the above table).

WOULD YOU PREFER TO HAVE A NUMBER OF SMALL  
PLAYGROUNDS IN YOUR SUBURB OR FEWER BUT HIGHER  
QUALITY PLAYGROUNDS IN YOUR SUBURB?



## PLAYGROUNDS VISITED IN CANBERRA

The following map indicates the location of playgrounds in Canberra, as well as the number who selected this park as their most visited. This map suggests that the southern-most suburbs in Canberra have fewer playgrounds and/or fewer playgrounds that Canberra residents like to visit.





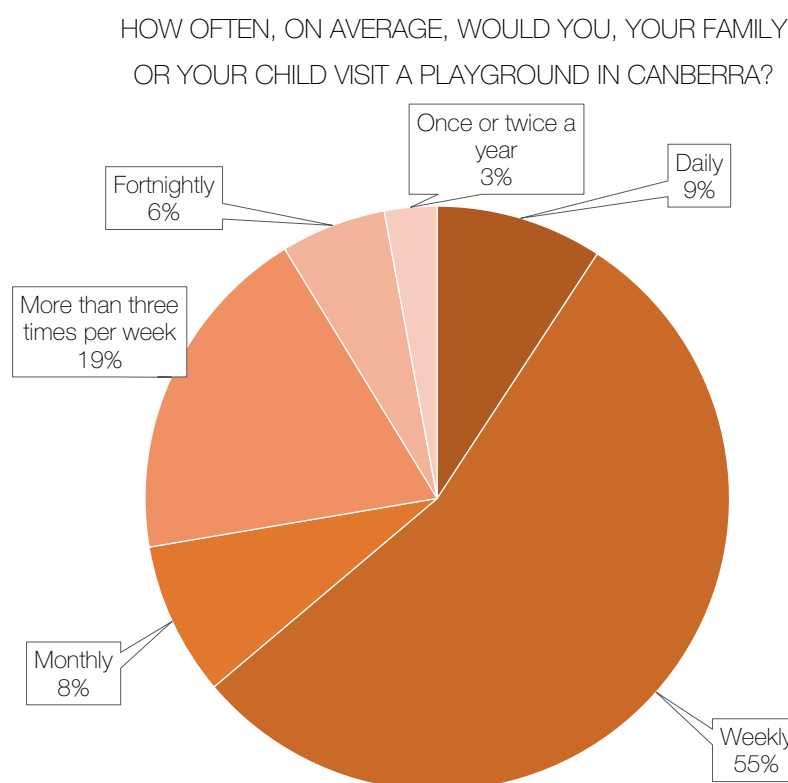
## ROLE OF PLAYGROUNDS IN CANBERRA

It is clear from both the number and content of the responses that playgrounds in Canberra play a significant role in the lives of Canberra families, and they do so in multiple and layered ways.

## FREQUENCY OF VISITATION

The vast majority of respondents – 81% - visit Canberra's playgrounds at least once a week. Most respondents visit playgrounds weekly (55%), with 19% visiting more than three times per week, and the third largest percentage visiting daily (9%).

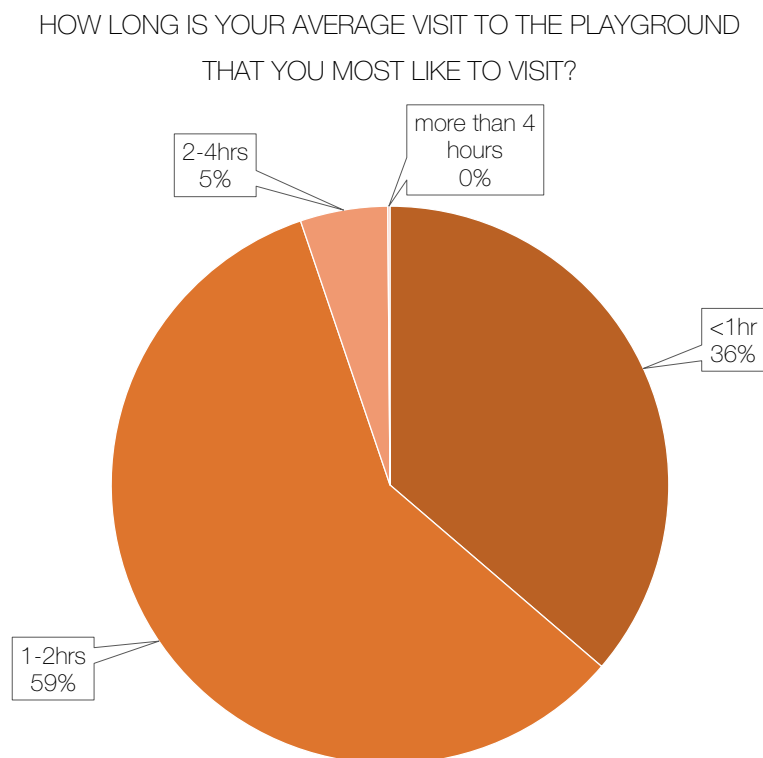
It is worth noting that respondents to this survey are more likely to visit playgrounds, and thus the data may not be reflective of Canberra's engagement with playgrounds as a whole. However, these figures do suggest that playgrounds are central to the fabric of childhood and family life in Canberra.



## LENGTH OF VISITATION

Nearly all visitors (95%) spend between 0 -2 hours at Canberra parks. The greater percent of these visitors (59%) spend 1- 2 hours at parks, with 36% staying in parks for less than an hour. Only a very small percent (5%) spend longer than 2 hours.

Length of visitation is closely linked with children's eating and sleeping cycles, particularly as most children who visit playgrounds are aged between 0-5. The length of time spent in playgrounds is also partly determined by the extent to which children's attention is held by the playground equipment and other features. Visitation length is also affected by weather – particularly in the more extreme seasons of summer and winter when certain periods of the day are too hot or cold.





## REASONS FOR VISITING CANBERRA PLAYGROUNDS

There are many and varied reasons for visiting playgrounds in Canberra:

### 1. ENGAGING CHILDREN IN PLAY

The primary reason for visiting playgrounds in Canberra is to engage children in play: through physical activities outdoors and/or in a natural environment. Within this category, respondents pointed to a range of driving factors. It is clear that playgrounds provide a wide variety of free and readily available experiences and opportunities for children.

#### **Entertaining children**

Many respondents visit playgrounds to entertain their children. Playgrounds provide multiple opportunities for children to play, and to engage with a range of stimuli, outside of their home and childcare/school environments. Respondents noted that playgrounds are critical sites in the school holiday period, providing free and healthy entertainment that separate children from their devices, ameliorate boredom and prevent sibling squabbles. People are more likely to seek out new playgrounds during the school holidays as part of the 'experience' of the holiday period.

#### **Engaging children in physical activity**

Respondents also visit playgrounds with the particular intention to engage children in physical activity. This was motivated by a range of factors, including: providing children with the opportunities for incidental and purposeful exercise; encouraging children to use a range of muscle groups; and tiring out the children.

#### **Engaging children with nature**

Many respondents use playgrounds as sites for children to engage with the natural environment. While smaller playgrounds allow visitors to 'get children outdoors', playgrounds set in or near parks, and the larger destination playgrounds – particularly those with natural features – enable children to interact in unstructured ways with nature. Visitors spoke of the many play opportunities generated by the large open spaces, lakes, fauna (birdlife in particular), grass and trees. Adults bring their own 'play prompts' to encourage children to engage with the natural environment – e.g. balls,

bikes, scooters, kites, bread for birds – as well as allowing children to generate their own activities (nature play, water play, imaginative play).

### **Exposing children to (healthy) risk**

Some respondents utilise playgrounds to challenge their children physically and emotionally – through engagement with challenging equipment and through other forms of risky play. There is a clear demand from respondents for more playgrounds that encourage this kind of play.

### **Socialising**

Respondents also bring their children to playgrounds to socialise with other children. Playgrounds provide incidental (rather than institutional) opportunities for children to negotiate with each other around the use of shared resources, and to develop their social skills more broadly.

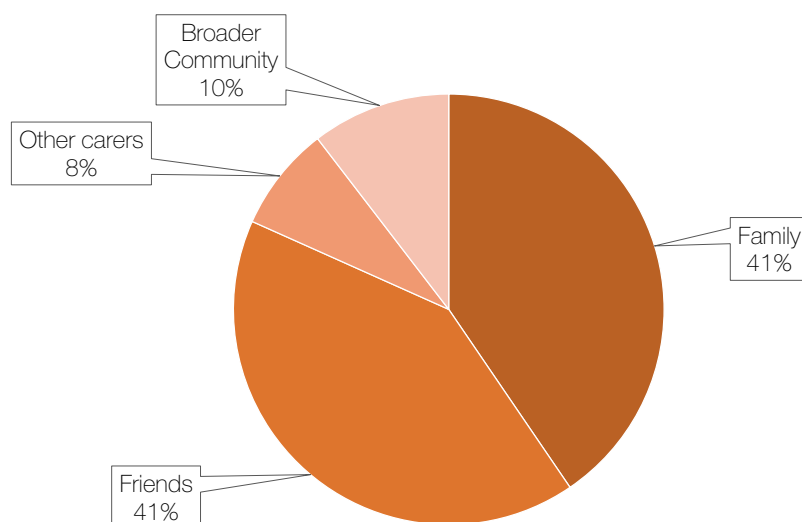
## **2. ADULTS SOCIALISING WITH OTHERS**

Another key reason for visiting playgrounds in Canberra is to spend time with others – whether with the immediate family unit (child/children, partner) or with extended family and/or friends. This socialising occurs both informally (e.g. hanging out with kids; meeting a friend for coffee) and through more formal occasions and gatherings (family event; birthday party).

Playgrounds are considered great places for gathering because of their unique combination of large open space; attractive setting; facilities for large groups (BBQs, toilets, picnic tables, parking); multiple recreational possibilities that appeal to a range of ages and interests, and the fact that all of these affordances – with the possible exception of parking - are free.

Playgrounds provide a place to connect with others, serving an important role in a range of relations. Respondents are as likely to socialise with friends at playgrounds as they are to socialise with family.

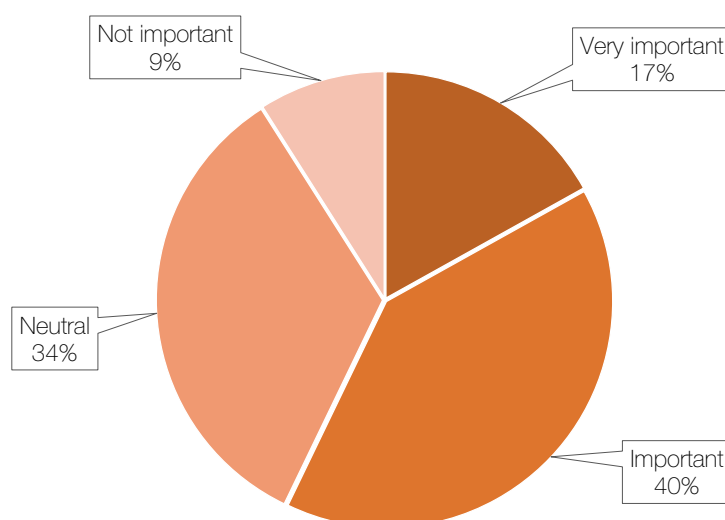
### WHO DO YOU MOST SOCIALISE WITH WHEN YOU VISIT PLAYGROUNDS?



NB: Many people responded with both family and friends

Indeed, socialising was ranked by many as an 'important' (41%) or 'very important' (17%) element of their playground visits, although a further 35% didn't consider socialising a key motivation.

### HOW IMPORTANT IS SOCIALISING WITH OTHERS WHEN YOU VISIT PLAYGROUNDS?



### 3. ENGAGING WITH THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

The natural environment is a key motivating factor for visiting playgrounds – particularly destination playgrounds, which are larger and offer many natural affordances. Visitors enjoy both the sensory experience (scenery, feel of grass, shade, water, fresh air), and the opportunities that the environment provides (large open spaces and bodies of water to play in; trees to sit under or climb; animals to watch or feed; grass to sit on or have a picnic).

## WHAT PEOPLE LIKE ABOUT CANBERRA'S PLAYGROUNDS

### 1. The number and range of playgrounds

The vast majority of respondents like the number and range of playgrounds available in Canberra. Visitors enjoy the different types of equipment and play experiences on offer in Canberra's playgrounds.

*We like that they are all different and have different equipment and activities. We travel to different playgrounds to experience different things each time*

*I love that there are lots of them and they are all different*

*That they are plentiful, inventive (such as the arboretum) with lots of variety of play equipment.*

Many respondents also appreciate the proximity to a range of playgrounds, and the presence of the many local playgrounds in the suburbs.

*The variety and never having to walk too far to come across one.*

*There is always one near home, you can walk through a suburb and have an adventure at each one.*

*The proximity to houses- from our house we have a number to choose from which is great.*

Some respondents expressed their gratitude for living in city where free playground facilities are readily available.

*That they exist and are easy to access.*

*They exist!!!*

*The good ones are fairly evenly distributed and provide a free, accessible means of play for all of our kids.*

However, a number of respondents felt that Canberra's playgrounds were poor when compared with playgrounds in other states in Australia, and overseas.

*Canberra playgrounds compared to those in nearby country towns are extremely ordinary eg Boorowa.*

*There are a lot. None of them are very good though. There are no parks I would take out of town visitors to because I would be embarrassed at the quality.*

*Not much - they are pretty lame compared to other cities, including Queanbeyan.*

## 2. Well maintained/clean

Respondents also feel that Canberra's playgrounds are generally well maintained and clean, although there are particular features in some parks (such as the water play equipment in Weston Park) that visitors feel require greater upkeep.

*They're everywhere and well maintained.*

*They are clean and well maintained.*

One resounding message from respondents is their concern with the disparity in maintenance and upgrading between the newer playgrounds (mostly in new suburbs) and the older local playgrounds in Canberra.

*It's good a lot of the new suburbs in Gungahlin are getting a big playground but would be good for some of the older suburbs like in Amaroo to get a facelift so we can walk to one.*

*In the new suburbs, the playgrounds are safe (soft landing, railings, lights, open), varied in activities, areas for adults and clean. In the older suburbs, the parks are not updated or cared for, which means families in those areas miss out.*

*New suburbs such as Grace have reasonable facilities. Older suburbs have terrible playgrounds and as such no one goes and instead rely on indoor play centres.*

### 3. Natural features and open space

Respondents enjoy the natural features, setting and open spaces of Canberra's playgrounds, and the opportunities they provide to engage with the outdoors and in various forms of nature play.

*Like the playgrounds that are surrounded by natural shade and also built into the natural environment.*

*Mostly have a nature backdrop which is very good for kids, and most have picnic area for grownups to have a barbecue.*

*In leafy positions, sometimes with lovely views, easily accessible.*

*Lots of trees surrounded and more and more nature focused playgrounds are being built.*

*My kids love the open spaces and freedom to run.*

*The bigger ones are well thought out and adventurous with lots of open space for exploring and having adventures.*

### 4. Ease of access

Respondents also like the fact that Canberra's playgrounds are easily accessible. Accessibility in this context relates not only to proximity to home, but also to the availability of parking and proximity of parking to play equipment.

*Accessibility, none too far from home.*

*Accessibility. Car parking.*

Some respondents spoke of the many available routes to parks from the surrounding suburbs, including the bike paths. Others noted that it is easy to travel across Canberra to visit a variety of playgrounds.

TABLE 1

| Reasons given for being at this playground             | Number of responses |
|--|---------------------|
| Range of playgrounds                                   | 158                 |
| Number of playgrounds                                  | 127                 |
| Well maintained/clean                                  | 114                 |
| Quality and type of equipment                          | 77                  |
| Natural features                                       | 58                  |
| Ease of access/parking                                 | 53                  |
| Open space/green space                                 | 51                  |
| Number of local playgrounds in neighbourhoods          | 45                  |
| Great new parks  | 42                  |
| Close to home  | 42                  |
| Shade  | 42                  |
| Great destination playgrounds                          | 41                  |
| Safety features (fencing/soft-fall/distance from cars) | 37                  |
| Interesting/unique playgrounds                         | 30                  |
| Good facilities (BBQ/toilet/seating)                   | 21                  |
| Community (the people at parks/socialising)            | 11                  |
| Risk/challenging equipment                             | 9                   |
| Proximity to shops/café                                | 9                   |
| Free   | 7                   |

## WHAT PEOPLE WOULD LIKE TO SEE MORE OF IN CANBERRA PLAYGROUNDS

When asked, “What would you like to see more of in Canberra's playgrounds”, respondents offered many and varied suggestions. However, a few clear themes emerged.

### 1. More/different types of equipment

Respondents had multiple suggestions about playground equipment: whether it involved more equipment in parks; or new types of equipment that aren't found in Canberra; or equipment that was once available in Canberra but has since been de-commissioned.

*Mazes would be cool*

*More activities that require strength (climbing/dangling) and balance (tight rope type bridges with a bit of give) to improve child health*

*There is some pretty cool new equipment out there like in-ground trampolines, sliding rockets, mazes.*

*More see saws, flying foxes, old fashioned play equipment!! Stuff children had in the 90s to play with before safety standards made everything the same and boring.*

*I miss the tree top bridge that was at Weston Park when I was small in the 70's, I still remember it fondly.*

Many of these requests were targeted at specific age groups: in particular there was a significant percentage asking for more equipment for very young children (toddlers), and for older children.

*More stuff for tiny toddlers.*

*Mix of equipment to ensure toddlers can use as well as older kids*

*Add more smaller climbing things for toddlers.*



*Equipment that appeals to older children/teenagers (such as big flying foxes, big tire swings, tree houses, tunnels, mazes, footy posts, basketball rings/courts).*

*I'd like to see some things for older children in the middle years. What about putting up some simple walls where kids can hit balls against, or basketball hoops, or bike paths that are more interesting.*

*Activities for bigger kids, like rock climbing walls, flying foxes, big swings, opportunities to climb. Most parks are great for little kids but not for adventurous kids.*

*I would like to see them cater better to a variety of ages, including adults by providing things such as basketball courts, outdoor table tennis tables and fitness equipment, that is actually useful - with chin up bars and parallel bars so that adults and kids can use them and do outdoors.*

## 2. Shade

While requests for various types of equipment comprise the largest category of recommended changes, the single most outstanding recommendation from respondents was for more shade in Canberra playgrounds. This recommendation referred primarily to shade and shade cloth over equipment, but also to shade for carers (over seating/tables), and to more natural shade.

*More shade (seriously, the UV is too high - hats and sunscreen aren't enough for anyone for the largest part of the day)*

*Trees for shade or shade structures*

*Shade! Some have shade sails but usually only over one section so the rest is still in the sun.*

*Shaded parking (why not add solar panels on top to generate electricity?)*

*MORE SHADE. It's so hot in summer. It's disappointing to see new parks with such poor shade - all equipment should be covered.*

*Shade !!!!!!!!!*

### 3. Different types of play

Many respondents want Canberra playgrounds to encourage different and more interesting/immersive and challenging types of play.

#### Nature play

A significant proportion of respondents asked for more nature play.

*Nature based equipment - trees to climb, rocks, logs to jump/climb on etc*

*Nature play spaces! Rocks, creek beds etc.*

*Trees/rocks to climb/scramble over - opportunities for mud and other fun messy risky play - steer away from bland boring same old same old fixed play equipment*

*Use of natural timbers, rocks, grassed slopes (for slides), logs to sit on, stones to play with and rearrange, trees to climb, water play opportunities occasionally.*

*Much more inclusion of natural features – big rocks to climb, plant trees to be climbed, grassy mound to roll down, dirt hill to dig in, pebbles and sticks to build into a cubby - the nature element is often overlooked and I think that fixed equipment loses its interest as children are more engaged and connected to elements they can manipulate.*

#### Challenging and risky play

Other respondents want their children exposed to more challenging and risky play, like the play found in Adventure Parks in Europe and the USA.

*And more unique or unusual features. My son is not yet two and can already climb the ladders and use the slides at all of the older, smaller parks. He enjoys new or interesting features that challenge his abilities.*

*More challenging climbing, balancing etc activities. Obstacle courses that really challenge kids, especially as they get to middle and upper primary and high school. Kids getting bored means they don't want to engage in active play at playgrounds.*

*Please, much more challenging and interesting and less risk averse activities. Stop being scared that parents will sue the government if someone gets injured.*

*Provide some interesting activities and make clear that parents are responsible for supervision.*

*[Need] challenging equipment, higher risk engagement (managed); Adventure Playgrounds like those seen in Europe Water play, mud kitchen.'*

## Imaginative play

Others would like playgrounds to encourage more imaginative engagement.

*Make it funky and arty. Even concrete edging can become art, play, seating, if done well.*

*More space and natural environment rather than bright and built things everywhere. Let kids explore and imagine and be creative.*

*Innovative design, whimsy to encourage imaginative play, loose parts to encourage invention.*

*Using more natural materials (e.g. logs, rocks). Encouraging children to take more risks and to use their imagination.*

## Water play

Respondents also want to see more water play equipment in Canberra playgrounds.

*Water play for the warmer months!*

*More water play & splash zones like muddy's in Cairns & splash area at darling harbour*

## 4. More and better facilities

The fourth largest recommended change is for more and better facilities – particularly toilets, seating, BBQs and rubbish bins. Many people also requested greater access to drinking water – taps and bubblers.

*Access to toilets (toilet training a toddler and a park is not fun).*

*Shaded seated area. Bbq or cooking facilities.*

*Seating/tables to allow picnics.*

*Rubbish bins to encourage disposal of rubbish.*

*Toilets to make it easier on pregnant mums and toilet training toddlers.*

*Picnic/BBQ options for larger or birthday groups.*

*Water bubblers/drinking facilities.*

*Rubbish bins to encourage disposal of rubbish.*

## 5. Fences

After shade, fences were the most requested single item for playgrounds in Canberra.

*For those playgrounds near roads it's a must to have fencing. Even we'll behaved kids run off!*

*More fencing, especially where close to roads (eg Gowrie shops playground)*

*More shade and fencing (or further from roads). With a 4 and 1 year old, it can be hard at playgrounds near roads to keep an eye on them.*

TABLE 2

| Recommended changes to playground                          | Number of responses |
|--|---------------------|
| Types of equipment   | 347                 |
| More shade   | 284                 |
| Better/more facilities (BBQ, toilet, tables, seats)        | 184                 |
| Natural features and nature play                           | 132                 |
| Fences   | 110                 |
| More and better equipment for very young children/toddlers | 97                  |
| More and better equipment for older children/teens/adults  | 69                  |
| Proximity to café/shops                                    | 64                  |
| Challenging/adventure/risky play                           | 56                  |
| Accessibility  | 54                  |
| Soft fall  | 54                  |
| Water play   | 53                  |
| All-weather play   | 48                  |
| Public art   | 37                  |
| Imaginative/innovative/unstructured play                   | 32                  |
| Community/family   | 31                  |
| Access to drinking water/bubblers                          | 28                  |
| Grass  | 26                  |
| Skate parks/bike parks/bike paths                          | 26                  |
| Maintenance  | 19                  |
| Updating older playgrounds                                 | 15                  |
| Gym  | 10                  |

NB: This chart represents the key (not all) recommendations for changes to Canberra playgrounds

# CANBERRA DESTINATION PLAYGROUNDS

## INTRODUCTION

Canberra destination playgrounds are arguably the most popular form of playground in Canberra, although new district playgrounds like Moncrieff are also very popular because they are modern, with new and multiple forms of equipment, new amenities and soft-fall surfaces.

Most destination playgrounds are appealing to visitors because they combine multiple built and natural opportunities for play and recreation (equipment, bike paths, trees, water), with open space and an attractive setting. Many of the destination parks, with the exception of Kambah and Pod, are in close proximity to a body of water (Lake Burley Griffin, Lake Tuggeranong, Lake Ginninderra, Yerrabi Pond).

People visit the different destination parks for a complex combination of reasons, including:

- equipment that appeals to the children in respondents' care
- opportunities for play that respondents think their children need
- proximity (to home; shops; café; friends and family)
- natural features
- facilities
- ease of access
- setting
- emotional attachment (history, nostalgia)

While many respondents are fond of Canberra's destination playgrounds, a significant percentage would like to see:

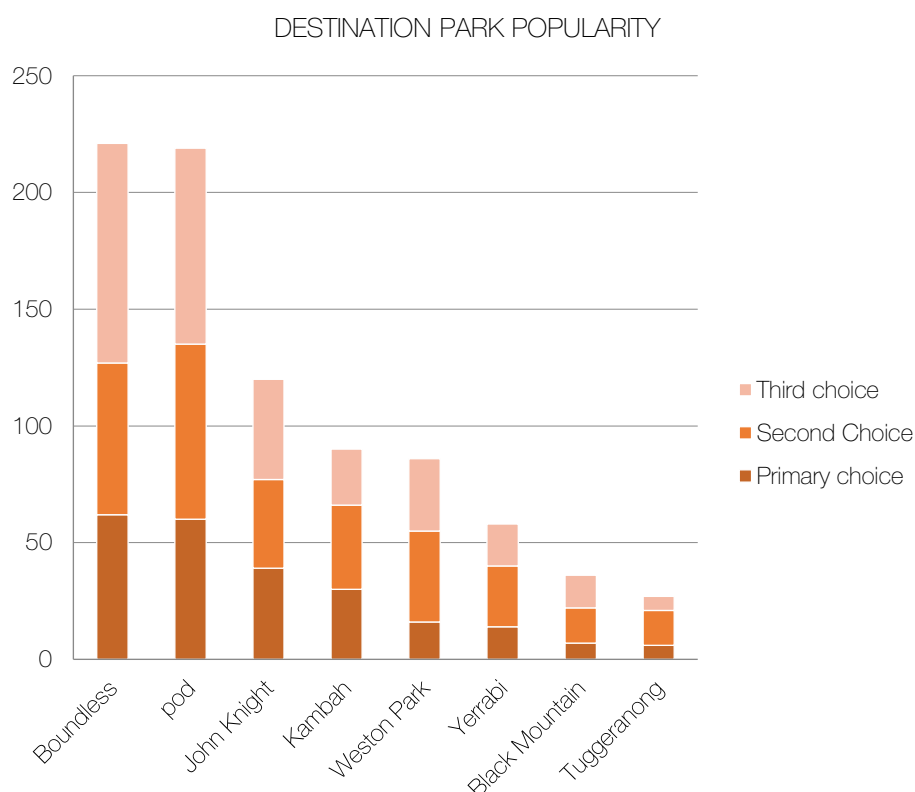
- more diverse types of equipment
- more nature play
- more challenging equipment and risky play elements
- more imaginative playgrounds.
- more shade and fencing

A percentage of respondents felt that Canberra's destination playgrounds were inferior in comparison with playgrounds in other states in Australia.

As mentioned earlier in this study, destination parks play a central role in connecting people in Canberra – with many people utilising the large space, play opportunities and free facilities in destination parks to hold formal and informal gatherings with family and friends.

## DESTINATION PARK POPULARITY

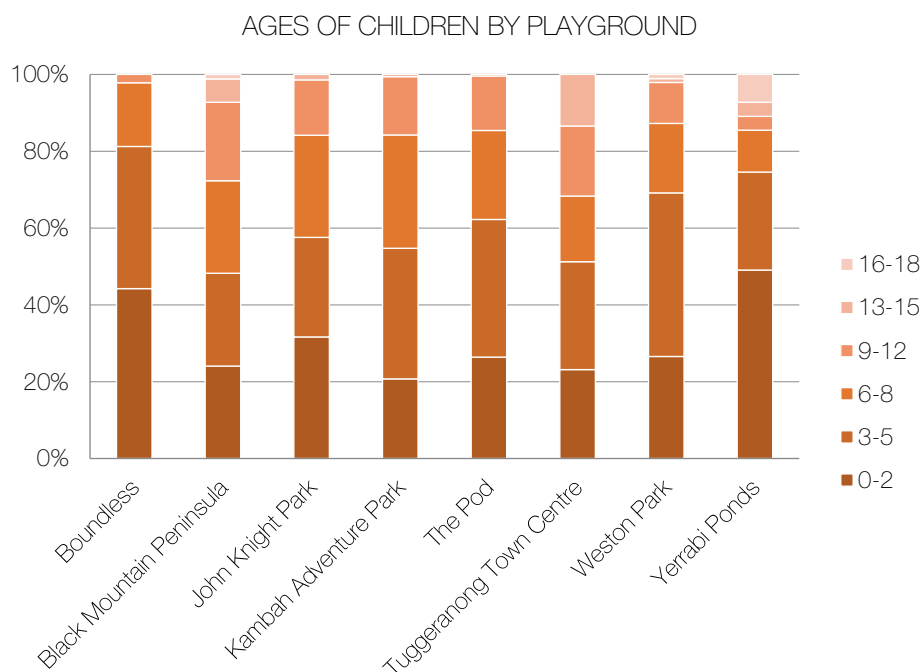
The two most popular destination playgrounds in Canberra – Pod and Boundless – are also the two newest destination playgrounds. While Pod and Boundless are both centrally located, this does not appear to be a key determinant of popularity: Black Mountain Peninsula is also central but does not attract large numbers. Pod and Boundless outstrip the third most popular playground – John Knight – by 90%.



## AGE RANGE OF RESPONDENTS

### CHILDREN

The ages of children visiting the various destination parks is affected by a complex range of factors – including available equipment type, age of visiting adults living in proximity to playground, relationship of adults to playgrounds, and the use of the playground and surrounds for gatherings.

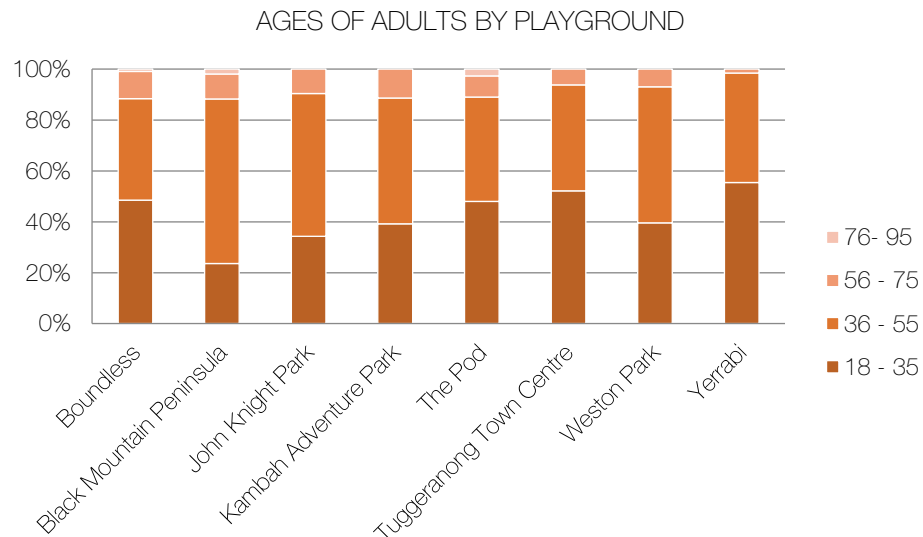


### ADULTS

There are no clear correlations between destination playground, child-age range and adult age range. On average, there are more adults in the 36-55 age range than in the 18-35 age range visiting the destination playground.

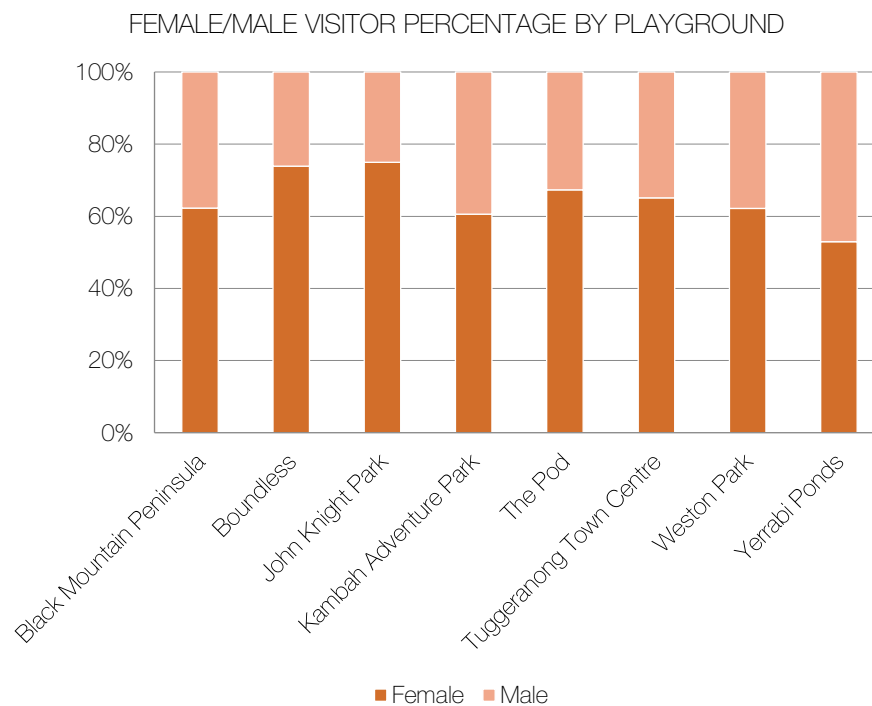


## ADULT AGE RANGE



## ADULT GENDER DIVISION BY PLAYGROUND

While the greater majority of respondents to the on-site survey were female, a fair percentage of respondents (from 25% to 49% for each park) were male.



# BLACK MOUNTAIN PENINSULA PARK, ACTON

## INTRODUCTION

Black Mountain Peninsula Park is one of the less utilised destination parks in Canberra, with only a small percentage of respondents claiming the park in their top three most visited playgrounds. While this could be attributed to the fact that Black Mountain is not in close proximity to residencies, Pod Playground is also remote and yet is one of the most frequented parks in Canberra.

Visitors to Black Mountain like the park and tend to have a longer term relationship with this site, meeting there (for example) with friends and family as a ritual. The setting – with its view, open space and opportunities for play in nature – as well as its facilities and equipment, are key reasons why people visit this park. However, there is a strong feeling among visitors that Black Mountain Peninsula is run down and/or outdated and needs upgrading across the board – in particular the facilities and the equipment.

## VISITATION

### 1. SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

#### WEEKEND

**DAY & DATE** Sunday, 14 January 2018

**TIME** 12.30 – 2.30pm

Black Mountain Peninsula Park had high visitation levels on the Sunday morning of the school holidays. Many of these visits were for formal and informal social events occurring at the park, including birthday parties and BBQs or gatherings with families and friends.

|  |    |
|--|----|
| No of adults interviewed               | 16 |
| Females                                | 8  |
| Males                                  | 8  |
| No of children with adults interviewed | 42 |

## WEEKDAY

**DAY & DATE** Tuesday, 30 January 2018

**TIME** 1.30 – 2.30

There were very few visitors to Black Mountain Peninsula playground during the week of the school holidays. Only 8 people visited the park during this time, although there were also 18 people in kayaks around this park.

|  |   |
|--|---|
| No of adults interviewed               | 1 |
| Females                                | 1 |
| Males                                  | 0 |
| No of children with adults interviewed | 1 |

## 2. SCHOOL TERM

### WEEKEND

**DAY & DATE** Sunday, 8 April 2018

**TIME** 1.00 – 2.00pm

Black Mountain Peninsula Park had moderately high visitation levels on the Sunday afternoon of the school term. Many of these visits were for formal and informal social events occurring at the park, including birthday parties and BBQs or gatherings with families and friends.

|  |    |
|--|----|
| No of adults interviewed               | 19 |
| Females                                | 12 |
| Males                                  | 7  |
| No of children with adults interviewed | 28 |

## WEEKDAY

**DAY & DATE** Thursday, 29 March 2018

**TIME** 1.30 – 2.30pm

There were very few visitors to Black Mountain Peninsula playground during the week of the school term. Most visitors were adults attending a child's birthday party.

|  |   |
|--|---|
| No of adults interviewed               | 9 |
| Females                                | 7 |
| Males                                  | 2 |
| No of children with adults interviewed | 3 |

## ONLINE SURVEY

Under 1% of the 751 respondents identify Black Mountain Peninsula as the playground they most visit in Canberra. Just over 2% of respondents selected Black Mountain Peninsula as their second and third most visited playground respectively.

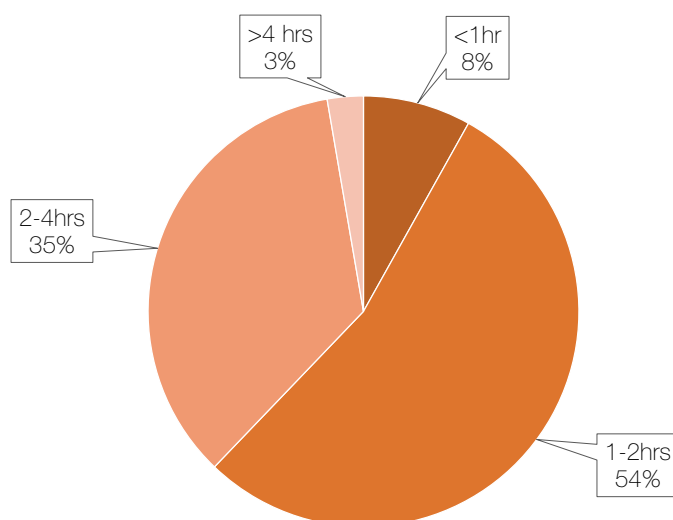
## VISITATION TIME

Visitors to Black Mountain Peninsula spend quality time at this Park. While 54% spend 1 – 2 hours at Black Mountain, a significant proportion (35%) stay here for between 2 -4 hours, which is possibly attributable to Black Mountain's role as a site for gatherings with family and friends.



PHOTO: <https://www.weekendnotes.com/bbq-areas-lake-burley-griffin/>

### HOW LONG IS YOUR AVERAGE VISIT BLACK MOUNTAIN PENINSULA PLAYGROUND?

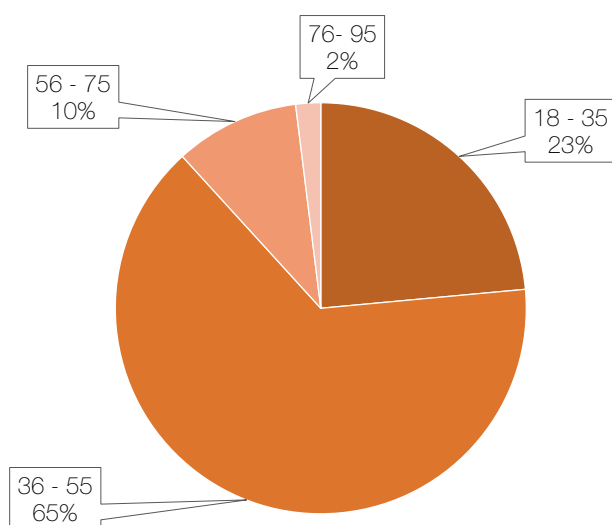


## AGE RANGE

### ADULTS

The vast majority of adults visiting Black Mountain Peninsula with children were in the 36-55 age range (65%), with 23% in the 18-35 range, and 10% in the 56-75.

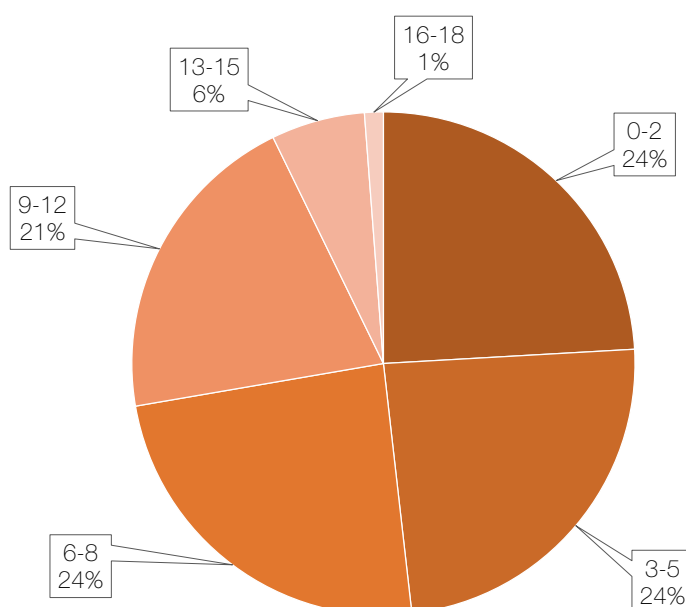
### AGE OF ADULTS AT BLACK MOUNTAIN PENINSULA PLAYGROUND



## CHILDREN

Black Mountain Peninsula had a fairly even spread across the four major age categories for children who visit playgrounds – with 24%, 24%, 24% and 21% in the 0-2, 3-5, 6-8 and 9-12 categories respectively. The fact that there are proportionally more children visiting Black Mountain Peninsula in the 6-12 category than at other Canberra destination playgrounds is attributable to the notably higher portion of adults aged between 36-55 who responded to this survey and who frequent Black Mountain.

AGE OF CHILDREN AT BLACK MOUNTAIN PENINSULA



## TYPES OF PLAY

Play at Black Mountain Peninsula involves both the available equipment and the affordances of the broader environment. Children engaged with the swings, slides, climbing, see-saw and sensory equipment; as well as walking, running, ball games, bike riding, cricket, imaginative play, kayaking and natural water play by the Lake.

| Main types of play<br>(equipment based) | Types of play<br>(other than on fixed equipment) |
|---|--|
| Swings                                  | Ball games                                       |
| Slides                                  | Bikes/scooters                                   |
| Climbing                                | Water play                                       |
| Sensory play                            | Running  |
| See-saw                                 |  |



PHOTO: <https://www.weekendnotes.com/top-playgrounds-around-lake-burley-griffin/>

## REASONS FOR VISITING THE PARK

### 1. Natural setting and open space

The natural setting and open space were the key reasons for visiting Black Mountain Peninsula Park. Respondents enjoyed the view and the proximity to Lake Burley Griffin.

*Big spaces, fun to play at little beach too.*

*Lots of space to play, good views, good facilities.*

### 2. Getting together with family and friends

Many respondents visit Black Mountain Peninsula to meet with family and friends. The combination of BBQs and other facilities, central location, range of recreational opportunities and setting make Black Mountain an appealing site for gatherings.

*Great facilities, playground, bike path shade, bbq picnic table and the lake.*

*Regular social meeting with family friends.*

### 3. Equipment

Visitors to Black Mountain said that the play equipment on offer was also a reason for visiting the park – particularly the variety of equipment.

*Wide variety of equipment, picnic facilities.*

### 3. Facilities

The facilities at Black Mountain Peninsula are a key attraction for visitors. Many people visited this park because of the BBQs, as well as the easy parking and toilets.

*Good facilities - bbq and toilet.*



TABLE 1

| Reasons given for being at this playground | Number of responses |
|--|---------------------|
| Natural setting and open space             | 26                  |
| Getting together with family and friends   | 18                  |
| BBQs                                       | 15                  |
| Equipment                                  | 6                   |
| Other amenities (toilets, parking)         | 6                   |
| Convenient location                        | 4                   |

## RECOMMENDED CHANGES TO PARK

Respondents recommended four key changes to Black Mountain Peninsula Park.

### 1. Maintenance/upgrading of amenities

58% of respondents were concerned with the quality of the Black Mountain Peninsula amenities. Some noted that the BBQs weren't in good working order and others mentioned that the toilet facilities needed better maintenance or an upgrade.

*BBQs are hopeless – either don't work or are so slow as to be a waste of time.*

*It could use some new bathroom and toilet facilities.*

### 2. More support infrastructure for play equipment

25% recommended more shade and fencing to enhance the play experience for both children and adults.

*Fence around some areas if the kids start running.*

### 3. Proximity of facilities to play equipment

Others recommended better co-location of amenities to the play equipment.

*...they needed to have co-located the bbq and toilets closer.*

*I would put more seating/picnic tables close by for parents.*

### 4. Nature play

One respondent recommended the inclusion of nature play features in the park.

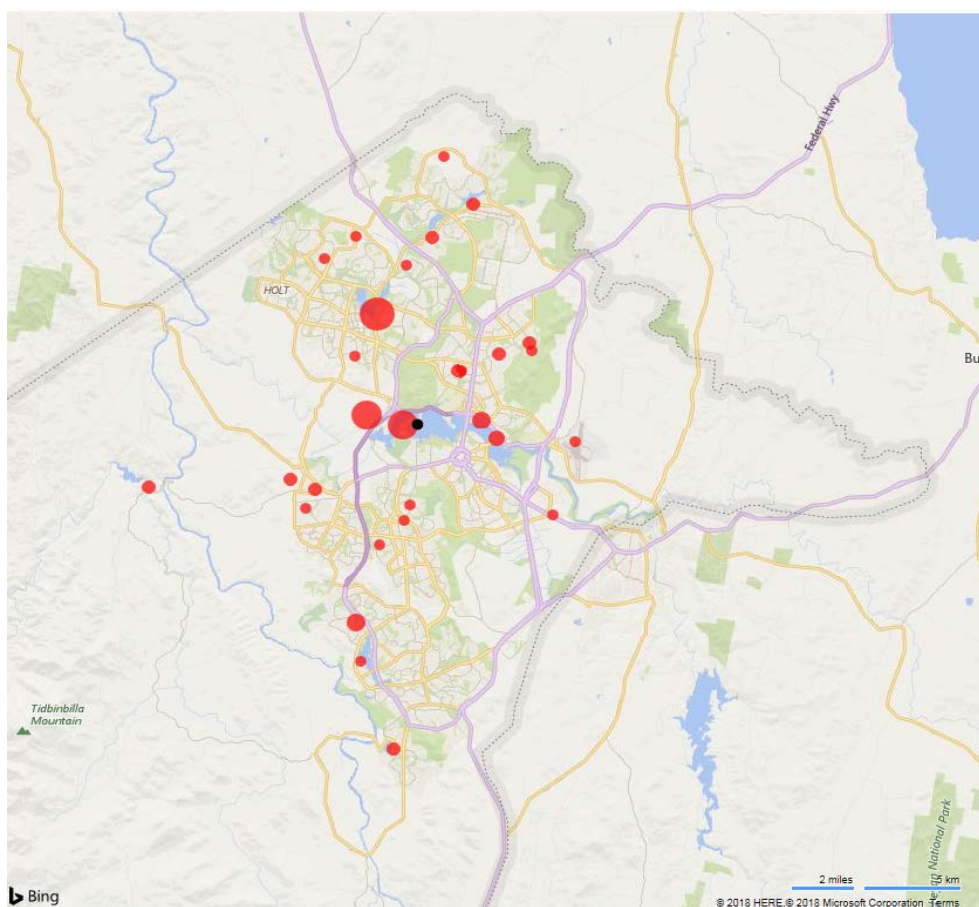
*Add some nature spaces incorporated into the playground like a sandpit or rock pathways to walk along.*

TABLE 2

| Recommended changes to this playground  | Number of responses |
|---|---------------------|
| BBQs                                    | 5                   |
| Toilet facilities                       | 2                   |
| Fencing                                 | 2                   |
| Co-location of amenities with equipment | 2                   |
| Nature play                             | 1                   |
| Shade                                   | 1                   |
| Improved equipment                      | 1                   |

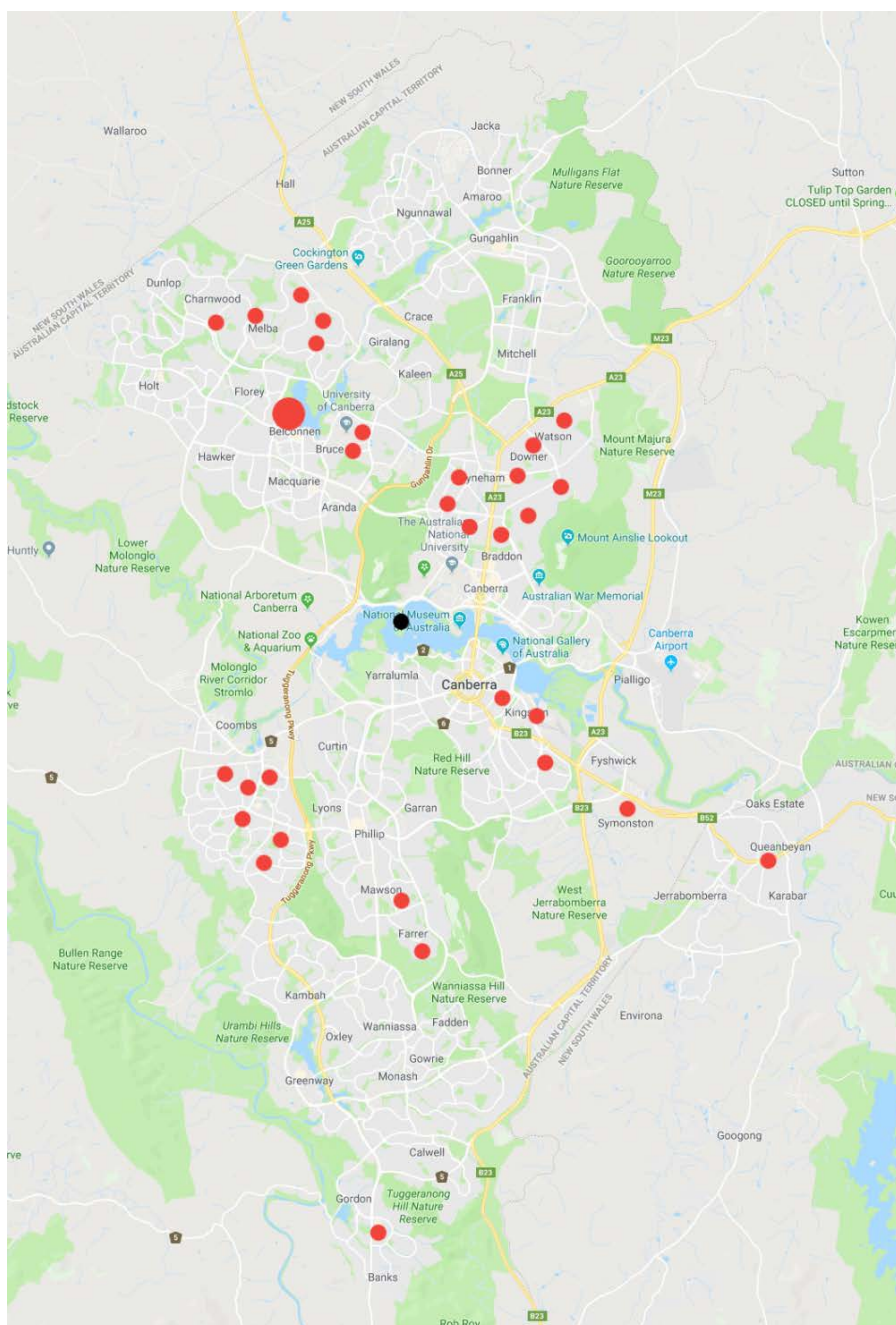
## OTHER PLAYGROUND CHOICES

Visitors to Black Mountain Peninsula Park mostly visited playgrounds on the north side of town – including John Knight and Pod Playground. However, people do come from across Canberra to spend time at Black Mountain Peninsula.



## VISITOR PROXIMITY TO PLAYGROUNDS

The majority of visitors to Black Mountain Peninsula live on the north side of Canberra but some also come from the south side.



# BOUNDLESS PARK, BARTON

## INTRODUCTION

Boundless Park is the most popular playground in Canberra among respondents to this study. Visitors choose Boundless as their most frequented playground primarily because of the range and quality of the equipment. They also enjoy the natural features and setting – including the nature play area, Lake Burley Griffin and Commonwealth Park. Boundless is most appealing to people with children aged 0-5. Visitors to Boundless come from across the ACT.

## VISITATION

### 1. SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

#### WEEKEND

**DAY & DATE** Friday, 26 January 2018

**TIME** 4.45pm – 6.15pm

Boundless had moderate visitation levels on the Friday afternoon of the public holiday in the school holidays. An estimated 23 adults and 35 children visited this park in the 1 ½ hours.

|  |    |
|--|----|
| No of adults interviewed               | 15 |
| Females                                | 10 |
| Males                                  | 5  |
| No of children with adults interviewed | 34 |

## WEEKDAY

**DAY & DATE** Tuesday, 23 January 2018

**TIME** 5.00pm – 6.30pm

There were few visitors to Boundless playground during the week of the school holidays. Only 8 adults with 11 children visited the park during this time.

|  |    |
|--|----|
| No of adults interviewed               | 8  |
| Females                                | 5  |
| Males                                  | 3  |
| No of children with adults interviewed | 11 |

## 2. SCHOOL TERM

### WEEKEND (MONDAY, LONG WEEKEND)

**DAY & DATE** Monday, 2 April 2018

**TIME** 11.45pm – 12.45pm

Boundless has low-moderate visitation levels on the Monday of the public holiday in the school term.

|  |    |
|--|----|
| No of adults interviewed               | 13 |
| Females                                | 10 |
| Males                                  | 3  |
| No of children with adults interviewed | 13 |

## WEEKDAY

**DAY & DATE** Thursday, 29 March 2018

**TIME** 5.45pm – 6.45pm

There were low numbers of visitors to Boundless playground during the week of the school term.

|  |    |
|--|----|
| No of adults interviewed               | 9  |
| Females                                | 8  |
| Males                                  | 1  |
| No of children with adults interviewed | 16 |

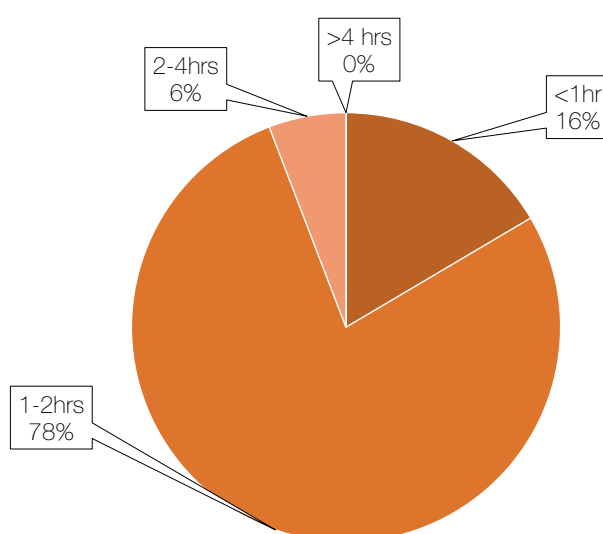
## ONLINE SURVEY

Over 8% of the 751 respondents identify Boundless as the playground they most visit in Canberra. 8.7% of (724) respondents selected Boundless as their second most visited playground, and 19.1% of (661) respondents as their third most visited playground.

## VISITATION TIME

The vast majority of visitors to Boundless spend between 1 -2 hours in the park, with 16% spending less than an hour.

HOW LONG IS YOUR AVERAGE VISIT TO  
BOUNDLESS PLAYGROUND?

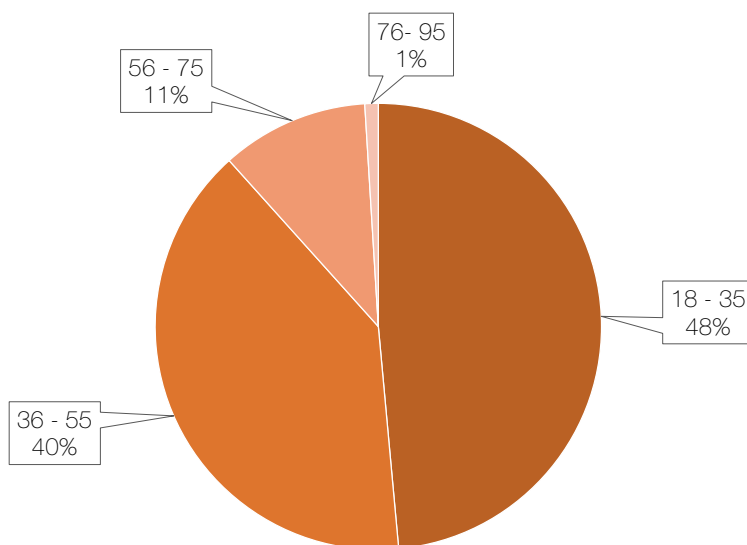


## AGE RANGE OF RESPONDENTS

### ADULTS

The majority of adults visiting Boundless with children were in the 18 – 35 age range (48%), with 40% in the 36-55 age range. This is arguably attributable to the fact that most of the equipment in Boundless is designed for younger children.

AGE OF ADULTS AT BOUNDLESS PLAYGROUND



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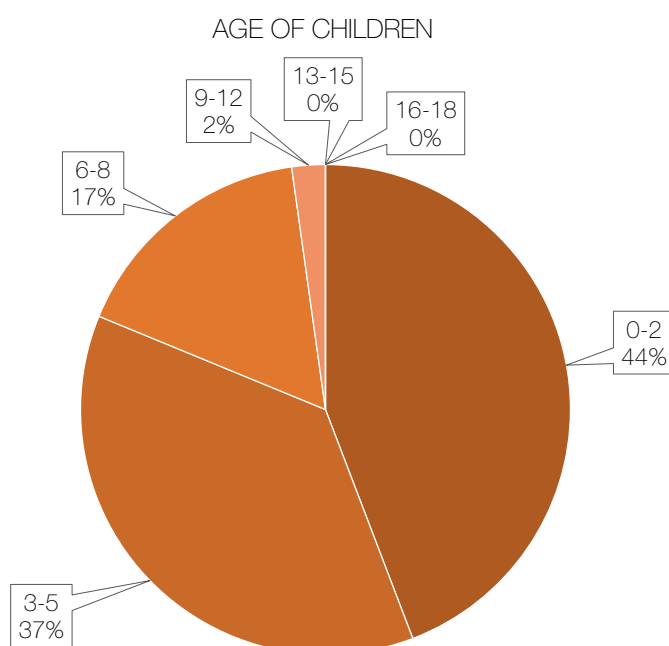
### CHILDREN

The vast majority of children are in the 0-5 age range (81%), which is the highest proportion in the ACT. Only 19% of children are 6 and over, and most of these children are 6-8.



PHOTOS: Courtesy of author





## TYPES OF PLAY

Boundless engages users in a range of play types using the available equipment, including swings, climbing, slides, sand pit and spinners. Children also engage in other types of play, whether facilitated by user equipment brought to the park (e.g. bikes, scooters, balls); or generated from imagination; or arising from engagement with the natural environment (e.g. water, rocks, feeding birds).

| Main types of play<br>(equipment based) | Types of play<br>(other than on fixed equipment) |
|---|--|
| Swings                                  | Nature play                                      |
| Climbing                                | Water play                                       |
| Slides                                  | Social play                                      |
| Musical equipment                       | Jumping  |
| Sand pit                                | Hide and Seek                                    |
| Spinners                                | Running  |
| Roundabout                              | Imaginative play                                 |

## REASONS FOR VISITING THE PARK

### 1. Equipment

The vast majority of visitors to Boundless Playground identify the equipment as the major reason for using this park. A significant number of respondents simply wrote “best equipment”, while numerous others pointed to the variety of equipment.

*Great equipment with good variety, shaded, toilets, easy parking.*

*Enclosed, variety of different activities, well shaded, age appropriate.*

*This is an excellent playground and having it fenced means my daughter can really explore safely.*

*Easy playground for young toddler to use and is enclosed.*

### 2. Fenced

Fencing was also a key reason for visiting Boundless, with the enclosure providing a sense of security for adults who could then give their children more freedom to roam and explore.

*Great playground - lots of different experiences. Fenced.*

*Well fenced in, easy for a running 2 year old!*

*Having it fenced means my daughter can really explore safely.*

### 3. Natural environment/setting

Respondents liked the natural environment at Boundless, because it provided an attractive setting in which to spend time (grass, trees, views of the Lake), as well as many opportunities for engagement with nature (e.g. nature play, water play, feeding ducks)

*Well shaded, natural playspaces, water play, inclusive equipment, fenced.*

*Lots of green space around, has the nature play section.*

#### 4. Close to home/convenient location

The location of Boundless was another motivating factor for visiting Boundless.

*Closer to home, easier to park.*

#### 5. Toilets

Many respondents highlighted the importance of the proximity and quality of the toilet facilities at Boundless.



PHOTOS: Courtesy of author

TABLE 1

| Reasons given for being at this playground | Number of responses |
|--|---------------------|
| Best equipment                             | 57                  |
| Variety of equipment                       | 44                  |
| Fenced                                     | 42                  |
| Natural setting/environment                | 18                  |
| Close to home/location                     | 18                  |
| Toilets                                    | 11                  |
| Shade                                      | 8                   |
| Water play                                 | 8                   |
| Equipment for younger kids                 | 8                   |

NB: This chart represents the key (not all) reasons for visiting this playground

## RECOMMENDED CHANGES TO PARK

Respondents who selected Boundless as their most visited park recommended the following changes:

### 1. Shade

The vast majority of respondents requested more shade for Boundless – over the play equipment and play areas, as well as for adults who are supervising children.

*Poor shade canopy and carer area. I have designed many world class playgrounds and always consider shaded carer areas as the heart to the play space.*

*More shade! Entire park should have shade to protect children.*

### 2. More seating for carers

Another key recommended change to Boundless is the addition of seating for carers – from shaded grassy areas, to covered seating, to picnic tables.

*More/better seating, more shade, more parking.*

*More seating for adults, grassed area in shade for picnics etc.*

### 3. Equipment for different age groups

A few respondents expressed concern about the lack of separation between the play equipment for different age groups, describing the negative impact that this has on the children in their care.

*It needs a separate climbing area for little kids. My 2 year nearly gets bowled over by bigger kids every single time (and their parents don't care).*

*Separate play areas for different ages (small kids get trampled by bigger kids in current environment).*

*Increased differentiation between equipment/spaces suitable for young kids versus older, bigger kids.*

There were also requests for more equipment for toddlers.

*More interactive play for small toddlers.*

*Young toddler play equipment would be great, for those just starting to walk and climb.*

#### 4. Improved water and toilet facilities

Some visitors to Boundless noted that the current water play options and water fountains need repair, and that the toilets require greater maintenance.

*Have the water play areas work.*

*Fix the other water play that's currently out of action.*

*Having the toilets working and clean more often.*

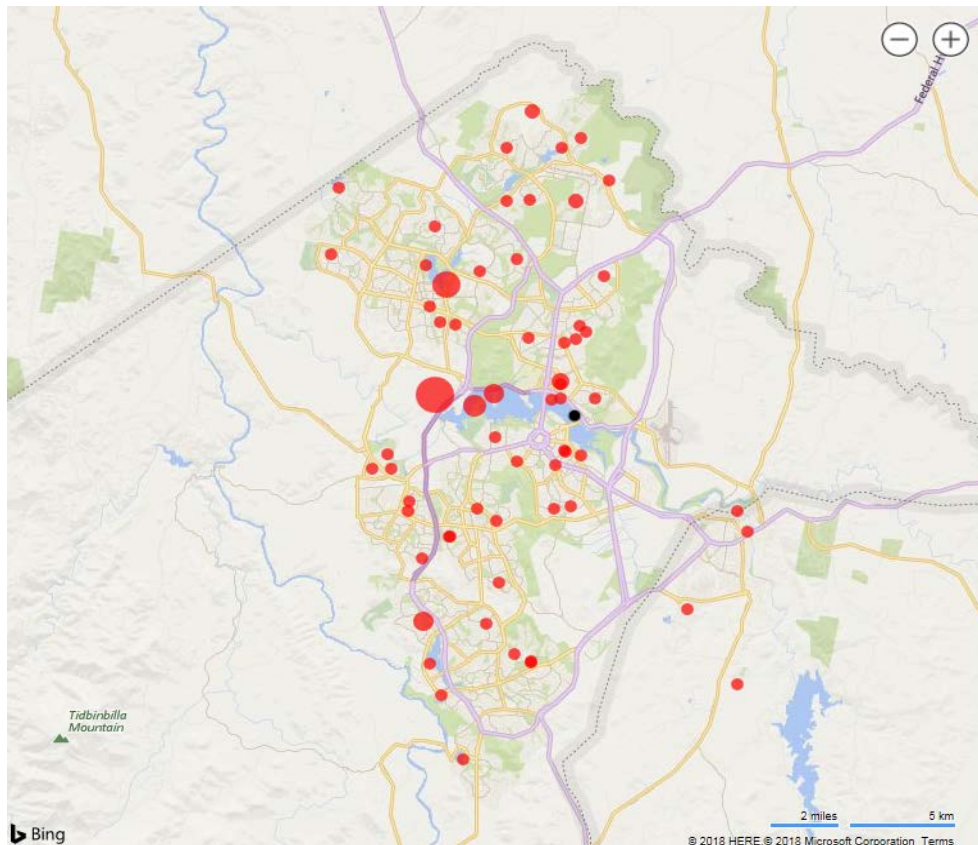
TABLE 2

| Recommended changes to playground   | Number of responses |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Shade                               | 31                  |
| More seating for carers             | 15                  |
| Equipment for different age groups  | 11                  |
| Improve water and toilet facilities | 9                   |

NB: this chart represents the key (not all) recommendations for changes to this playground

## OTHER PLAYGROUND CHOICES

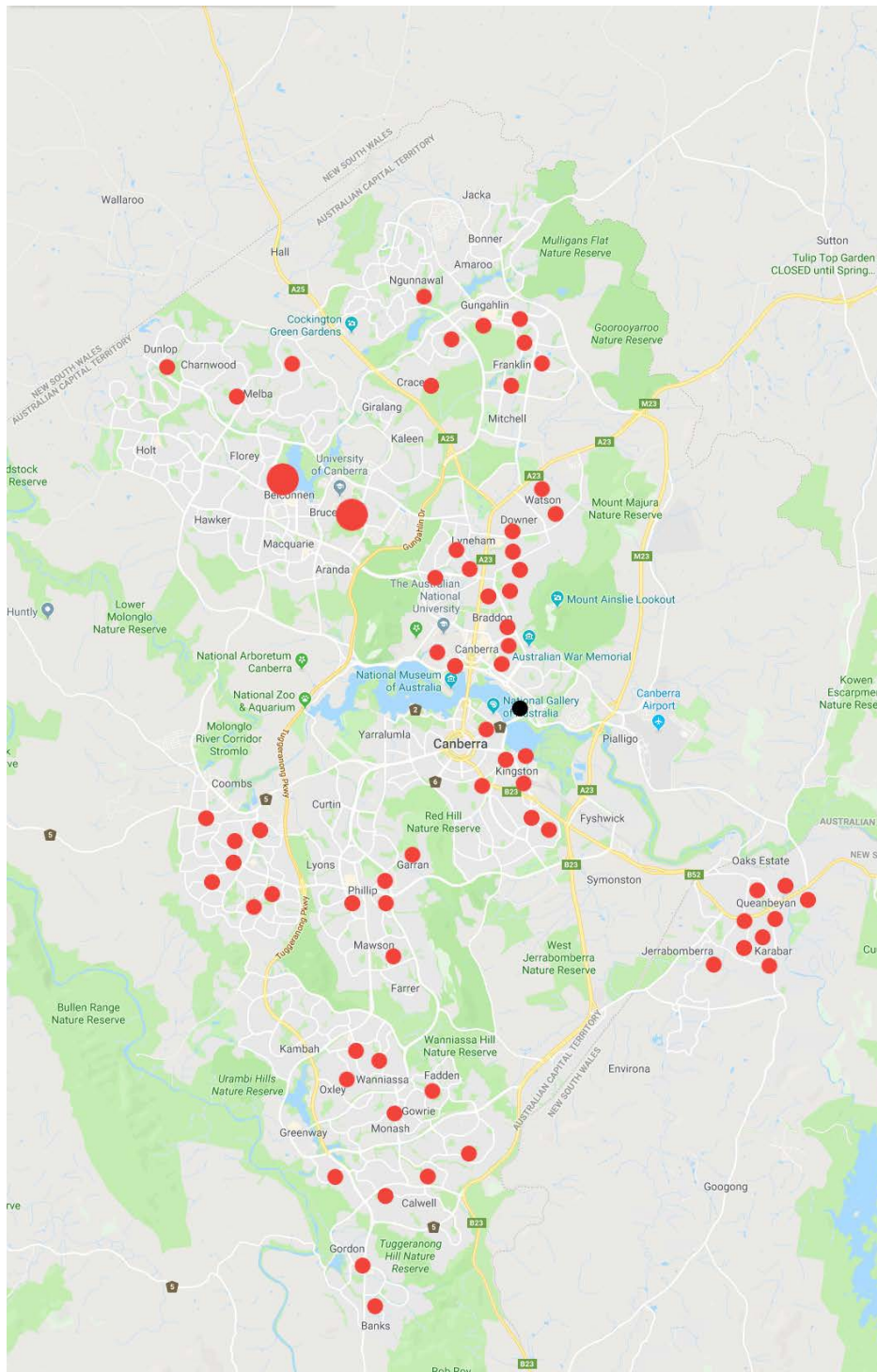
Respondents whose favourite park is Boundless visit a wide range of parks across the ACT. A significant number also visit Pod Playground.





## VISITOR PROXIMITY TO BOUNDLESS PLAYGROUND

While the majority of visitors to Boundless live on the north side of Canberra, respondents come from across the region to spend time at this playground.



# JOHN KNIGHT MEMORIAL PARK, BELCONNEN

## INTRODUCTION

John Knight Memorial Park is one of the most popular playgrounds in Canberra. This Park is used for a range of recreational and social purposes by a broad cross section of people who come here from across the ACT to spend time with children, friends and family. John Knight is popular because of its particular combination of: the quality and diversity of equipment, which appeals to a wide range of age groups; the facilities (toilets, BBQs parking); and the natural features of the Park including the Lake, the trees (natural shade), open spaces and the stream that runs through the Park, all of which enables multiple forms of nature play.

## VISITATION

### 1. SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

#### Weekend

**Day & Date** Saturday, 13 January 2018

**Time** 9.00am – 10.30pm

John Knight Memorial Park had high visitation levels on the weekend of the school holidays. Many of these visits were for formal and informal social events occurring at the park, including birthday parties and BBQs or gatherings with families and friends.

|  |    |
|--|----|
| No of adults interviewed               | 9  |
| Females                                | 3  |
| Males                                  | 6  |
| No of children with adults interviewed | 13 |



### Weekday

**Day & Date** Tuesday, 16 January 2018

**Time** 11.00pm – 12.30pm

There were notably fewer visitors to the park during the weekday of the school holidays.

|  |   |
|--|---|
| No of adults interviewed               | 2 |
| Females                                | 2 |
| Males                                  | 0 |
| No of children with adults interviewed | 8 |

## 2. SCHOOL TERM (LONG WEEKEND)

### Weekend

**Day & Date** Monday, 2 April 2018

**Time** 2.00pm to 3.45pm

John Knight Memorial Park had high visitation levels on the long weekend of the school term. Most of these visits were to entertain the kids and to get the family outdoors.

|  |    |
|--|----|
| No of adults interviewed               | 16 |
| Females                                | 14 |
| Males                                  | 2  |
| No of children with adults interviewed | 31 |

Weekday

Day & Date Monday, 9 April 2018

Time 11.00pm – 12.00pm

There were low to moderate numbers of visitors to John Knight on the Monday of the school term. The main reason for visiting John Knight during this time was to entertain the kids and give them time outdoors.

|  |    |
|--|----|
| No of adults interviewed               | 11 |
| Females                                | 1  |
| Males                                  | 10 |
| No of children with adults interviewed | 22 |

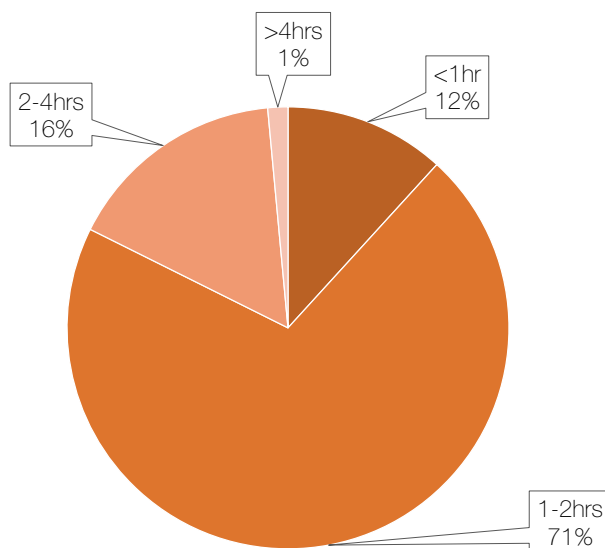
## ONLINE SURVEY

Approximately 5.3% of the 751 respondents identify John Knight Memorial Park (John Knight) as the park they most visit in Canberra. Around 5.1% of (724) respondents selected John Knight Memorial Park as their second most visited playground; and 6.5% of 661 respondents selected this park as their third most visited playground.

## VISITATION TIME

As John Knight is a large playground with multiple recreational and social opportunities, most visitors (71%) spend 1-2 hours there, with 16% spending between 2-4 hours and only 12% spending less than an hour.

HOW LONG IS YOUR AVERAGE VISIT  
TO JOHN KNIGHT PLAYGROUND?

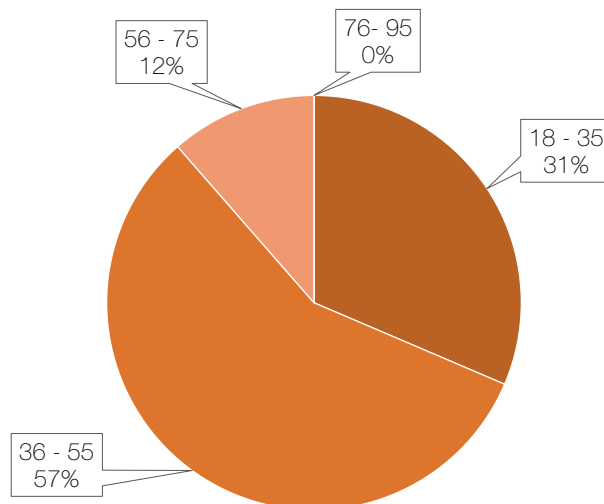


## AGE RANGE OF RESPONDENTS

### ADULTS

Most adults visiting John Knight with children were in the 36-55 age range (57%), followed by 31% in the 18-35 age bracket. This is arguably attributable to the fact that John Knight offers more play opportunities for children in older age brackets.

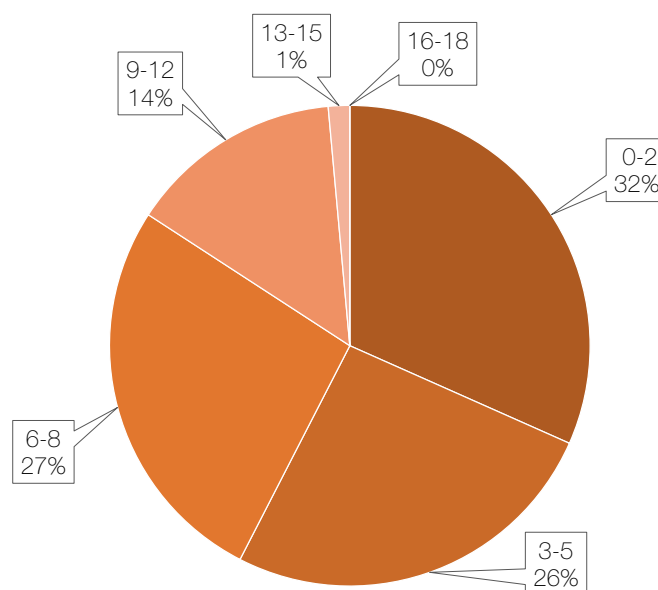
#### AGE OF ADULTS AT JOHN KNIGHT



#### CHILDREN

The majority of children are in the 0-5 age range (58%). However John Knight has a higher than average number of 6-12 year olds, constituting 41% of children who visit John Knight Park.

#### AGE OF CHILDREN AT JOHN KNIGHT



## TYPES OF PLAY

John Knight engages users in a wide range of play types: from utilising the available play equipment to other types of play – whether facilitated by user equipment brought to the park (e.g. bikes, scooters, balls); or user imagination; or arising from user engagement with the natural environment (e.g. water, rocks, feeding birds).

| Main types of play (equipment based) | Types of play (other than on fixed equipment) |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| Flying fox                           | Nature play                                   |
| Slides                               | Bikes/scooters                                |
| Swings                               | Water play                                    |
| Climbing                             | Social play                                   |
| Spinners                             | Stepping stones                               |
| Frisbee golf                         | Running                                       |
| Adult gym equipment                  | Imaginative play                              |

## REASONS FOR VISITING THE PARK

### 1. Natural features

The natural features were a key reason for visiting John Knight Memorial Park. Respondents made particular note of the Lake and opportunities to engage with fauna (e.g. duck feeding) as well as the water features within the park (the creek that runs through the Park with rocks for climbing).

*Rocks to climb on.*

*It's near the Lake G, where there are lots of birds for my son to chase.*

## 2. Close to home/convenient location

Proximity to home and convenience of location were key motivators for visiting John Knight.

*We have lots of kids and it's close to where we live.*

## 3. Lots of things to do

Respondents loved the diversity of experiences on offer at John Knight Playground – including the range of equipment and many opportunities afforded by the natural (duck feeding; rock climbing) and built environment (bike riding along paths).

*A wide variety of spaces and play equipment. We love the lake, animals, flying fox, trees and exercise equipment.*

## 4. Quality of playground

The quality of the playground – the equipment and the facilities (BBQs, toilets, parking) was cited as a key reason for visiting John Knight.

*John Knight excellent playground with good facilities.*

## 5. Equipment for older kids

Many respondents noted that John Knight had play equipment and opportunities for older kids.

*Stuff for older kids. Incorporate into a walk or ride.*

TABLE 1

| Reasons given for being at this playground | Number of responses |
|--|---------------------|
| Natural features/nature play               | 42                  |
| Close to home/convenient location          | 39                  |
| Lots of things to do                       | 20                  |
| Shade                                      | 19                  |
| Diversity of equipment                     | 19                  |
| Equipment (quality)                        | 16                  |
| Facilities (toilet,                        | 14                  |
| Good playground                            | 15                  |
| Equipment for older kids                   | 9                   |
| Attractive setting /view                   | 8                   |

NB: This chart represents the key (not all) reasons for visiting this playground

## RECOMMENDED CHANGES TO PARK

Respondents who selected John Knight Memorial Park as their most visited park recommended the following changes:

### 1. Improvements to equipment

Respondents offered a broad range of suggestions regarding equipment, including a general updating; more equipment for younger children; more equipment for older children; and the inclusion of specific items. 25% of the suggestions regarding equipment requested more swings.

*Add some swings up near the snake park. Few more little kid play areas at the snake park.*

*More exciting equipment (like the arboretum or the old 'mouse house').*

*Add more nature play type features that encourage engagement with risk eg boulders, logs, varied garden features. Also water play.*

## 2. Improvements to facilities

Other key recommended changes to John Knight involved upgrades to and/or more facilities – including BBQs, seating, undercover areas, bike racks, toilets and parking.

*More shade and seating areas that are in the shade for parents.*

*We end up leaning bikes on trees etc.*

## 3. Proximity of facilities to play equipment

People also suggested that facilities such as toilets and picnic tables should be closer to the play equipment.

*Add a closer water station*

*More shade, picnic tables and bbq closer to the park.*

*Bins closer to the playground. Bike racks right near the playgrounds.*

TABLE 2

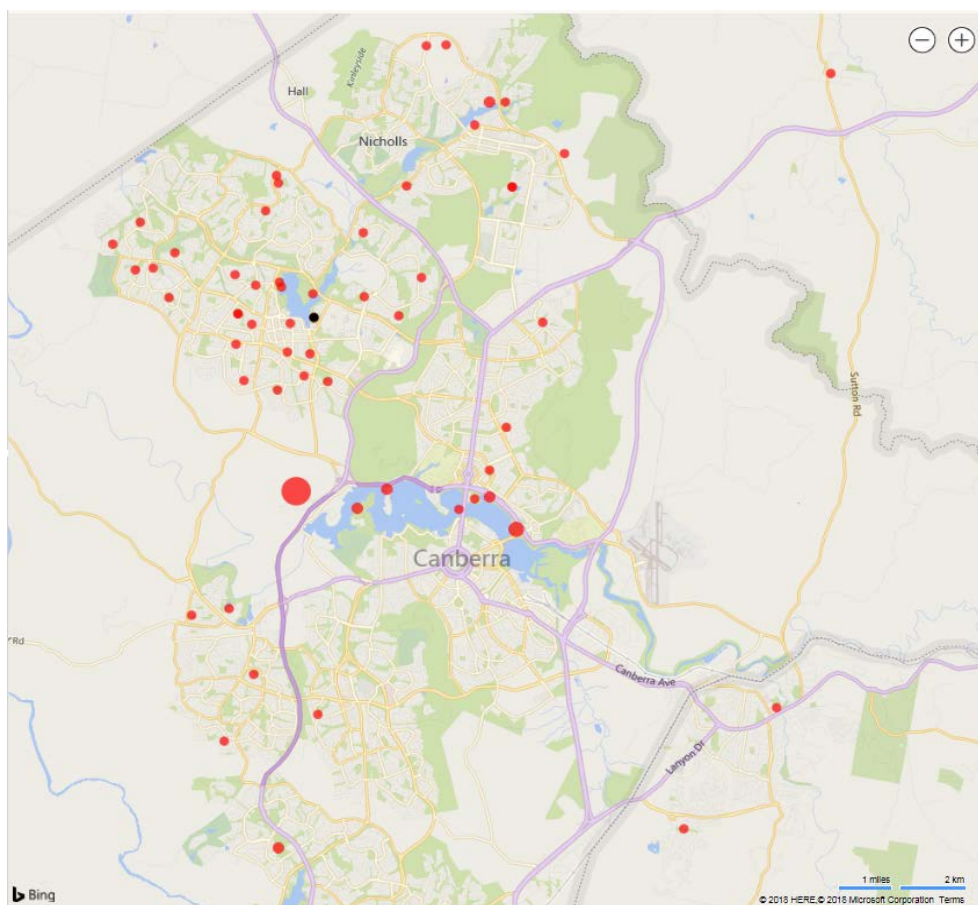
| Recommended changes to this playground   | Number of responses |
|--|---------------------|
| Improvements to equipment  | 12                  |
| More and better facilities (toilets, undercover seating, parking, water, bike racks) | 11                  |
| Closer proximity of facilities to equipment  | 4                   |

NB: This chart represents the key (not all) recommendations for changes to this playground



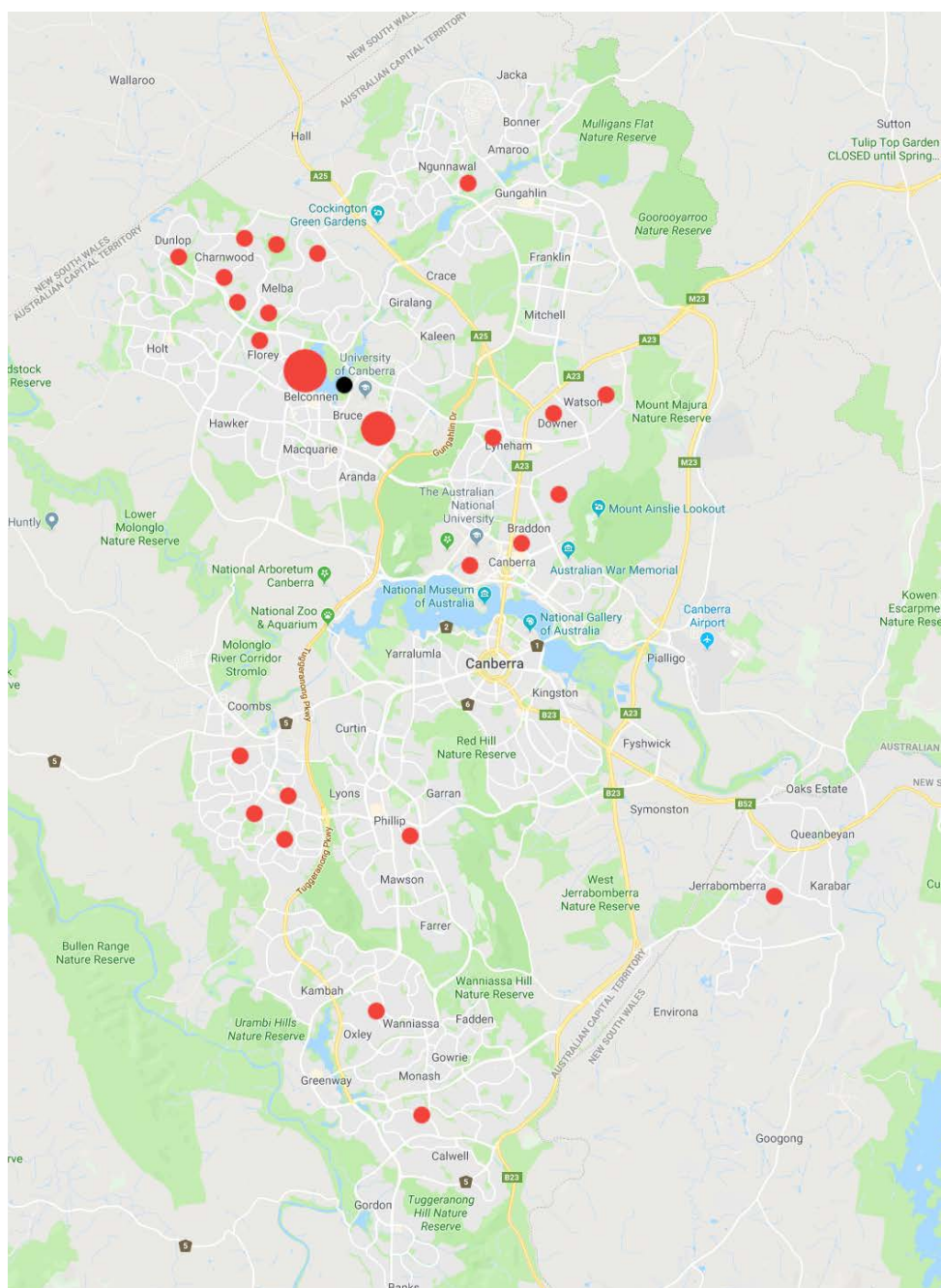
## OTHER PLAYGROUND CHOICES

The majority of respondents whose favourite park is John Knight Memorial Playground visit parks on the north side – including a range of smaller parks as well as Pod Playground, Boundless and Commonwealth Park.



## VISITOR PROXIMITY TO JOHN KNIGHT PLAYGROUND

While the majority of visitors to John Knight Playground live on the north side of Canberra, respondents come from across the region to spend time at this playground. This is arguably attributable to the fact that the park is highly social – people meet family and friends here – and also because of the perceived diversity and quality of experience for a wider range of children.



# KAMBAH ADVENTURE PARK, KAMBAH

## INTRODUCTION

Kambah Adventure Park is a popular destination park in Canberra. People visit this park because of its many opportunities for play and social engagement. The vast majority of these opportunities are provided by the built environment, including the broad range of play equipment and the facilities (bike paths, BBQs). Respondents mention in particular the appeal of the more challenging equipment on offer at Kambah, as well as the equipment for toddlers. Other activities such as ball games take advantage of the available space at Kambah. While the grass, open space and other natural features are mentioned occasionally by respondents, they are not a primary motivating factor for visiting this Park.

## VISITATION

### 1. SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

#### WEEKEND

**DAY & DATE** Saturday, 27 January 2018

**TIME** 10:30am - 12:00pm

Kambah Adventure Park had very high visitation levels on the Saturday morning of the school holidays, although the scale of the park makes accurate assessment of user numbers difficult. Many of these visits were for formal and informal social events occurring at the park, including birthday parties and BBQs or gatherings with families and friends.

|                          |    |
|--------------------------|----|
| No of adults interviewed | 17 |
|--------------------------|----|

|         |   |
|---------|---|
| Females | 7 |
|---------|---|

|       |    |
|-------|----|
| Males | 10 |
|-------|----|

|  |    |
|--|----|
| No of children with adults interviewed | 20 |
|--|----|

## WEEKDAY

**DAY & DATE** Thursday, 25 January 2018

**TIME** 3.00pm – 4.30pm

There were notably fewer visitors to the park during the weekdays.

|  |    |
|--|----|
| No of adults interviewed               | 7  |
| Females                                | 4  |
| Males                                  | 3  |
| No of children with adults interviewed | 12 |

## 2. SCHOOL TERM

### WEEKEND

**DAY & DATE** Saturday, 7 April 2018

**TIME** 12.30pm – 2.00pm

Kambah Adventure Park had high visitation levels on the Saturday morning of the school term. Many of these visits were for formal and informal social events occurring at the park, including birthday parties and BBQs or gatherings with families and friends.

|  |    |
|--|----|
| No of adults interviewed               | 36 |
| Females                                | 20 |
| Males                                  | 16 |
| No of children with adults interviewed | 56 |

## WEEKDAY

**DAY & DATE** Thursday, 29 March 2018

**TIME** 11.00pm – 12.30pm

There were moderate numbers of visitors to Kambah Adventure Park during the weekday.

|  |    |
|--|----|
| No of adults interviewed               | 10 |
| Females                                | 9  |
| Males                                  | 1  |
| No of children with adults interviewed | 12 |

## ONLINE SURVEY

Approximately 3.7% of the 751 respondents identify Kambah Adventure Park as the park they most visit in Canberra. Just over 3% of (724) respondents selected Kambah Adventure Park as their second most visited playground; and 4.5% of 661 respondents selected this park as their third most visited playground.

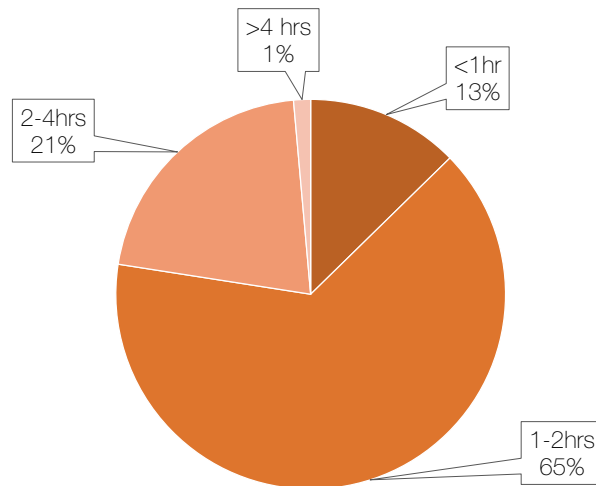
## VISITATION TIME

Most visitors (65%) spend between 1-2 hours at Kambah Adventure Park. The multiple recreational opportunities and the number of gatherings with family and friends are arguably why a fair proportion of visitors spend longer here, with 21% staying at the Park for 2-4 hours.



PHOTOS: <https://www.environment.act.gov.au/parks-conservation/parks-and-reserves/find-a-park/urban-parks/kambah-district-park>

### HOW LONG IS YOUR AVERAGE VISIT TO KAMBAH ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND?

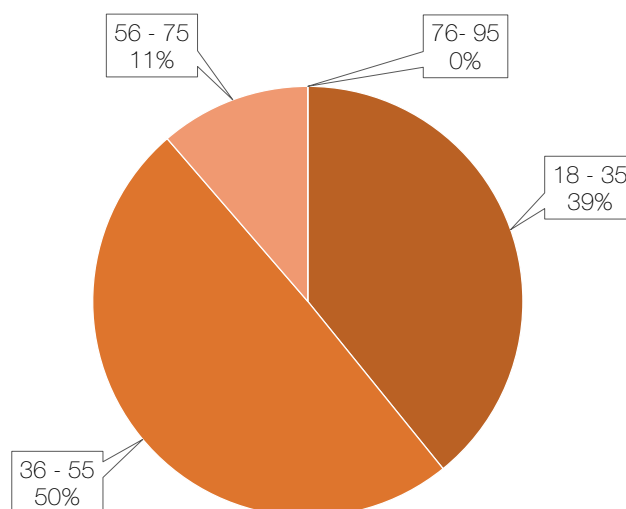


## AGE RANGE

### ADULTS

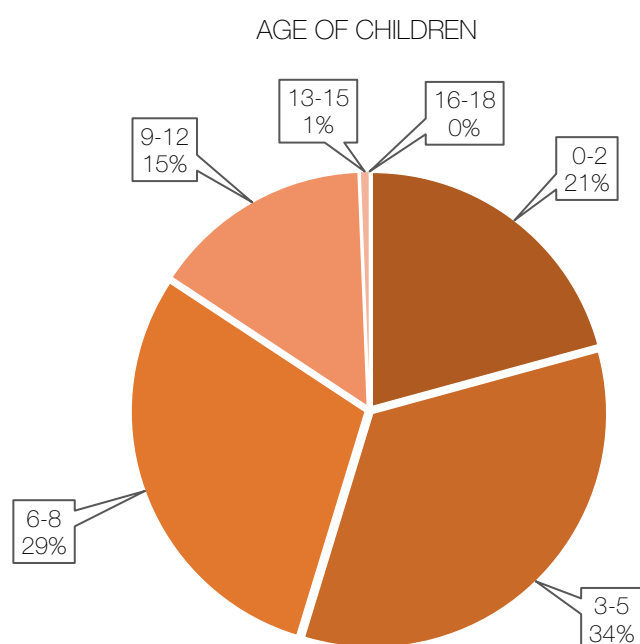
Most adults visiting Kambah Adventure Park with children were in the 36-55 age range (50%), followed by 39% in the 18-35 age bracket. This is arguably attributable to the fact that Kambah Adventure Park offers more play opportunities for children in older age brackets.

### AGE OF ADULTS AT KAMBAH ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND



## CHILDREN

While the larger percentage of children are in the 0-5 age range (with over 55%), 6-12 year old children constitute 44% of children who visit Kambah Adventure Park. This is the highest percentage of older children across all destination parks in Canberra.



## TYPES OF PLAY

Most play in Kambah Adventure Playground occurs on the equipment, with many of the play types scaffolded for various ages (e.g. from child swing to large swing; from small slide to large slide; from small to larger climbing walls) and situated in different areas within the Park partially grouped by age. Other types of play that occurred in the park involved equipment supplied by users (such as balls and bikes).



| Main types of play (equipment based) | Types of play (other than on fixed equipment) |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| Swings                               | Ball games                                    |
| Slides                               | Bikes/scooters                                |
| Climbing                             | Social play                                   |
| Flying fox                           | Water play                                    |
| Sand and diggers                     | Walking                                       |
| Spinners                             | Running                                       |
| Fireman's pole                       |   |

## REASONS FOR VISITING THE PARK

### 1. Lots of things to do

Respondents loved the number of experiences on offer at Kambah Adventure Park. The range of equipment at Kambah Adventure Park was identified as a key reason for visiting – in particular the variety and appeal of equipment for different age groups and skills sets. The flying fox is often singled out as a highlight of this park, although recent changes to the flying fox are perceived negatively by survey respondents.

*Heaps of variety of equipment, including some trickier more dangerous gear to promote risk taking*

*Flying fox (when it used to be fast and high enough for older kids)*

*The big slippery dip, flying fox, it's a big area, lots of different things, lots of options if busy.*



## 2. Close to home/convenient location

Another key reason for visiting Kambah is its location – both because of its close proximity to respondents' homes, and its convenience for friends and family.

*[It is] In between our houses.*

*Close to home, amenities are better now, bike path from home directly leads to park, very handy for my family day care.*

## 3. Getting together with family and friends

Kambah Adventure Park is used for formal and informal get-togethers with family and friends. Many people used Kambah as a site for birthday parties.

*To meet up with a friend and let the kids have a play.*

*Granddaughter's birthday. Family and friends gathering.*

## 4. Quality of playground

The quality of the playground as a whole – the equipment and the facilities (BBQs, toilets, parking) was cited as a reason for visiting Kambah.

*it has a good reputation among parents as being large with a wide range of equipment that kids enjoy.*

*Big, bbqs, great equipment, kids' favourite.*

## 5. Equipment for all ages

Many respondents noted that Kambah Adventure Park had equipment for all ages – both for younger and older kids.

*Good adventure style equipment for older kids. Most playgrounds are too safe these days and boring*

*Slides easily accessible for toddler (stairs rather than needing to climb), accessible play fort for toddlers; baby swings.*

TABLE 1

| Reasons given for being at this playground | Number of responses |
|--|---------------------|
| Lots of things to do                       | 32                  |
| Close to home/convenient location          | 29                  |
| Gathering with family and friends          | 26                  |
| Good playground                            | 10                  |
| Flying fox                                 | 10                  |
| All ages playground                        | 7                   |
| Facilities (BBQ, toilets)                  | 7                   |
| Open space                                 | 6                   |
| Challenging equipment                      | 5                   |

NB: This chart represents the key (not all) reasons for visiting this playground

## RECOMMENDED CHANGES TO PARK

Visitors who selected Kambah Adventure Park as their most visited park recommended the following changes:

### 1. More risky play

Some respondents voiced their disappointment about the absence or reduction of risky play, including changes to the flying fox. One respondent noted that the flying fox was the best feature of Kambah “when it used to be fast and high enough for older kids”.

*I would put the flying fox back to the way it used to be. We can't use it anymore because our legs hit the ground.*

*The addition of 'riskier' equipment (such as tree houses, really big swings, BIG flying foxes) that would make the park more appealing as our children get older.*

## 2. More shade

A quarter of respondents mention the need for more shade over the play equipment at Kambah Adventure Playground.

## 3. Even greater diversity of play

Many respondents want to see the diversity of play equipment extended even further; with more play opportunities for younger children (climbing; swings) and for older children; as well as other types of play (water play; sand play; more challenging fort climbing; climbing on rocks rather than on walls).

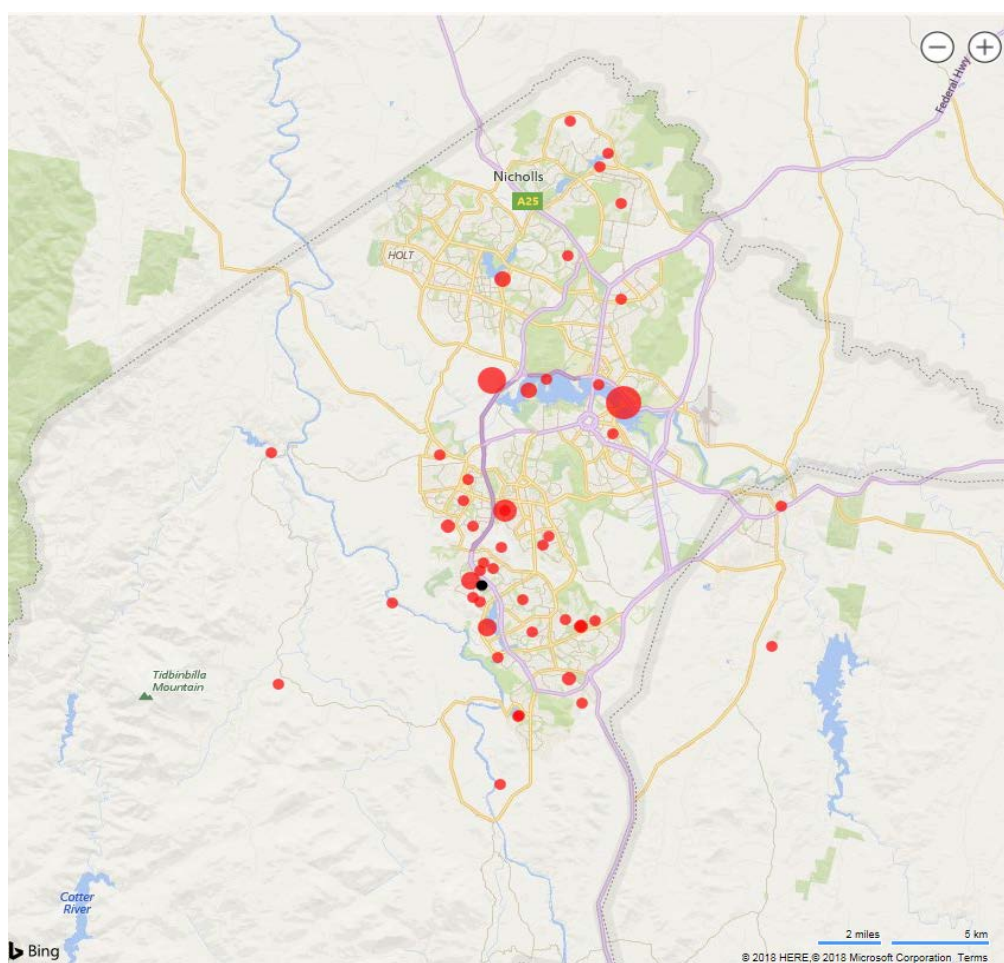
*I would dearly love some much more challenging play areas suitable for older children and teens.*

TABLE 2

| Recommended changes to this playground | Number of responses |
|--|---------------------|
| More risky play                        | 4                   |
| Shade                                  | 3                   |
| Greater diversity of equipment         | 3                   |
| More seating for carers                | 3                   |

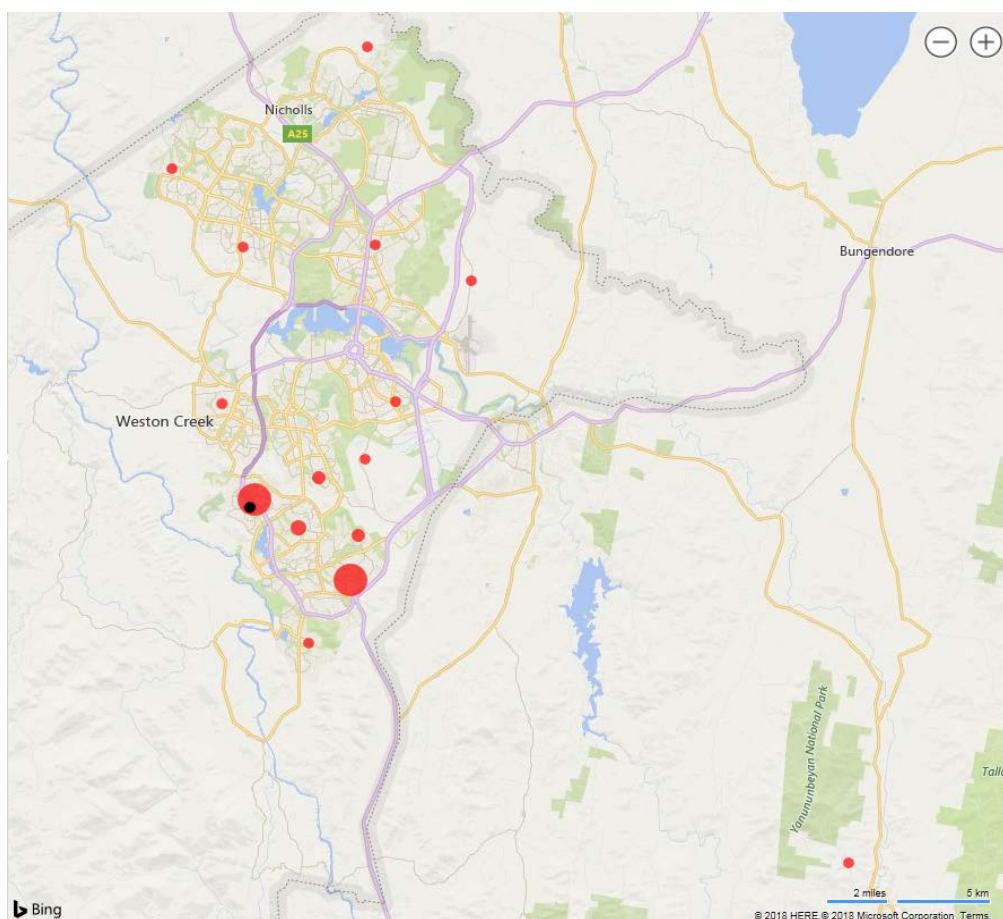
## OTHER PLAYGROUND PREFERENCES FOR KAMBAH ADVENTURE PARK VISITORS

More respondents whose favourite park is Kambah Adventure Park visit smaller parks on the south side, although a percentage also visits parks on the north side – including Pod Playground and Boundless.



## VISITOR PROXIMITY TO PLAYGROUNDS

The majority of visitors to Kambah Adventure Playground live on the south side of Canberra, although people come from across the ACT to visit this park.



# POD PLAYGROUND, NATIONAL ARBORETUM, CANBERRA

## INTRODUCTION

Pod Playground at the Arboretum is the second most popular park in Canberra – with people coming from across the ACT to visit this playground. Pod's key appeal is the quality and uniqueness of the equipment, as well as the surrounding environment and view. Visitors enjoy the access to the café and toilet facilities, but would like to see water fountains closer to the park.

Visitors to Pod are more likely to come with children only, or meet with a friend, rather than hold large family and friend get-togethers in the playground proper. This is probably attributable to the smaller size of the fenced-in area that constitutes Pod, and the lack of seating, tables and BBQ facilities within or directly near this zone.

While both adults and children alike love Pod, many requested more shade and protection from the weather for all (particularly wind), as well as more seating for carers.

## VISITATION

### 1. SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

Weekend

Day & Date Sunday, 28 January 2018

Time 11.00am to 12.00pm

Pod Playground had strong visitation levels on the weekend of the school holidays. Many visitors on this day had heard from others about the playground and were visiting Pod for the first time.

|  |    |
|--|----|
| No of adults interviewed               | 16 |
| Females                                | 11 |
| Males                                  | 5  |
| No of children with adults interviewed | 27 |

### Weekday

**Day & Date** Wednesday, 24 January 2018

**Time** 4.00pm – 5.00pm

Visitation to Pod on the weekday of the school holiday was solid. Visitors came to entertain their children.

|  |    |
|--|----|
| No of adults interviewed               | 15 |
| Females                                | 10 |
| Males                                  | 5  |
| No of children with adults interviewed | 25 |

## 2. SCHOOL TERM

### Weekend

**Day & Date** Saturday, 7 April 2018

**Time** 2.00pm to 3.00pm

Pod Playground had moderate visitation levels on the weekend of the school term. Most of these visits were to entertain the kids and have family time outdoors.

|  |    |
|--|----|
| No of adults interviewed               | 10 |
| Females                                | 6  |
| Males                                  | 4  |
| No of children with adults interviewed | 24 |

Weekday

Day & Date Thursday, 29 March 2018

Time 12.00pm – 1.00pm

There were moderate numbers of visitors to Pod on the Thursday of the school term. As with the Saturday of the school holidays, most visits were to entertain the kids.

|  |    |
|--|----|
| No of adults interviewed               | 11 |
| Females                                | 8  |
| Males                                  | 3  |
| No of children with adults interviewed | 19 |

## ONLINE SURVEY

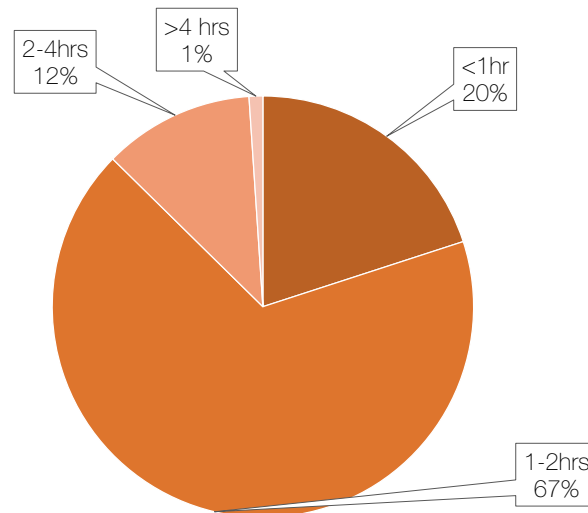
Approximately 7.7% of the 751 respondents identify Pod Playground as the park they most visit in Canberra. Around 10.3% of (724) respondents selected Pod Playground as their second most visited playground; and 12.7% of 661 respondents as their third most visited playground.

## VISITATION TIME

The vast majority of visitors spend 1-2 hours at Pod Playground (67%), with 20% spending less than an hour. Less people (12%) stay for longer than two hours at Pod than at other destination playgrounds, arguably because of the smaller size of the park, the lack of seating and picnic facilities and the exposure to the weather.



HOW LONG IS YOUR AVERAGE VISIT TO THE  
POD PLAYGROUND?



## AGE RANGE OF RESPONDENTS

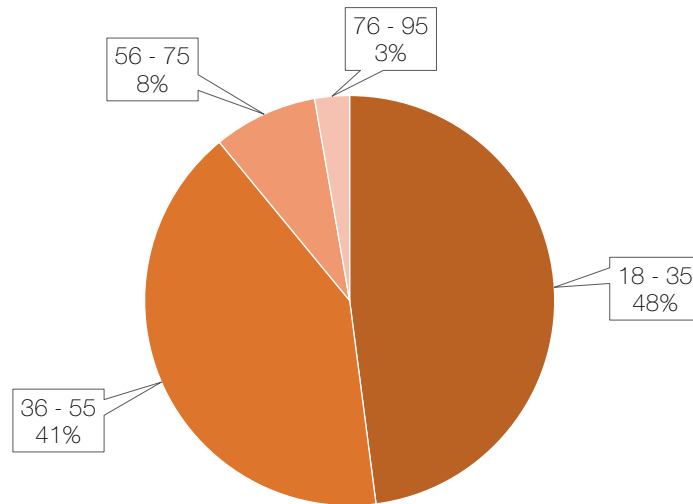
### ADULTS

Most adults visiting Pod Playground with children were in the 18-35 age range (48%), followed by 41% in the 36-55 age bracket. This is arguably attributable to the fact that Pod Playground offers more play opportunities for children in younger age brackets.



PHOTOS: <http://www.tcl.net.au/projects/play/pod-playground>

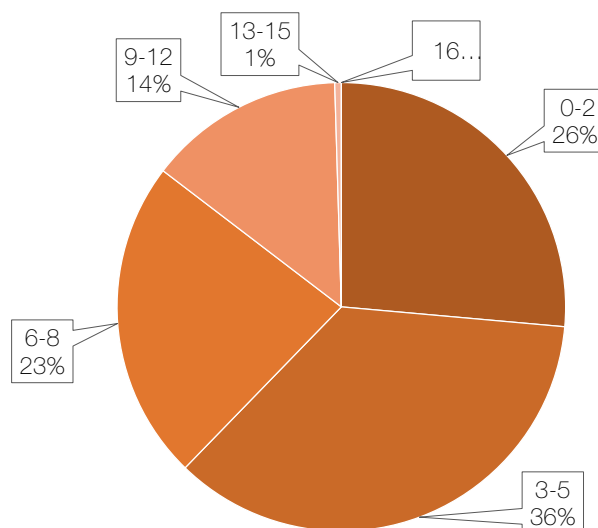
#### AGE OF ADULTS AT THE POD PLAYGROUND



#### CHILDREN

The greater majority of children who visited Pod are in the 0-5 age range (62%). 37% of children are 6-12 year olds, but more of these are in the 6-8 age range.

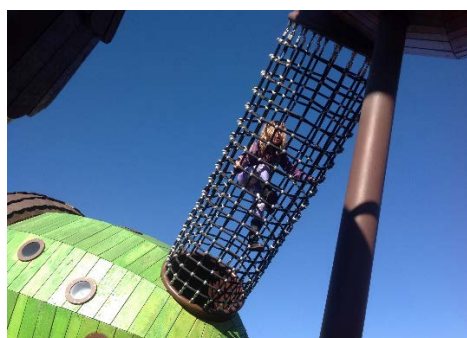
#### AGE OF CHILDREN



## TYPES OF PLAY

Pod Playground is a smaller playground than some of Canberra's other destination playgrounds, and is made discrete from its natural environment at the Arboretum by a fence. Pod engages users in a wide range of play types: from utilising the available play equipment to other types of play – whether facilitated by user equipment brought to the park (e.g. bikes, scooters, balls etc); or user imagination; or arising from user engagement with the natural environment (e.g. water, rocks, feeding birds).

| Main types of play (equipment based) | Types of play (other than on fixed equipment) |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| Swings                               | Imaginative play                              |
| Climbing                             | Social play                                   |
| Sandpit                              | Kicking balls                                 |
| Slides                               | Bike riding/scootering                        |
| Musical play (banksia/bridge)        | Kite flying                                   |
|                                      | Running                                       |
|                                      | Exploring garden                              |



PHOTOS: Courtesy of author

## REASONS FOR VISITING THE PARK

### 1. Good playground

37% of respondents visit Pod Playground because of the perceived quality of the playground. A further 8% love the unique design of Pod.

*It's the best playground around!*

*It is the best playground in Canberra and my child always has a great time*

### 2. Cafe

The café at the Arboretum is cited as a key reason for visiting Pod Playground.

*Cafe to catch up with friends.*

### 3. Environment/setting/view

Respondents love the environment and view from Pod Playground.

*The view of Canberra is beautiful.*

*Unique setting.*

### 4. Equipment

The challenging and unique equipment, which visitors perceive to be designed for a range of ages, was an important element of Pod's appeal.

*Range of equipment and required skills to use all equipment. She can use the young child area or push herself to the bigger equipment.*

*Good Equipment for my toddler, not just for the bigger kids*

*Interesting, varied setup. Challenging.*

## 5. Facilities

The facilities were a key reason for the popularity of Pod. In particular, visitors appreciated the fencing and toilets.

*Great adventure park + secure when with both kids + coffee!*

*A well resourced and equipped playground, easy parking, access to toilets and parental refreshments*

*Kids love it and it's different, challenging and safe. It's also enclosed.*

TABLE 1

| Reasons given for being at this playground | Number of responses |
|--|---------------------|
| Good playground                            | 58                  |
| Café                                       | 49                  |
| Environment/setting/view                   | 32                  |
| Fenced                                     | 21                  |
| Challenging equipment                      | 18                  |
| Lots to do for all ages                    | 16                  |
| Toilets                                    | 12                  |
| Heard it was good                          | 11                  |
| Unique design                              | 11                  |

NB: This chart represents the key (not all) reasons for visiting this playground

## RECOMMENDED CHANGES TO PARK

Respondents who selected Pod Playground as their most visited playground recommended the following changes:

### 1. Shade and protection from weather

The overwhelming recommendation from visitors regarding Pod Playground (57%) was the provision of more shade and protection from wind and other forms of weather. Many of these requests were for shaded seating to protect carers while they supervise their children.

*There needs to be more shade! Please put up some shade sails or plant large trees, particularly in areas where parents might be feeding babies.*

*I would like more shade and more places for adults to sit down (even to sit on the ground ) so we could stay for longer. A bbq could be good too*

*There is little shade and inadequate seating for adults. It's very hot in summer and freezing in winter with strong winds. Better shade for summer and some sort of barrier to protect the park from the wind would be really useful.*

### 2. Seating for carers

As mentioned above, seating for carers was the second key recommended change to Pod.

*More places to sit.*

*Sit at tables and observe playground.*

*More shade and seating for the grown ups.*

### 3. Make it bigger

Some respondents recommended that Pod be extended to cater for more families, as it is frequently too busy.

*Make it bigger. Add in some bigger slides, a flying fox, an obstacle course with tunnels, stepping stones etc and another climbing fort*

*make bigger, weekends can get very busy and lacking in parking.  
Add a closer water station*

*Needs to be bigger to cater for the many children and families who use the playground.*

#### 5. Nothing

A percentage of visitors to Pod Playground were satisfied with Pod Playground, recommending no changes.

*I'd move it closer to my house. I think it's a fantastic playground, about as good as it can be!*

#### 4. Free parking

Visitors to Pod Playground also recommended free parking or reduced parking rates, as parking for many playgrounds across Canberra is free.

*Not having to pay for parking to use it.*

*Free parking would be a bonus.*

TABLE 2

| Reasons given for being at this playground | Number of responses |
|--|---------------------|
| Shade and protection from weather          | 35                  |
| Seating for carers                         | 18                  |
| Make it bigger                             | 7                   |
| Nothing                                    | 6                   |
| Free parking                               | 5                   |

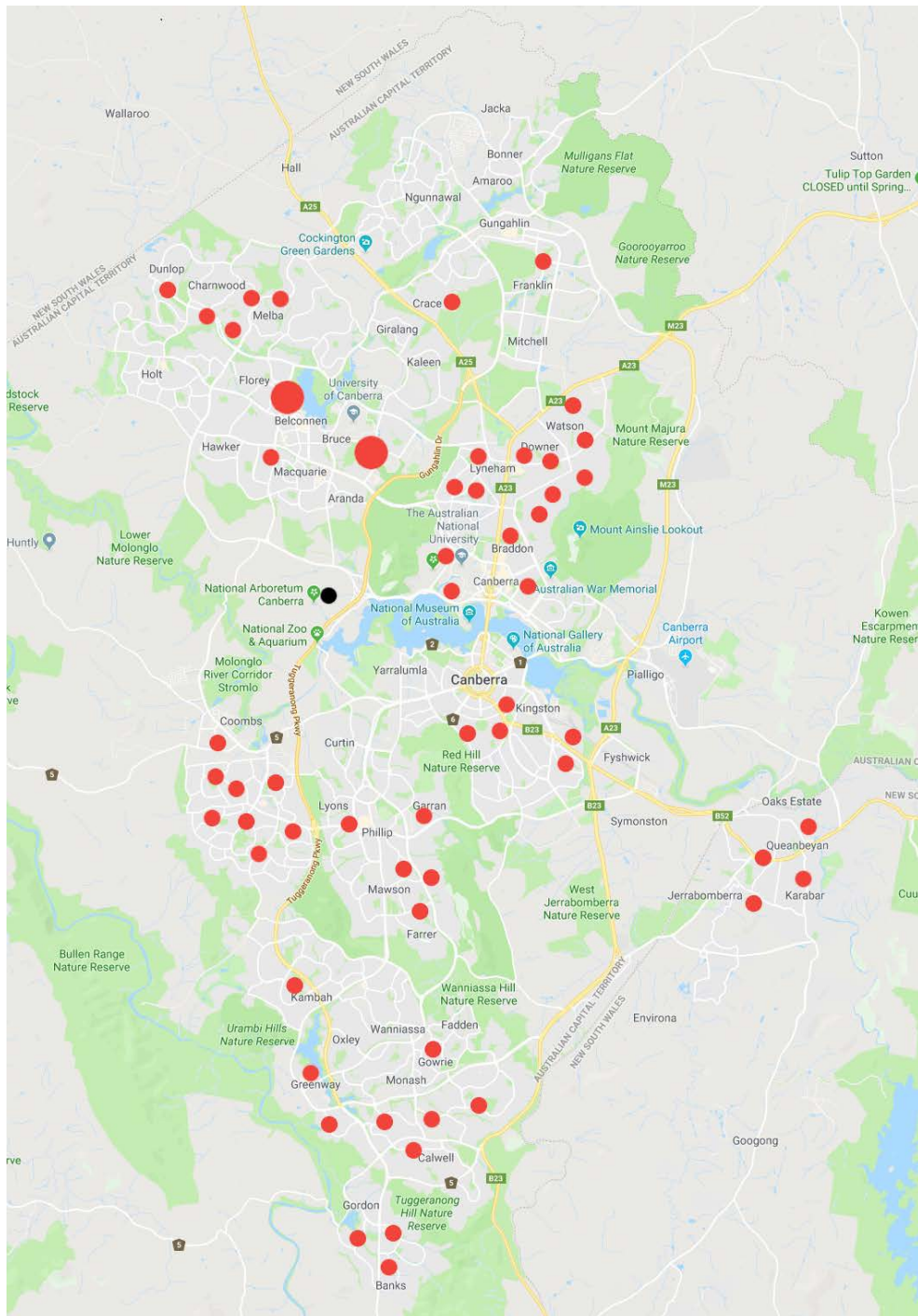
NB: This chart represents the key (not all) recommended changes to this playground





## VISITOR PROXIMITY TO POD PLAYGROUND

Pod Playground visitors live across the ACT. This highlights both the fact that Pod is a true destination playground, and a playground of high appeal. People come from the far south and the far north to visit this park.



# TUGGERANONG TOWN CENTRE PLAYGROUND, TUGGERANONG

## INTRODUCTION

Tuggeranong Town Centre Park is a semi-popular district park that is visited primarily because of its proximity to visitor homes. It also combines natural features and an attractive setting with shade, facilities and a range of equipment. The skate park extends the capacity of the park to cater to older children. The equipment itself is not high on the list of motivations for visiting this park. Visitors like to spend time at Tuggeranong Park, with a higher than average number of visitors staying at the Park for over 2 hours.

## VISITATION

### 1. SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

#### Weekend

**Day & Date** Saturday, 27 January 2018

**Time** 12.15pm – 1.45pm

Tuggeranong Town Centre Park had moderate visitation levels on the weekend of the school holidays. Most of the visits were to entertain the kids and have family time outdoors.

|  |    |
|--|----|
| No of adults interviewed               | 16 |
| Females                                | 8  |
| Males                                  | 8  |
| No of children with adults interviewed | 20 |

### Weekday

**Day & Date** Tuesday, 23 January 2018

**Time** 2.50pm – 4.20pm

There were notably fewer visitors to the park during the weekday. These visits were to entertain children.

|  |    |
|--|----|
| No of adults interviewed               | 3  |
| Females                                | 2  |
| Males                                  | 1  |
| No of children with adults interviewed | 10 |

## 2. SCHOOL TERM

### Weekend

**Day & Date** Saturday, 7 April 2018

**Time** 2.00pm to 3.45pm

Tuggeranong had moderate visitation levels on the weekend of the school term. Visitors came for a range of reasons, including gatherings with family and friends, entertaining kids, and spending time with the family unit.

|  |    |
|--|----|
| No of adults interviewed               | 13 |
| Females                                | 9  |
| Males                                  | 4  |
| No of children with adults interviewed | 27 |

Weekday

Day & Date Thursday, 23 March 2018

Time 9.30 – 10.30am

There were moderate numbers of visitors to Tuggeranong Town Centre Playground on the Thursday of the school term. The main reason for visiting Tuggeranong during this time was to entertain the kids.

|  |    |
|--|----|
| No of adults interviewed               | 16 |
| Females                                | 11 |
| Males                                  | 5  |
| No of children with adults interviewed | 24 |

## ONLINE SURVEY

0.7% of the 751 respondents identify Tuggeranong Town Centre Park Playground as the park they most visit in Canberra. Around 2% of 724 respondents selected Tuggeranong Playground as their second most visited playground; and 0.9% of 661 respondents selected this park as their third most visited playground.

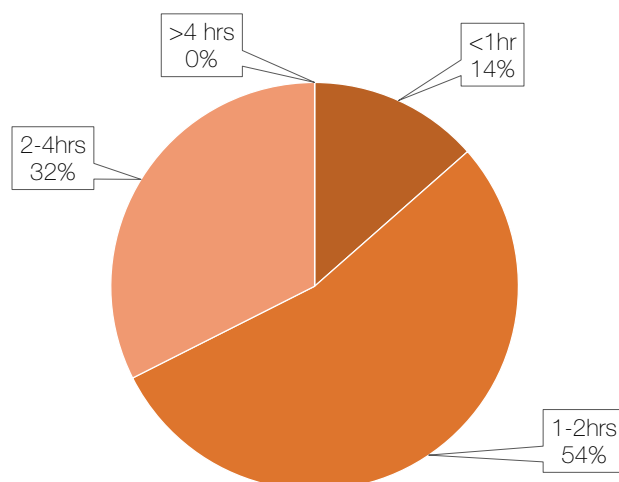
## VISITATION TIME

Visitors like to spend quality time at Tuggeranong Town Centre Park. Most visitors spend between 1 -2 hours at Tuggeranong Town Centre Park (54%), with a notable proportion spending between 2-4 hours at the Park (32%). Only 14% spend less than an hour.



PHOTOS: <https://www.environment.act.gov.au/parks-conservation/parks-and-reserves/find-a-park/urban-parks/tuggeranong-town-park>

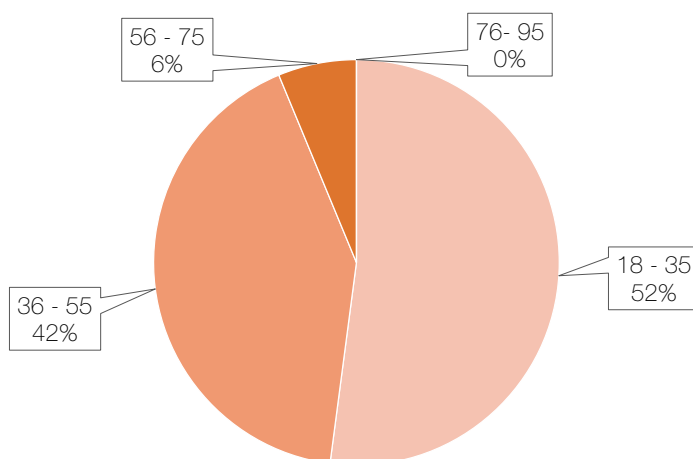
HOW LONG IS YOUR AVERAGE VISIT TO  
TUGGERANONG TOWN CENTRE PLAYGROUND?



## AGE RANGE OF ADULT RESPONDENTS

Most adults visiting Tuggeranong Town Centre playground with children were in the 18-35 age range (52%), followed by 42% in the 36-55 age range.

AGE OF ADULTS AT TUGGERANONG TOWN  
CENTRE PLAYGROUND



## CHILDREN

The majority of children are in the 0-5 age range (51%). 31% of children are 6 – 12 years old. Tuggeranong Town Centre Playground has a higher than average number of children in the 13 – 15 age brackets, which is possibly attributable to the skate park in Tuggeranong Town Centre Park.

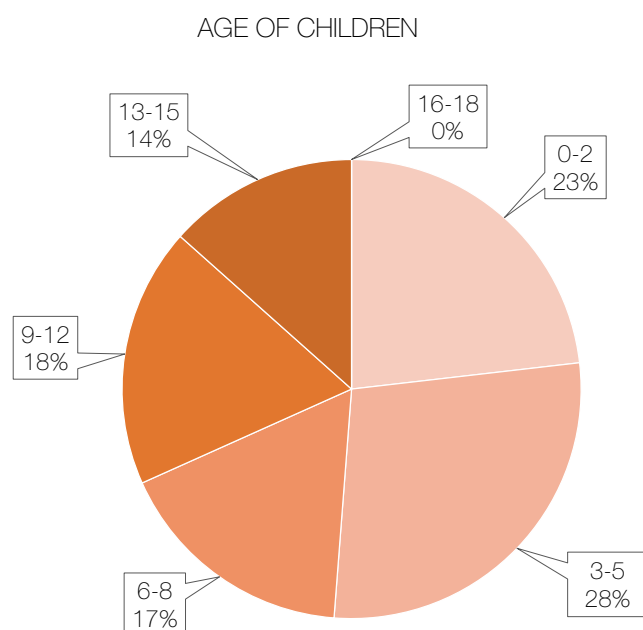


PHOTO: <https://www.environment.act.gov.au/parks-conservation/parks-and-reserves/find-a-park/urban-parks/tuggeranong-town-park>

## TYPES OF PLAY

Tuggeranong engages users in a moderate range of play types: mostly arising from the available play equipment. Children also bring their scooters and bikes to the park, and some engage in nature play.

| Main types of play<br>(equipment based) | Types of play<br>(other than on fixed equipment) |
|---|--|
| Swings                                  | Fishing  |
| Slides                                  | Bikes/scooters                                   |
| Climbing                                | Nature play                                      |
| Diggers/sand pit                        | Social play                                      |
| See-saws                                |  |
| Spinners                                |  |

## REASONS FOR VISITING THE PARK

### 1. Close to home/convenient location

Proximity to home and convenience of location were key reasons for visiting Tuggeranong Park. The Park is also close to other facilities in the area, such as the café and library.

### 2. Natural features and setting

The natural features were also a reason for visiting Tuggeranong Park, both for the attractive setting and because of the various opportunities for play. Respondents made particular note of the Lake and engaging with the local fauna. (e.g. duck feeding).

*Pretty location (near water).*

*Spacious ground. Lakeside view.*

### 3. Facilities

The facilities – particularly the skate park, bike paths and BBQs – were a key drawcard of Tuggeranong Park.

*Shaded and there is a path for bike riding.*

### 4. Shade

Shade was also very important for visitors to Tuggeranong Park.

### 5. Equipment

Some respondents mentioned equipment as a reason for visiting Tuggeranong Park – particularly the sandpit and the adult equipment.

*"Plenty to do and nice shade, sandpit also fun".*

*Wide range of equipment for variety of ages.*

TABLE 1

| Reasons given for being at this playground             | Number of responses |
|--|---------------------|
| Close to home/convenient location                      | 20                  |
| Natural features (Lake; open space)                    | 15                  |
| Shade  | 11                  |
| Good playground  | 7                   |
| View/setting   | 7                   |
| Playground facilities (BBQ and parking)                | 6                   |
| Equipment  | 6                   |
| Bike path  | 5                   |
| Skate park   | 5                   |
| Proximity to other facilities (café; bowling, library) | 4                   |
| Adult exercise equipment                               | 4                   |
| Diversity of equipment                                 | 4                   |



## RECOMMENDED CHANGES TO PARK

Very few respondents to the survey (6 people or less than 1%) selected Tuggeranong Park as their most visited park. Those that did recommended the following changes:

### 1. Improvements to facilities

Respondents requested more and better facilities – including more toilets and bins.

*Lack of bins. Lake Tuggeranong town park has no bins.*

### 2. Shade

While shade was a drawcard of Tuggeranong Park, a third of respondents would like to see more shade.

*More shade! I have two red heads so burn easily.*

### 3. Improvements to equipment

Respondents also recommended better equipment.

*The tanbark...change to soft fall.*

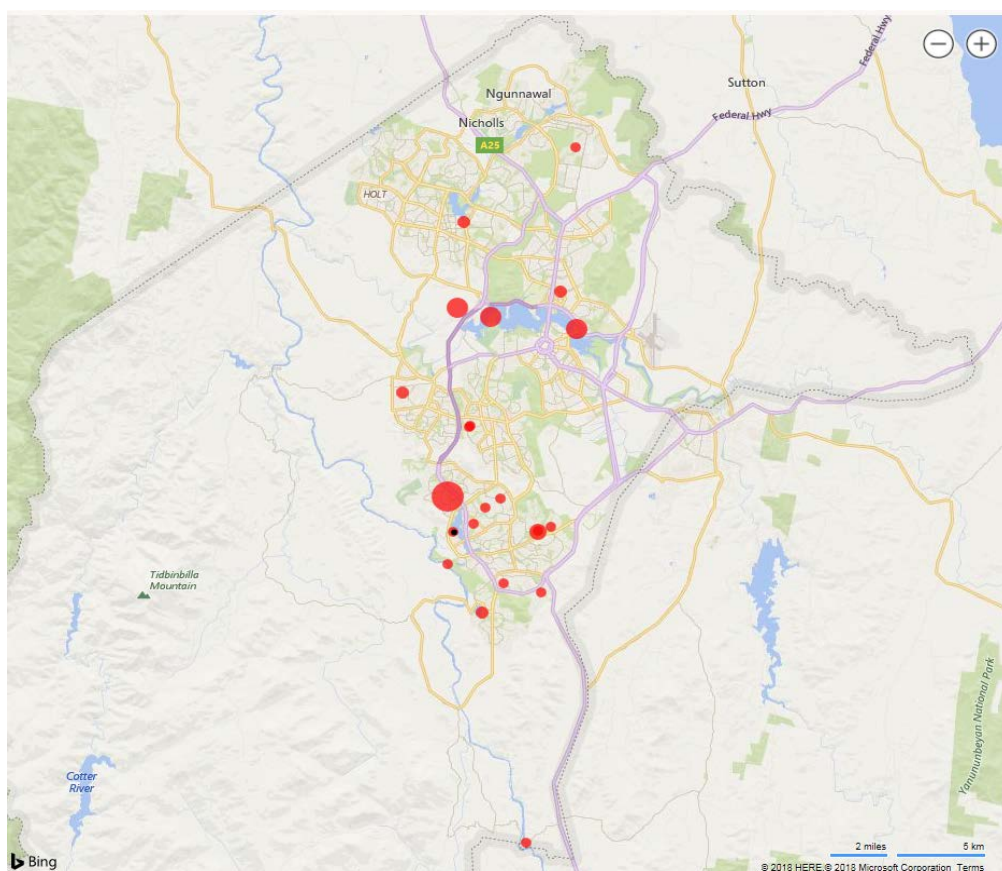
*It could have [with] done more modern equipment. The nature play elements are good but a bit limited.*

TABLE 2

| Recommended changes to this playground | Number of responses |
|--|---------------------|
| Improvements to facilities             | 2                   |
| More shade                             | 2                   |
| Improvement to equipment               | 2                   |

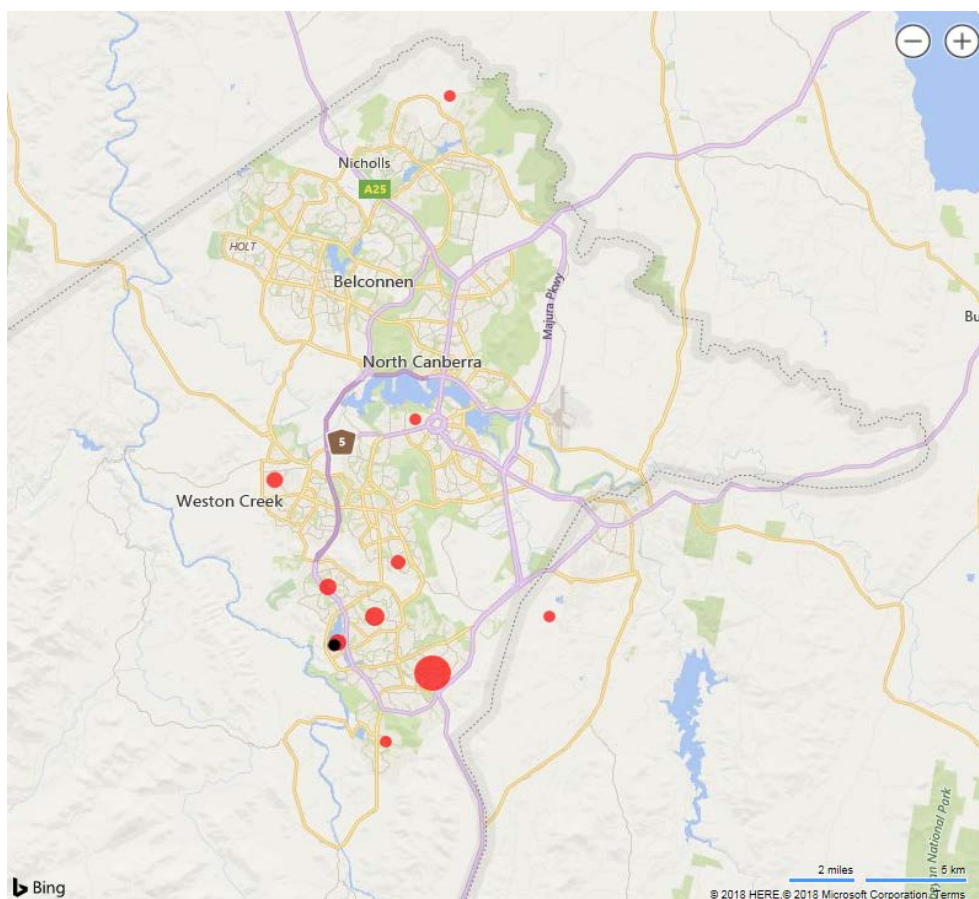
## OTHER PLAYGROUND CHOICES

The majority of respondents whose favourite park is Tuggeranong Town Centre Park visit parks on the south side – including smaller parks as well as Kambah Adventure Park. Respondents also visit Pod Playground, Boundless and Black Mountain Peninsula.



## VISITOR PROXIMITY TO TUGGERANONG TOWN CENTRE PARK

Almost all visitors to Tuggeranong Town Centre Park live on the south side, and most live in close proximity to the Park.



# WESTON PARK, YARRALUMLA

## INTRODUCTION

Weston Park is a popular destination park in Canberra. Weston Park's appeal lies with its particular combination of the natural features and setting, the open space and the unique facilities. Many visitors love the water play equipment and other water features, as well as the miniature train and café. Visitors to Weston Park mostly live on the south side of Canberra, with some coming from the inner north. This park is often used for celebrations and family gatherings.

## VISITATION

### 1. SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

#### WEEKEND

**DAY & DATE** Sunday, 14 January 2018

**TIME** 10:30am - 12:00pm

Weston Park had very high visitation levels on the Sunday morning of the school holidays. Many of these visits were for formal and informal social events occurring at the park, including birthday parties and BBQs or gatherings with families and friends.

|  |    |
|--|----|
| No of adults interviewed               | 15 |
| Females                                | 12 |
| Males                                  | 3  |
| No of children with adults interviewed | 41 |

## WEEKDAY

**DAY & DATE** Tuesday, 16 January 2018

**TIME** 2.00pm – 3.30pm

There were notably fewer visitors to the park during the weekdays. All adult visitors to Weston Park during this time were female.

|  |   |
|--|---|
| No of adults interviewed               | 2 |
| Females                                | 2 |
| Males                                  | 0 |
| No of children with adults interviewed | 8 |

## 2. SCHOOL TERM

### WEEKEND

**DAY & DATE** Saturday, 7 April 2018

**TIME** 3:00pm - 3:45pm

Weston Park had very high visitation levels on Saturday of the school term. Many of these visits were for formal and informal social events occurring at the park, including birthday parties and BBQs or get-togethers with families and friends.

|  |    |
|--|----|
| No of adults interviewed               | 10 |
| Females                                | 2  |
| Males                                  | 8  |
| No of children with adults interviewed | 17 |

## WEEKDAY, AUTUMN TERM

**DAY & DATE** Thursday, 29 March 2018

**TIME** 1:00pm – 2:00pm

Visitation during the day is much lower than on weekends. People who visited Weston Playground at this time were there to entertain the kids.

|  |   |
|--|---|
| No of adults interviewed               | 4 |
| Females                                | 2 |
| Males                                  | 2 |
| No of children with adults interviewed | 5 |

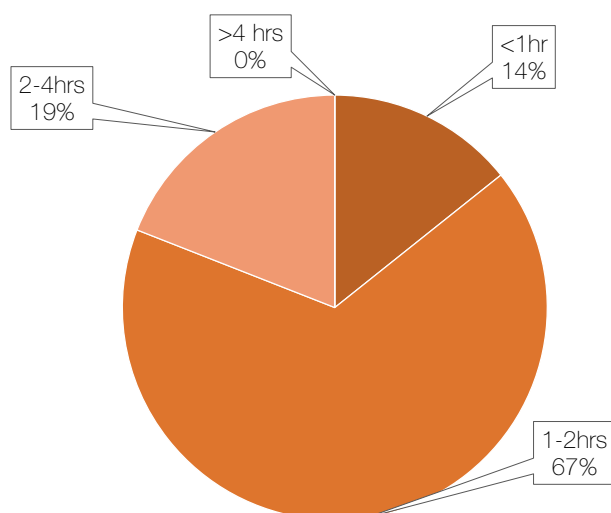
## ONLINE SURVEY

Approximately 2% of the 751 respondents identify Weston as the park they most visit in Canberra. Over 5% of (724) respondents selected Weston as their second most visited playground; and nearly 4% of 661 respondents selected this park as their third most visited playground.

## VISITATION TIME

Visitation time to Weston Park varies, dependent upon the types of engagement. Most visitors to Weston Park (67%) spend between 1 – 2 hours at the Park, while approximately 14% of respondents claim they spend less than an hour at the park and 19% spend over 2 hours. The slightly larger proportion at visitors who spend over 2 hours is attributable to the number of celebrations and get-togethers held at this park.

### HOW LONG IS YOUR AVERAGE VISIT TO WESTON PARK PLAYGROUND?

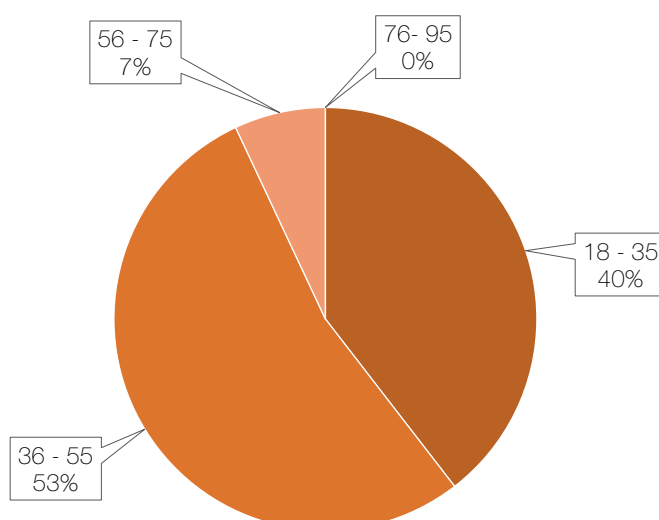


## AGE RANGE

### ADULTS

Approximately 40% of Weston Park respondents were in the 18-35 age bracket; and 53% in the 36-55 age bracket, and the remaining 7% in the 56-75 age bracket.

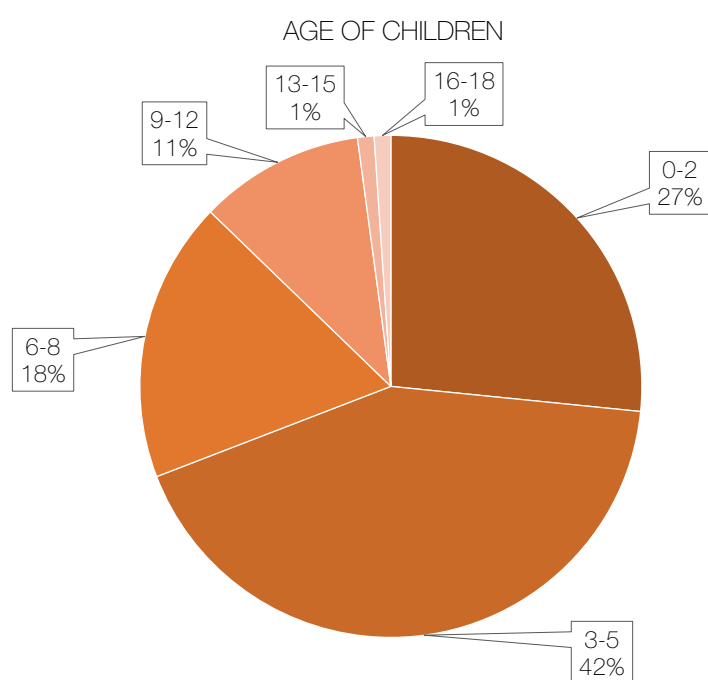
### AGE OF ADULTS AT WESTON PARK PLAYGROUND



## CHILDREN

The age range of children attending Weston Park was primarily 0 – 5, with 79% of children in this bracket.

Weston Park arguably attracts younger families because most of the play equipment is targeted toward younger children. The exception to this is the climbing net, which engages older children (6-12).



## TYPES OF PLAY

The equipment range is limited at Weston Park, but the water play equipment is extremely popular, especially for parents with younger children.

Older children create their own play opportunities by exploring the landscapes and waterscapes, engaging in unstructured nature play (e.g. making nature 'cakes' out of mud and nuts) and playing with equipment that they bring themselves (e.g. balls, scooters, bikes).



| Main types of play on equipment | Types of play<br>(other than on fixed equipment) |
|---------------------------------|--|
| Swings                          | Ball games/cricket                               |
| Water play                      | Bikes/scooters                                   |
| Climbing                        | Dolls' prams                                     |
| Slides                          | Tree climbing                                    |
| Digging                         | Nature play                                      |
|                                 | Running around                                   |
|                                 | Social play                                      |
|                                 | Pooh sticks                                      |
|                                 | Water play (Lake/paddling in pond)               |
|                                 | Imaginative play                                 |

## REASONS FOR VISITING THE PARK

### 1. Natural environment/setting

The key reason for visiting Weston Park is the setting: the natural features, the views and the location by the Lake. Many respondents spoke of the open space, the beautiful scenery and the quality of the grass.

*Beautiful environment and lots of space.*

*The green grass, proper grass, soft grass that you can actually sit on.*

*The variety of things to do there, the open spaces, the feel of nature*

*Location is great with lush green grass not that hard scratchy dry crap, great equipment, cafe nearby!!*

## 2. Water play

Another key element that attracts people to Weston Park is the water play. This includes the unique water play equipment, which is a key built feature of Weston Park, as well as the nearby ponds and the nature play opportunities provided by the Lake.

*Best equipment- the water play space is wonderful.*

## 3. The café and miniature train facility

Visitors enjoy the co-location of Weston Park with the commercial facility that provides both a café and the unique miniature train service.

*The train and cafe add something different.*

*The train and good coffee.*

## 4. The equipment (variety and quality)

While the water play is a highlight of Weston Park, visitors also enjoy the unique variety of equipment on offer, including the climbing net and sand pit.

*Lots of good play equipment and BBQ facilities.*

*Variety of equipment, has bathroom facilities, has great water play*

*The kids really love the sand pit and excavators and the swings.*

*We like the musical bridge, interesting hills and ponds.*

## 5. Facilities

Weston Park's BBQ, toilet facilities and parking are also a key attraction, enabling longer term stays and gatherings of family and friends.

*Wide open space, comfortable, clean loo, easy to get back to car, wonderful equipment.*

*Good picnic area, water play, room to ride a bike, food close by, toilets, shady places to sit and eat*

TABLE 2

| Reasons given for being at this playground | Number of responses |
|--|---------------------|
| Natural environment/setting                | 30                  |
| Water play                                 | 28                  |
| The café and miniature train facility      | 19                  |
| Equipment (variety/best)                   | 19                  |
| Facilities (BBQs, toilets, parking)        | 16                  |
| Close to home                              | 11                  |
| Shade                                      | 7                   |

## RECOMMENDED CHANGES TO PARK

Respondents who selected Weston Park as their most visited park recommended the following changes:

### 1. Better maintenance of water play facilities

Some visitors recommended more frequent upkeep of the water play facilities: both the equipment and the pond.

*Would recommend better/more regular maintenance of water play equipment.*

*More water activities that are well maintained. And the pond area is fun but looks a bit neglected.*

### 2. Shade

Visitors would like more shade at Weston Park, particularly over the equipment.

*It needs more shade, like virtually every playground in cbr. In summer it's often impossible to play outside at a playground without shade.*

*Shade sail over all areas. Park benches.*

### 3. Reintroduce the decommissioned equipment

Some respondents requested the reintroduction of the equipment that has been removed from Weston Park. This particular message also appears with some frequency in the recommended changes to Canberra's parks overall.

*I grew up in Canberra and you need to bring back / replace the play spaces that have been removed. Really good childhood memories are made at Weston park.*

*Bring back the tree houses.*

### 4. More seating for carers

Another key recommended change to Weston Park is the addition of seating for carers – from shaded grassy areas, to covered seating, to picnic tables.

*Maybe some seats or benches close to the playground for the adults.*

TABLE 2

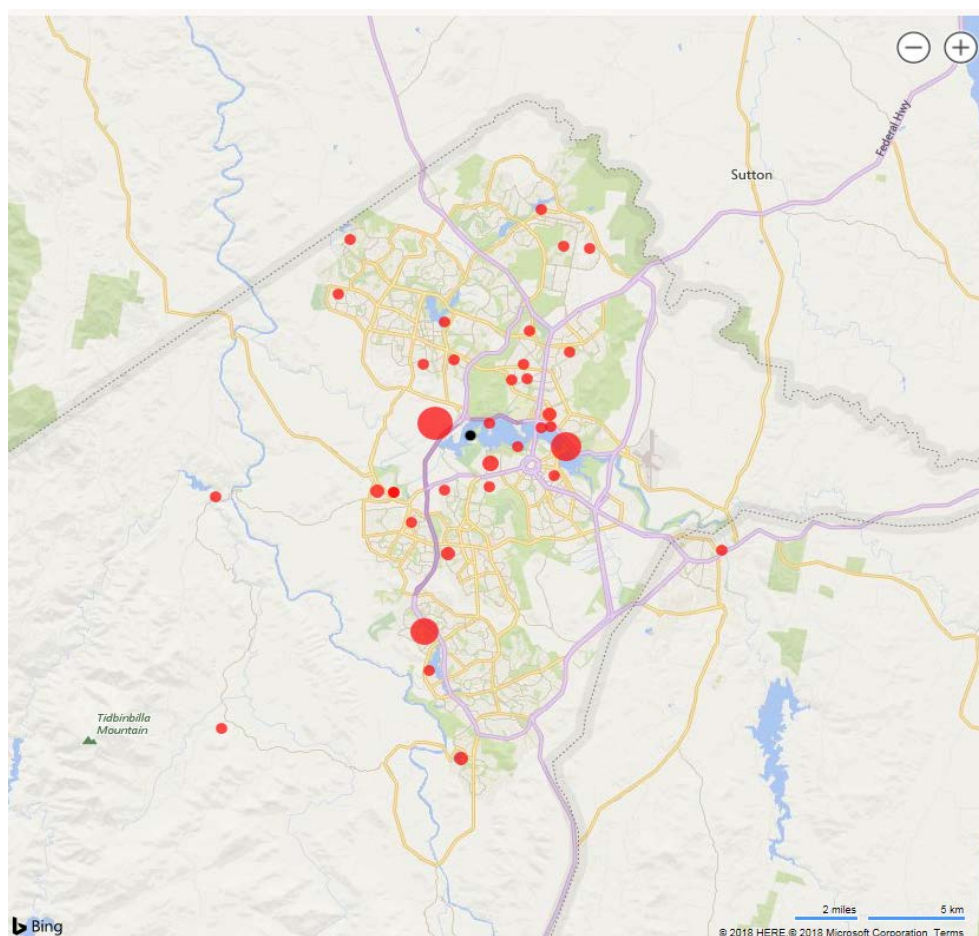
| Reasons given for being at this playground | Number of responses |
|--|---------------------|
| Better maintenance of water play           | 4                   |
| Shade                                      | 3                   |
| Reintroduce previous equipment             | 2                   |
| More seating for carers                    | 2                   |



PHOTOS: <https://www.environment.act.gov.au/parks-conservation/parks-and-reserves/find-a-park/urban-parks/weston-park>

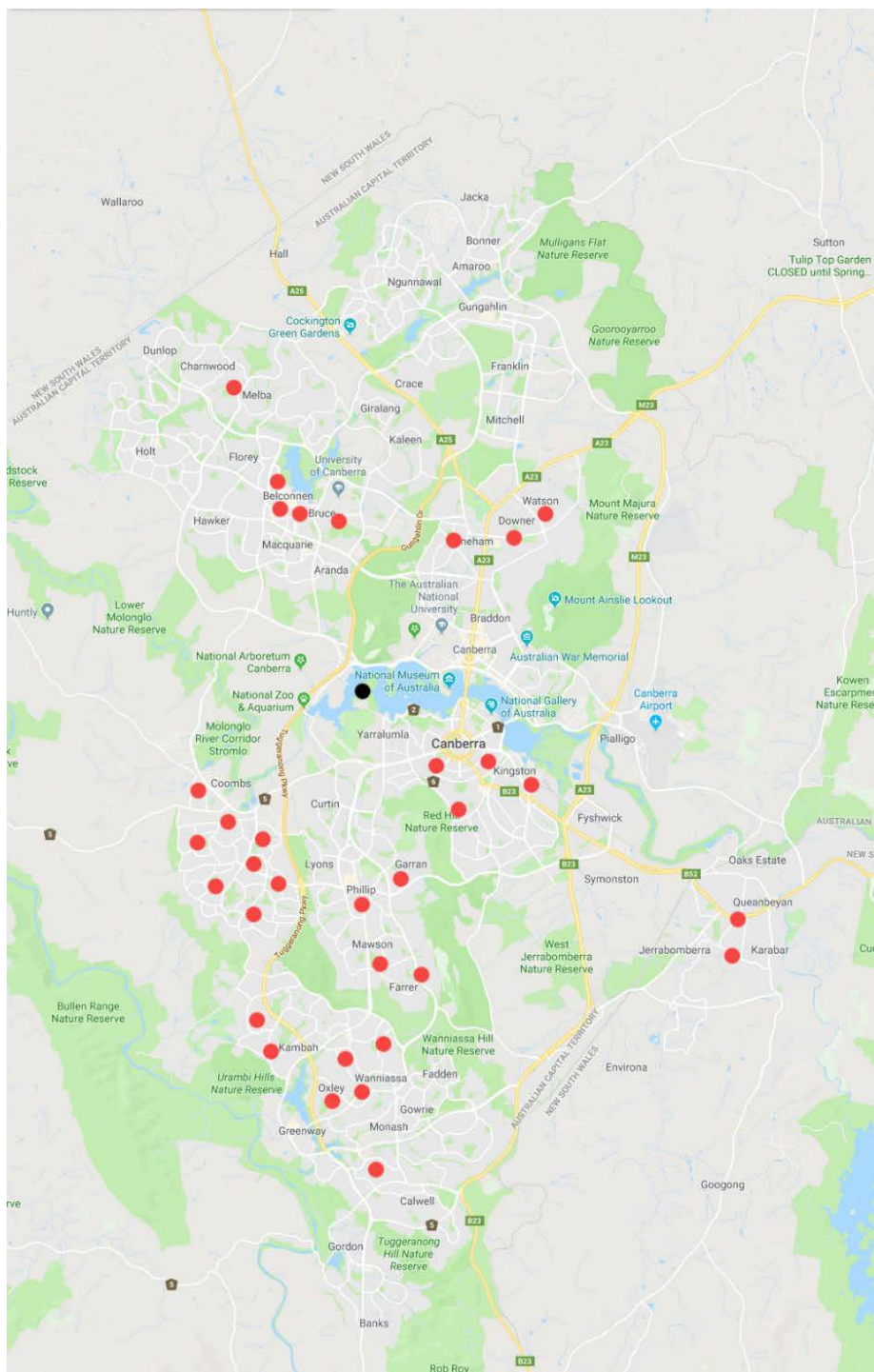
## OTHER PLAYGROUND CHOICES

Respondents whose favourite park is Weston Park visit a wide range of parks across the ACT – although many also visit Pod and Boundless. Most (but not all) of respondents' other playground choices are clustered in closer proximity to the city.



## PROXIMITY TO PLAYGROUNDS

The majority of visitors to Weston Park live on the south side of Canberra, but there is also a cluster of visitors who come from the inner north.



# YERRABI POND DISTRICT PARK, GUNGAHLIN

## INTRODUCTION

Yerrabi Pond is a popular district park on the south side of Canberra. Visitors choose Yerrabi Pond because of its convenient location and its range of built and natural features. The majority of visitors to Yerrabi Pond come from the south side of Canberra, primarily clustered around the outer southern suburbs.

## VISITATION

### 1. SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

#### WEEKEND

**DAY & DATE** Saturday, 13 January 2018

**TIME** 11.00am – 12.30pm

Yerrabi Pond had moderate–high visitation levels on the Saturday of the school holidays. There were a notable number of males caring for children at Yerrabi Pond on this day.

|  |    |
|--|----|
| No of adults interviewed               | 19 |
| Females                                | 7  |
| Males                                  | 12 |
| No of children with adults interviewed | 30 |



## WEEKDAY

**DAY & DATE** Tuesday, 16 January 2018

**TIME** 9.15am – 11.15am

There were moderately high numbers visitors to Yerrabi Pond playground during the week of the school holidays.

|  |    |
|--|----|
| No of adults interviewed               | 7  |
| Females                                | 7  |
| Males                                  | 0  |
| No of children with adults interviewed | 15 |

## 2. SCHOOL TERM

### WEEKEND (MONDAY, LONG WEEKEND)

**DAY & DATE** Monday, 2 April 2018

**TIME** 2.00pm – 3.00pm

Yerrabi Pond had high visitation levels on the Monday of the public holiday in the school term.

|  |    |
|--|----|
| No of adults interviewed               | 24 |
| Females                                | 13 |
| Males                                  | 11 |
| No of children with adults interviewed | 36 |



## WEEKDAY

**DAY & DATE** Monday, 9 April 2018

**TIME** 5.45pm – 6.45pm

There were moderate numbers of visitors to Yerrabi Pond during the week of the school term.

No of adults interviewed

|  |   |
|--|---|
| Females                                | 7 |
| Males                                  | 1 |
| No of children with adults interviewed | 9 |

## ONLINE SURVEY

Only 1.8% of the 751 respondents identify Yerrabi Pond as the playground they most visit in Canberra. 3% of (724) respondents selected Yerrabi Pond as their second most visited playground, and 2.7% of (661) respondents as their third most visited playground.

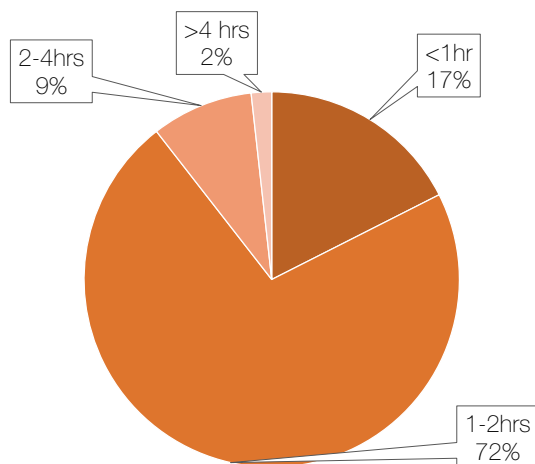
## VISITATION TIME

The vast majority of visitors to Yerrabi Pond (72%) spend between 1- 2 hours at the Park, with 17% spending less than an hour there.



PHOTO: <https://www.environment.act.gov.au/parks-conservation/parks-and-reserves/find-a-park/urban-parks/yerrabi-pond>

#### HOW LONG IS YOUR AVERAGE VISIT TO YERRABI POND PLAYGROUND?

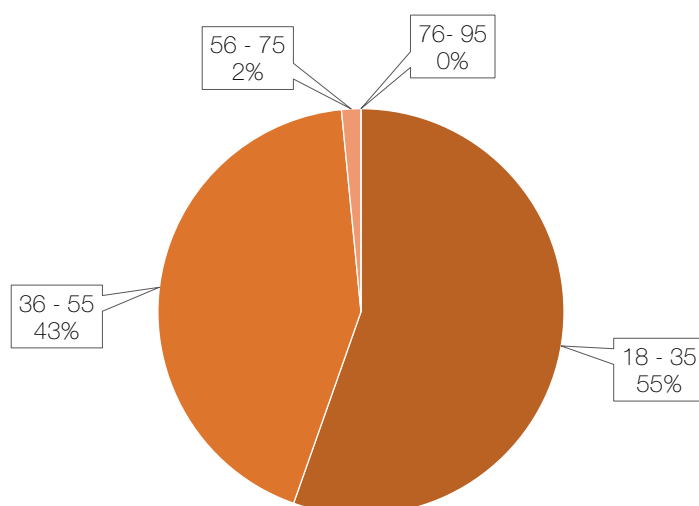


## AGE RANGE OF RESPONDENTS

### ADULTS

The majority of adults visiting Yerrabi Pond with children were in the 18 – 35 age range (55%), with 43% in the 36 – 55 age range. The younger age range of adults visiting Yerrabi is arguably attributable to the demographic profile of the Gungahlin region (an area with a higher than average proportion of young families), and the fact that the vast majority of the children who visit the playground are between 0 – 2 years old.

#### AGE OF ADULTS AT YERRABI POND PLAYGROUND



## CHILDREN

A significant proportion of children who visit Yerrabi Pond are in the 0-2 age range (51%), with 74% in the 0-5 age range. Only 15% of children are aged 6 -12. What is unique about Yerrabi Pond is the percentage of children who visit in the 13-18 range (11%), and more particularly in the 16-18 range (7%), a statistic which is unrivalled in the ACT. This is due to the multiple play opportunities on offer for older children, including the skate park, bike track and flying fox.

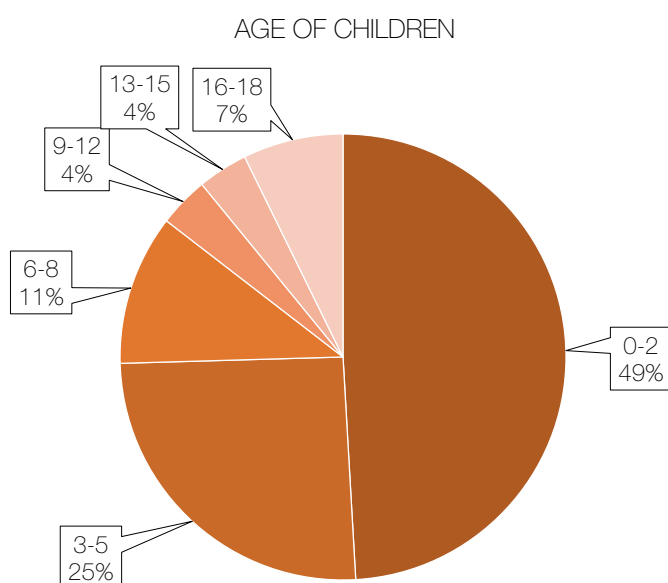


PHOTO: <https://visitcanberra.com.au/attractions/56b23b3fb042386245d42d25/yerrabi-pond>

## TYPES OF PLAY

Yerrabi Pond engages users in a wide variety of play types using the available equipment. Many visitors also engage in other types of play – whether facilitated by user equipment brought to the park (e.g. bikes, scooters, balls); or arising from user engagement with the natural environment (e.g. Lake, boulders, feeding birds).

| Main types of play<br>(equipment based) | Types of play<br>(other than on fixed equipment) |
|---|--|
| Climbing                                | Bikes/scooters                                   |
| Swings                                  | Social play                                      |
| Fling fox                               | Walking  |
| Slides                                  | Feeding ducks                                    |
| Walking the chain bridge                | Water play                                       |
| Skate park                              | Running  |
| Basketball                              | Nature play                                      |

## REASONS FOR VISITING THE PARK

### 1. Equipment

The vast majority of visitors to Yerrabi Pond identify the play equipment as the key reason for using this park. A number of respondents simply wrote “best equipment”, while numerous others pointed to the variety of equipment, including the facilities for older children – the skate park, flying fox and bike park.

*Amazing access to a variety of places equipment.*

*Best equipment.*

*Variety of equipment.*

## 2. Proximity to home

Another key reason for visiting Yerrabi Pond is its proximity to home. Numerous respondents wrote 'close to home' as the key attraction of the park.

*Close to home, better equipment, toilets, nice setting, spread out.*

*Close to home.*

## 3. Natural environment/setting

Respondents like the natural features at Yerrabi Pond, which provide an attractive outdoor environment (grass, trees, views of the Lake), as well as multiple opportunities for engagement with nature (e.g. walking, feeding ducks)

*Ability to feed ducks/walk in nature.*

*Skate area, nice after a walk around the lake, animals, grass, flying fox  
Lovely green location with bbqs and areas to kick a ball.*

## 4. BBQs

The BBQ facilities are a highlight at Yerrabi Pond because they are undercover and enable gatherings with families and friends on weekends and during holidays.

*It has a covered BBQ area and a fun park.*

*Undercover BBQs with playground.*

## 5. Bike paths

Many visitors enjoy the bike paths and biking facilities at Yerrabi Pond, as they provide an opportunity to teach children how to ride in a safe environment, and to ride around the Lake or parts thereof.

*Skate ramps, bike path, good facilities.*

TABLE 1

| Reasons given for being at this playground | Number of responses |
|--|---------------------|
| Equipment (variety and quality)            | 44                  |
| Close to home                              | 32                  |
| Natural features                           | 21                  |
| BBQs                                       | 14                  |
| Bike paths                                 | 8                   |
| Shade                                      | 6                   |

NB: This chart represents the key (not all) reasons for visiting this playground

## RECOMMENDED CHANGES TO PARK

While respondents offered a range of recommended changes to Yerrabi Pond, there were no standout issues or concerns. Many seemed generally happy with the playground and the facilities.

### 1. Shade

Some visitors would like to see more shade at Yerrabi Pond, particularly over the flying fox area:

*More shade at flying fox, more natural features.*

### 2. More seating for carers

Another recommended change to Yerrabi Pond was the addition of seating for carers.

*More shaded sitting areas.*

### 3. Equipment for younger children

Some respondents requested more equipment for the toddler age group.

*Softer landing, play equipment for younger children.*

*Add a toddler area.*

#### 4. More equipment

Visitors also suggested that Yerrabi Pond could use more equipment and play opportunities to address the high demand.

*More nature play, more swings, more shade.*

*As it's Gungahlin there are a lot more people than there used to be some more of everything would be great.*

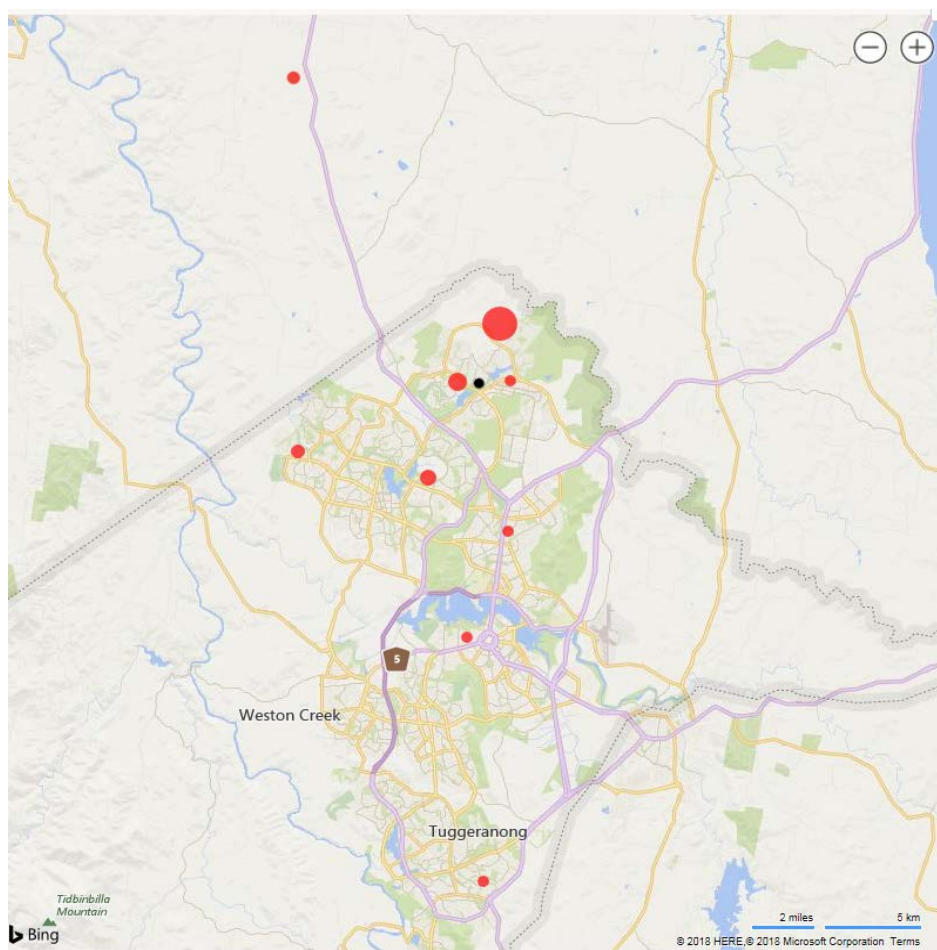
TABLE 2

| Recommended changes to playgrounds | Number of responses |
|------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Shade                              | 3                   |
| More seating for carers            | 2                   |
| More equipment for toddlers        | 2                   |
| More equipment                     | 2                   |
| More nature play/features          | 2                   |
| Soft fall surface                  | 2                   |

NB: This chart represents the key (not all) recommendations for changes to this playground

## OTHER PLAYGROUND CHOICES

Respondents whose favourite park is Yerrabi Pond tend to stay local, with Moncrieff playground their second most visited park.







# COMMONWEALTH PARK, BARTON

## INTRODUCTION

Commonwealth Park Playground is a city playground within Commonwealth Park on Lake Burley Griffin. This is not a traditional playground, containing only a castle structure with underground tunnels, climbing and a slide. Commonwealth Park Playground is a loved but not busy play space, arguably because there is only one purpose-built play feature on offer and the playground is not easily accessed.

No online respondents selected Commonwealth Park as their most visited playground, with a small percentage identifying Commonwealth Park as their second and third most visited in Canberra.

People who visit this playground feel strongly about the park because of its unique play opportunities, providing excitement and different experiences for children. Visits to Commonwealth Park Playground are often part of a larger outdoor experience that involves the natural features and facilities of Commonwealth Park as a whole.

## VISITATION

### 1. SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

#### WEEKEND

**DAY & DATE** Saturday, 30 January 2018

**TIME** 10.30am – 12.00pm

There were low numbers of visitors to Commonwealth Park Playground on the weekend of the school holidays.

|  |    |
|--|----|
| No of adults interviewed               | 7  |
| Females                                | 5  |
| Males                                  | 2  |
| No of children with adults interviewed | 11 |

## WEEKDAY

**DAY & DATE** Friday, 26 January 2018

**TIME** 3.45pm – 5.00pm

Commonwealth Park Playground had low visitation levels on the Friday of the school holidays.

|  |   |
|--|---|
| No of adults interviewed               | 3 |
| Females                                | 1 |
| Males                                  | 2 |
| No of children with adults interviewed | 7 |

## 2. SCHOOL TERM

Commonwealth Park Playground was closed during our visits in school term.

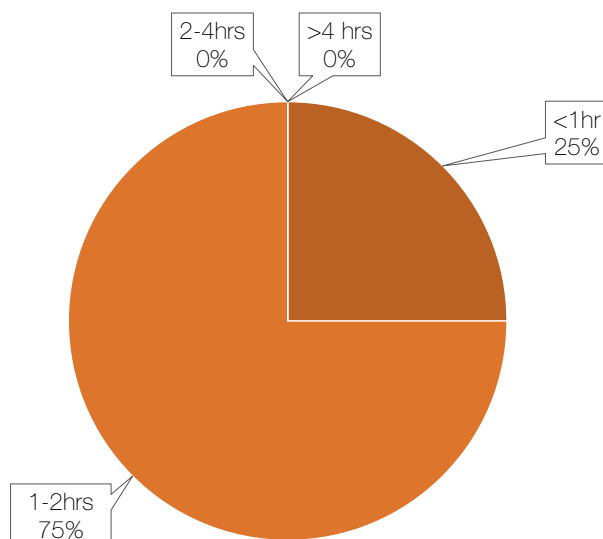
## ONLINE SURVEY

None of the 751 respondents identify Commonwealth Park Playground as the playground they most visit in Canberra. Just under 1% of (724) respondents selected Commonwealth Park as their second most visited playground, and 1.2% of (661) respondents as their third most visited playground.

## VISITATION TIME

The majority of visitors to Commonwealth Park Playground (75%) spend between 1- 2 hours at the Park, with 25% spending less than an hour there.

HOW LONG IS YOUR AVERAGE VISIT TO  
COMMONWEALTH PARK PLAYGROUND?

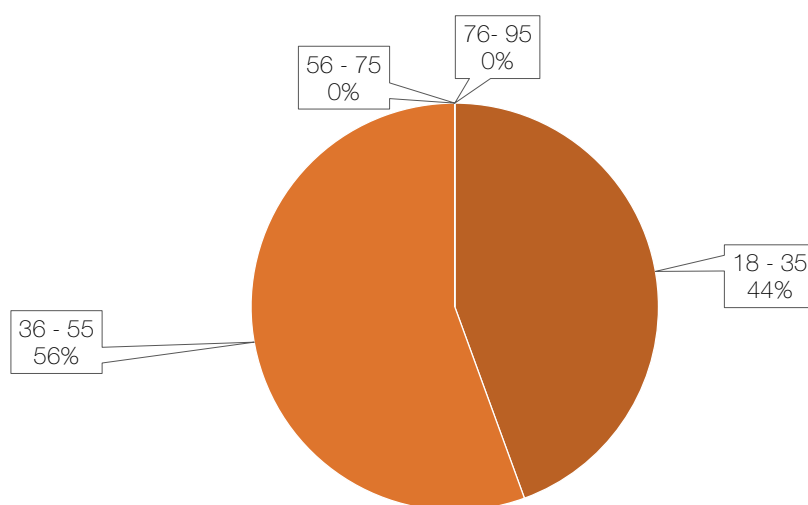


## AGE RANGE OF RESPONDENTS

### ADULTS

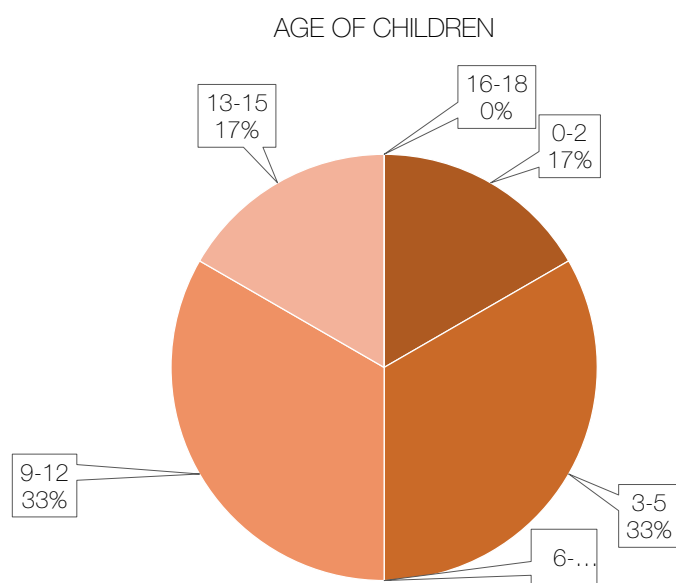
The majority of adults visiting Commonwealth Park Playground with children were in the 18 – 35 age range (55%), with 44% in the 36-55 age range.

AGE OF ADULTS AT COMMONWEALTH PARK PLAYGROUND



## CHILDREN

The age range of children who visit Commonwealth Park Playground is evenly spread between the 0-5 (50%), and 6-12 (50%) with the greater majority aged 3-8 (66%).



## TYPES OF PLAY

Commonwealth Park Playground offers a key built feature – the castle or fort – which engages users in a range of traditional and unique play types. Many visitors also engage in other forms of play arising from user engagement with other built features (the amphitheatre; public art; pond) or the natural environment (e.g. Lake, grass, trees, feeding birds).



PHOTO: <https://www.weekendnotes.com/where-are-the-best-playgrounds-in-canberra-city/>

| Main types of play<br>(equipment based) | Types of play<br>(other than on fixed equipment) |
|---|--|
| Climbing                                | Water play                                       |
| Slide                                   | Imaginative play                                 |
| Tunnels                                 | Walking  |
|   | Running  |
|   | Nature play                                      |

## REASONS FOR VISITING THE PARK

### 1. The castle or fort

The vast majority of visitors to Commonwealth Park Playground are attracted by the unique built play feature – the ‘castle’ or ‘fort’.

This feature is interesting in its own right, and offers unique play opportunities including a series of underground tunnels, as well as more traditional features like slides and climbing ladders.

*My son adores the fort more than anything.*

*Near water, space, kids love going underground, tunnels, ladders, big slides, playing hide and seek etc.*

*This one is a bit different and exciting and challenging for kids (great for climbers!)*



PHOTO: <https://www.weekendnotes.com/where-are-the-best-playgrounds-in-canberra-city/>

## 2. Natural environment/setting

Respondents enjoy the natural features of Commonwealth Park, which provide an attractive outdoor environment (grass, trees, views of the Lake), as well as multiple opportunities for engagement with nature (e.g. walking, climbing rocks, feeding birds)

*It's interesting, can do a nature walk through park on way, shade, peaceful surroundings.*

*Open spaces, natural features, water, rocks, trees, castle.*

*Exciting, pass by on walk, natural features.*

## 3. Toilets

The toilet facilities are also a highlight of Commonwealth Park.

TABLE 1

| Reasons given for being at this playground | Number of responses |
|--|---------------------|
| Castle or fort                             | 7                   |
| Natural features/setting                   | 5                   |
| Toilets                                    | 2                   |

NB: this chart represents the key (not all) reasons for visiting this playground

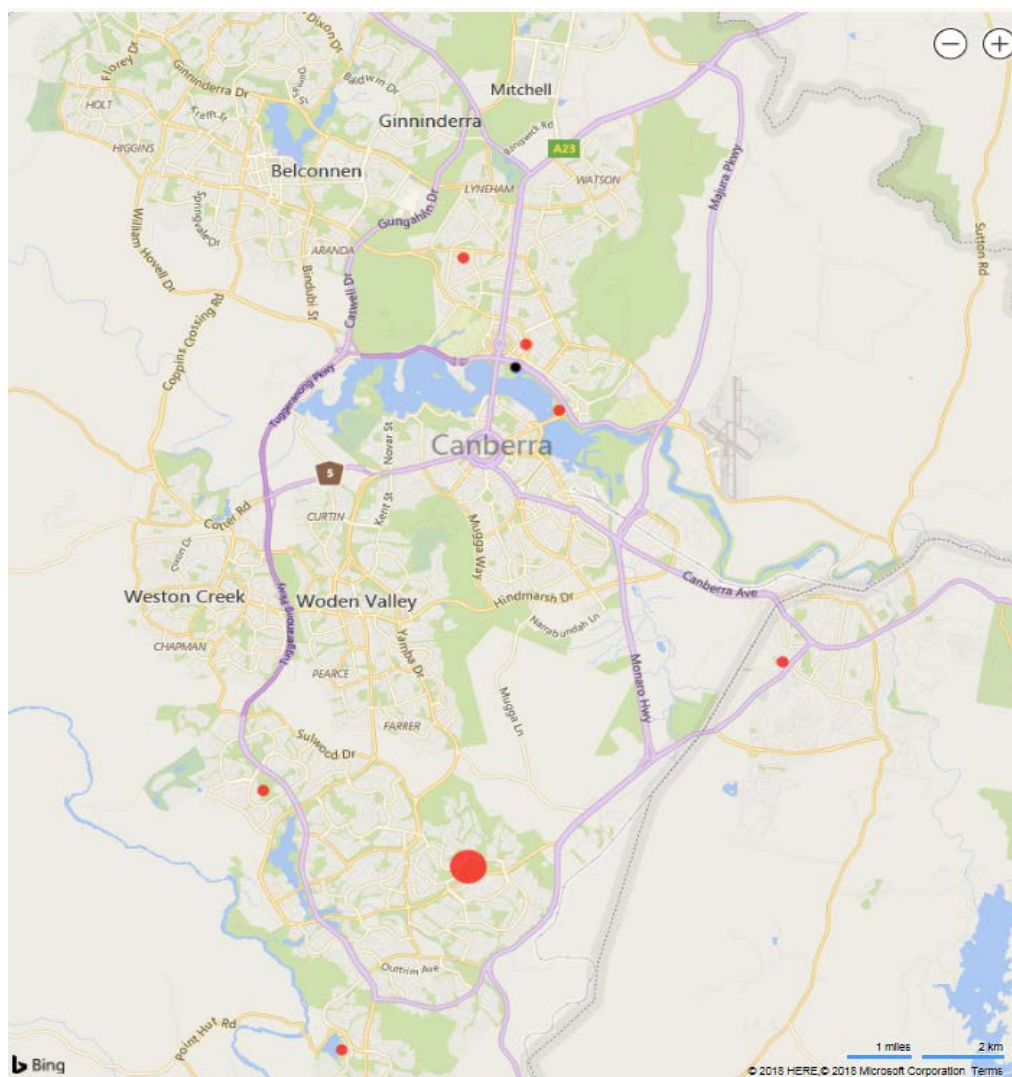
## RECOMMENDED CHANGES TO PARK

As no respondents selected Commonwealth Park Playground as their preferred playground, there is no data relating to recommended changes.



## OTHER PLAYGROUND CHOICES

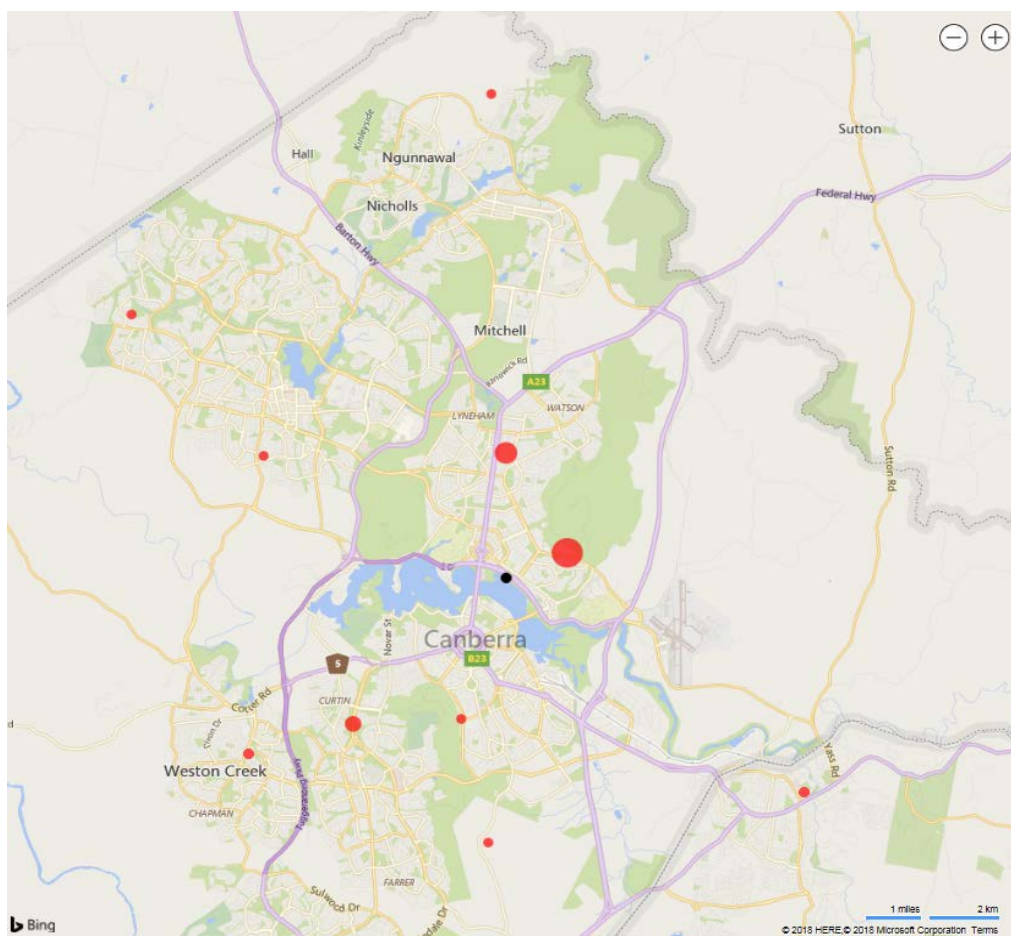
Respondents whose favourite park is Commonwealth Park visit a range of playgrounds across Canberra.





## VISITOR PROXIMITY TO COMMONWEALTH PARK

The majority of visitors to Commonwealth Park live on the north side and in proximity to the Park. However, people come from across Canberra to visit this playground.



# GLEBE PARK PLAYGROUND, CANBERRA CITY

## INTRODUCTION

Glebe Park Playground is a neighbourhood playground within Glebe Park near the city centre. A small percentage of respondents selected Glebe Park as one of their three most visited playgrounds in Canberra. Visitors to Glebe Park enjoy the proximity to the city (shops and hospitality), the shade provided by the trees and the other natural surroundings.

## VISITATION

### 1. SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

#### WEEKEND

**DAY & DATE** Saturday, 13 January 2018

**TIME** 2.30pm – 4.00pm

There were low-moderate numbers of visitors to Glebe Park Playground on the weekend of the school holidays. The majority of adults with children were male.

|                          |    |
|--------------------------|----|
| No of adults interviewed | 11 |
|--------------------------|----|

|         |   |
|---------|---|
| Females | 4 |
|---------|---|

|       |   |
|-------|---|
| Males | 7 |
|-------|---|

|  |    |
|--|----|
| No of children with adults interviewed | 19 |
|--|----|

## WEEKDAY

**DAY & DATE** Thursday, 1 February 2018

**TIME** 2.00pm – 3.30pm

Glebe Park had moderate visitation levels on the Thursday of the school holidays.

|  |    |
|--|----|
| No of adults interviewed               | 8  |
| Females                                | 6  |
| Males                                  | 2  |
| No of children with adults interviewed | 10 |

## 2. SCHOOL TERM

### WEEKEND

Glebe Park Playground was closed on the Saturday of our visit so there is no available data for this time period.

### WEEKDAY

**DAY & DATE** Wednesday, 4 April 2018

**TIME** 2.30 – 4.00pm

There were very low levels of visitors to Glebe Park Playground during the week of the school term. All visitors interviewed were male.

|  |   |
|--|---|
| No of adults interviewed               | 4 |
| Females                                | 0 |
| Males                                  | 4 |
| No of children with adults interviewed | 7 |

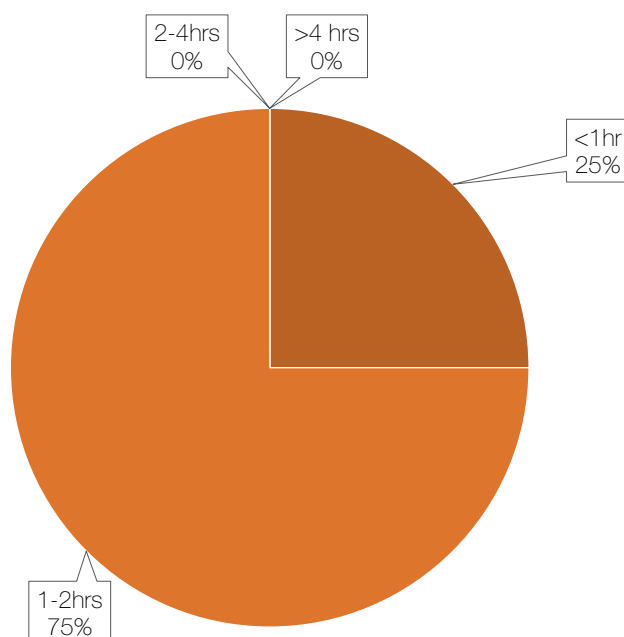
## ONLINE SURVEY

Approximately 0.8% of the 751 respondents identify Glebe Park Playground as the playground they most visit in Canberra. Just under 1% of (724) respondents selected Commonwealth Park as their second most visited playground, and under 1% of (661) respondents as their third most visited playground.

## VISITATION TIME

Visitors to Glebe Park Playground (75%) spend between 1 - 2 hours at the Park, with the other quarter spending less than an hour there, and no one spending more than 2 hours.

HOW LONG IS YOUR AVERAGE VISIT TO GLEBE PARK  
PLAYGROUND?

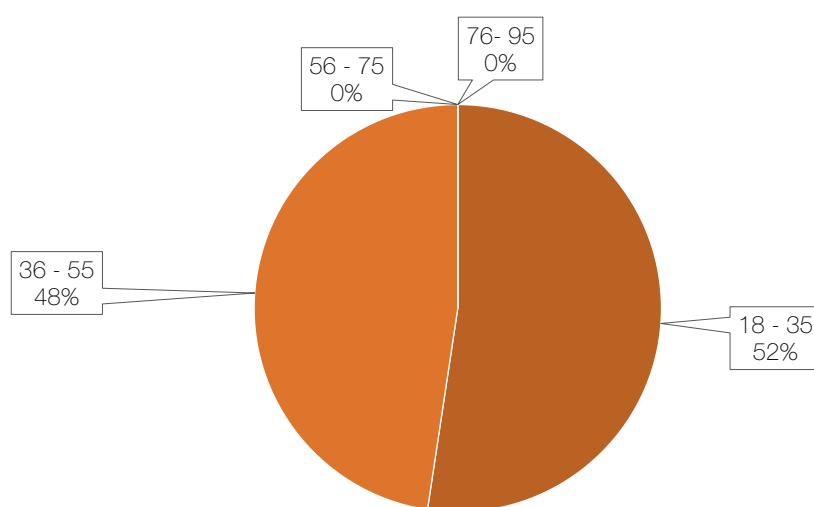


## AGE RANGE OF RESPONDENTS

### ADULTS

The majority of adults visiting Glebe Park Playground with children were in the 18 – 35 age range (53%), with 48% in aged 36-55.

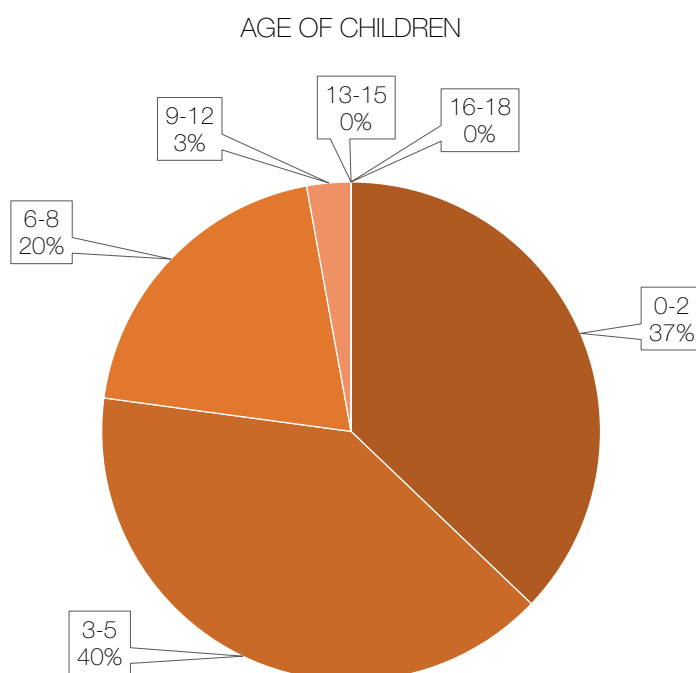
AGE OF ADULTS AT GLEBE PARK PLAYGROUND



<https://www.weekendnotes.com/where-are-the-best-playgrounds-in-canberra-city/>

## CHILDREN

Glebe Park Playground is primarily for younger children, with 77% in the 0-5 age range, and then 20% in the 6-8 age range.



## TYPES OF PLAY

Play at Glebe Park Playground involves both the available equipment and the affordances of the broader environment. Children engaged with the swings, slides and climbing, as well as walking, running, imaginative play and play with the natural features (e.g. games on the grass; climbing trees; games with sticks and rocks).

| Main types of play<br>(equipment based) | Types of play<br>(other than on fixed equipment) |
|---|--|
| Swings                                  | Walking  |
| Slides                                  | Running  |
| Climbing                                | Nature play                                      |
| Sand                                    |  |

## REASONS FOR VISITING THE PARK

### 1. Shade

Many visitors to Glebe Park Playground enjoy the shade provided by the surrounding trees in Glebe Park.

*Shady with lots of trees.*

*Shaded green surroundings.*

### 2. Proximity to city centre

Visitors also come to Glebe Park Playground because of its proximity to the shops and hospitality outlets in the city centre.

*Close to the city centre where we can shop and eat.*

*Close proximity to the Canberra Centre.*

### 3. Natural environment

Respondents enjoy the natural features of Glebe Park, including the grass, trees and park design.

*Beautiful park*

*The surrounding park, with its shady deciduous trees and lawn*

TABLE 1

| Reasons given for being at this playground | Number of responses |
|--|---------------------|
| Shade                                      | 11                  |
| Proximity to city centre                   | 9                   |
| Natural environment                        | 7                   |
| Close to home                              | 4                   |
| Equipment                                  | 3                   |
| Soft fall                                  | 3                   |

NB: This chart represents the key (not all) reasons for visiting this playground

## RECOMMENDED CHANGES TO PARK

Respondents who selected Glebe Park Playground as their most visited park recommended a range of different changes, with no one recommendation taking prominence:

*Put a fence around it*

*More shady trees*

*More shade*

*More nature focused play area, water play, wooden trucks*

*Its play equipment is pretty basic and there's often garbage and other waste around based on it being in the city*

*I would have a decent kiosk/cafe for coffee/light meals like the better parks in Brisbane, Sydney and Melbourne.*

TABLE 2

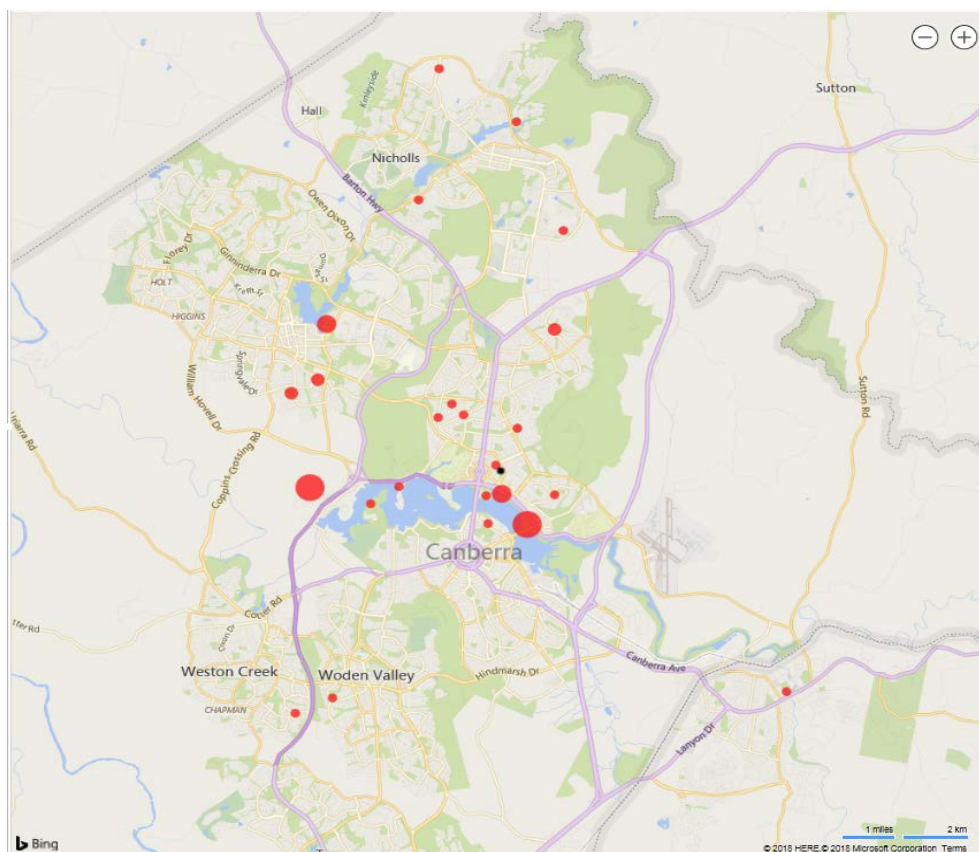
| Recommended changes to this playground | Number of responses |
|--|---------------------|
| Shade                                  | 2                   |
| Fencing                                | 1                   |
| Improved equipment                     | 1                   |
| Nature play                            | 1                   |
| Kiosk/café                             | 1                   |

NB: This chart represents the key (not all) recommendations for changes to this playground



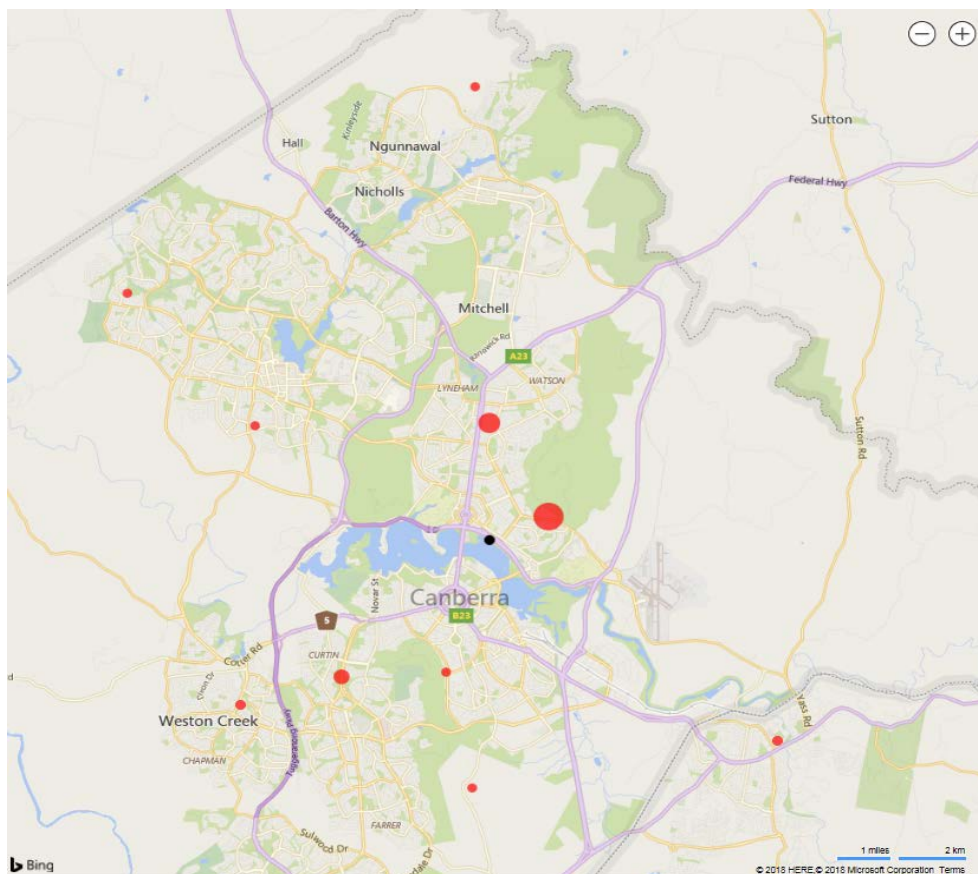
## OTHER PLAYGROUND CHOICES

Respondents who visit Glebe Park also visit a range of other parks throughout the ACT, with most of them clustered around the inner north (including the Arboretum and Boundless).



## VISITOR PROXIMITY TO GLEBE PARK

The greater majority of visitors to Glebe Park live nearby, but other visitors are scattered throughout Canberra.



## RECOMMENDATIONS

The following are recommendations for current and future destination playgrounds in Canberra (and for playgrounds in general) based on the outcomes of the Audit:

### 1. Shade, age-appropriate enclosures and extreme weather protection

- **Shade** over equipment and adult seating spaces/tables
- **Fencing** around play equipment for younger children
- **Windbreaks** and protection from extreme weather

### 2. More challenging and diverse forms of play

- More and better **nature play** options that immerse children in the sensorial natural elements (e.g. mud, water, dirt, sticks, rocks, branches, boulders, trees, ponds, fauna)
- More **challenging** equipment and **risky play** (large climbing walls, treehouses, big flying foxes, risky equipment for younger children)
- More **imaginative** play e.g. features that encourage imaginative engagement and interaction, pretend play, creative expression e.g. mazes, public art, whimsical play equipment
- More **water** play features to entertain children in the warmer months
- More **all-weather** play equipment and features that enable children to engage with playgrounds all year round.

### 3. More and better facilities

- Ample seating for carers, picnic tables, BBQs, bins and toilets
- Shade over facilities (seating; picnic tables and BBQs)
- Access to drinking water: water fountains/bubblers
- Facilities in good working order all year round
- Facilities in close proximity to playground areas

#### 4. Equipment for a wider range of ages

- More play equipment for **very young children** (babies and toddlers) – e.g. small swings and slides, small climbing opportunities
- More play equipment for **older children** (8-16) such as flying foxes, treehouses, climbing walls, skate parks, bike parks

#### 5. Natural features

- Soft, green grass
- Shady trees
- Water features
- Attractive setting
- Diversity of natural features

#### 6. Make larger, quality playgrounds NOT more, smaller playgrounds

Although respondents appreciate the number and range of local playgrounds in close proximity to residences, the vast majority want **larger quality playgrounds** rather than more, smaller playgrounds. An example of this is Moncrieff, which is much larger and with substantially more equipment than the average neighbourhood playground. People from across the entire of the Gungahlin area travel to Moncrieff to use this playground.

#### 7. Improve older playgrounds

- **Update old equipment** and add new quality equipment
- Replace tan bark with **soft fall**
- Maintain and/or replace facilities

#### 8. Proximity

- Playgrounds in **close proximity to homes** offer ease of access, and the patterns for many of the destination playgrounds suggests that location is a key factor
- Canberra citizens will travel across the ACT to visit a large, quality playground
- Visitors want **cafes** or food and beverage facilities co-located or in close proximity to playgrounds



Canberra Destination  
and City Playgrounds  
Equipment Audit



| DETAILED EQUIPMENT AUDIT BLACK MOUNTAIN PLAYGROUND |     |          |                            |                     |            |          |                                  |  |
|--|-----|----------|----------------------------|---------------------|------------|----------|----------------------------------|--|
| Item   | Y/N | Quantity | Age range/<br>description  | Item                | Y/N        | Quantity | Age range /<br>description       |  |
| Slides   |     |          |                            |                     |            |          |                                  |  |
| Straight Slide                                     | Y   | 1        | All equipment a bit shabby | Wave Slide          |            |          |                                  |  |
| Curved Slide                                       |     |          |                            |                     | Tube Slide |          |                                  |  |
| Embankment slide                                   |     |          |                            |                     | Other      |          |                                  |  |
| Spinners & Rockers                                 |     |          |                            |                     |            |          |                                  |  |
| Spinner - seated                                   | Y   | 1        |                            | Spinner - standing  | Y          | 2        |                                  |  |
| See-saw  | Y   | 1        |                            | Spring Rocker       | Y          | 3        |                                  |  |
| Roundabout   |     |          |                            | Other               | Y          | 2        | Surfboards                       |  |
| Sand & water play                                  |     |          |                            |                     |            |          |                                  |  |
| Sand pit   |     |          |                            | Sand table          |            |          |                                  |  |
| Sand diggers                                       |     |          |                            | Water play          |            |          |                                  |  |
| Climbing & flying                                  |     |          |                            |                     |            |          |                                  |  |
| Cubby house  | Y   | 1        |                            | Climbing nets       | Y          | 2        |                                  |  |
| Climbing walls                                     |     |          |                            | Climbing ropes      |            |          |                                  |  |
| Rock wall  |     |          |                            | Climbing frame      |            |          |                                  |  |
| Monkey bars  |     |          |                            | Balance beam        |            |          |                                  |  |
| Flying fox/<br>zip line                            |     |          |                            | Other               | Y          |          | Rope bridge, ladder rope         |  |
| Sports   |     |          |                            |                     |            |          |                                  |  |
| Table tennis                                       |     |          |                            | Basketball hoop     |            |          |                                  |  |
| Bike track   | Y   |          | Walking/bike path          | Skating             |            |          |                                  |  |
| Swinging   |     |          |                            |                     |            |          |                                  |  |
| Traditional swings                                 | Y   | 6        |                            | Basket swings       |            |          |                                  |  |
| Liberty swing                                      | Y   | 1        |                            | Other               | Y          | 2        | Leg swing – stand on roller ride |  |
| Panels, Music & Artworks                           |     |          |                            |                     |            |          |                                  |  |
| Fine motor panels                                  |     |          |                            | Musical panels      | Y          | 3        | Maraccas, drums                  |  |
| Sensory play/panels                                | Y   | 1        |                            | Musical instruments |            |          |                                  |  |
| Art works  | Y   |          | Life ring shaped climbers  | Other music         |            |          |                                  |  |

| Other equipment    |  |          |                         |   |     |          |                         |
|--------------------|--|----------|-------------------------|---|-----|----------|-------------------------|
| Item               | Y/N  | Quantity | Age range / description | Item  | Y/N | Quantity | Age range / description |
| Information panels | Y  | 2        |                         | Swimming in lake  | Y   |          |                         |
| Nature play        | Y  |          |                         | Kayaking on lake  | Y   |          |                         |
| Play surfaces      | Rubber <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Real Grass <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fake Grass <input type="checkbox"/> Wood chip/mulch <input type="checkbox"/><br>Other - sand <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |          |                         |   |     |          |                         |
| Facilities         | Picnic Table   |          |                         | Seating   |     |          |                         |
|                    | Shaded <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Open <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>  |          |                         | Shaded <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Open <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |     |          |                         |
|                    | Toilets  |          |                         | Change Table <input type="checkbox"/>   |     |          |                         |
|                    | Male <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Female <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unisex <input type="checkbox"/>  |          |                         |   |     |          |                         |
|                    | Disabled Toilets   |          |                         | Change Table <input type="checkbox"/>   |     |          |                         |
|                    | Male <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Female <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unisex <input type="checkbox"/>  |          |                         |   |     |          |                         |
|                    | Shaded play areas <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>  |          |                         | Shaded picnic areas <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>                             |     |          |                         |
|                    | Wheelchair accessible paths <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>  |          |                         | Café/kiosk <input type="checkbox"/>   |     |          |                         |
|                    | Disabled parking <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>   |          |                         | Other:  |     |          |                         |

| Detailed Equipment Audit   Boundless Park |     |          |                            |                     |     |          |                                  |
|---|-----|----------|----------------------------|---------------------|-----|----------|----------------------------------|
| Item                                      | Y/N | Quantity | Age range/<br>description  | Item                | Y/N | Quantity | Age range /<br>description       |
| Slides                                    |     |          |                            |                     |     |          |                                  |
| Straight Slide                            | Y   | 1        | All equipment a bit shabby | Wave Slide          |     |          |                                  |
| Curved Slide                              |     |          |                            | Tube Slide          |     |          |                                  |
| Embankment slide                          |     |          |                            | Other               |     |          |                                  |
| Spinners & Rockers                        |     |          |                            |                     |     |          |                                  |
| Spinner - seated                          | Y   | 1        |                            | Spinner - standing  | Y   | 2        |                                  |
| See-saw                                   | Y   | 1        |                            | Spring Rocker       | Y   | 3        |                                  |
| Roundabout                                |     |          |                            | Other               | Y   | 2        | Surfboards                       |
| Sand & water play                         |     |          |                            |                     |     |          |                                  |
| Sand pit                                  |     |          |                            | Sand table          |     |          |                                  |
| Sand diggers                              |     |          |                            | Water play          |     |          |                                  |
| Climbing & flying                         |     |          |                            |                     |     |          |                                  |
| Cubby house                               | Y   | 1        |                            | Climbing nets       | Y   | 2        |                                  |
| Climbing walls                            |     |          |                            | Climbing ropes      |     |          |                                  |
| Rock wall                                 |     |          |                            | Climbing frame      |     |          |                                  |
| Monkey bars                               |     |          |                            | Balance beam        |     |          |                                  |
| Flying fox/<br>zip line                   |     |          |                            | Other               | Y   |          | Rope bridge, ladder rope         |
| Sports                                    |     |          |                            |                     |     |          |                                  |
| Table tennis                              |     |          |                            | Basketball hoop     |     |          |                                  |
| Bike track                                | Y   |          | Walking/bike path          | Skating             |     |          |                                  |
| Swinging                                  |     |          |                            |                     |     |          |                                  |
| Traditional swings                        | Y   | 6        |                            | Basket swings       |     |          |                                  |
| Liberty swing                             | Y   | 1        |                            | Other               | Y   | 2        | Leg swing – stand on roller ride |
| Panels, Music & Artworks                  |     |          |                            |                     |     |          |                                  |
| Fine motor panels                         |     |          |                            | Musical panels      | Y   | 3        | Maraccas, drums                  |
| Sensory play/panels                       | Y   | 1        |                            | Musical instruments |     |          |                                  |
| Art works                                 | Y   |          | Life ring shaped climbers  | Other music         |     |          |                                  |



| Other equipment    |  |          |                         |   |     |          |                         |
|--------------------|--|----------|-------------------------|---|-----|----------|-------------------------|
| Item               | Y/N  | Quantity | Age range / description | Item  | Y/N | Quantity | Age range / description |
| Information panels | Y  | 2        |                         | Swimming in lake  | Y   |          |                         |
| Nature play        | Y  |          |                         | Kayaking on lake  | Y   |          |                         |
| Play surfaces      | Rubber <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Real Grass <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fake Grass <input type="checkbox"/> Wood chip/mulch <input type="checkbox"/><br>Other - sand <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |          |                         |   |     |          |                         |
| Facilities         | <b>Picnic Table</b><br>Shaded <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Open <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>   |          |                         | <b>Seating</b><br>Shaded <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Open <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |     |          |                         |
|                    | <b>Toilets</b><br>Male <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Female <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unisex <input type="checkbox"/>  |          |                         | <b>Change Table</b> <input type="checkbox"/>  |     |          |                         |
|                    | <b>Disabled Toilets</b><br>Male <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Female <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unisex <input type="checkbox"/>   |          |                         | <b>Change Table</b> <input type="checkbox"/>  |     |          |                         |
|                    | Shaded play areas <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>  |          |                         | Shaded picnic areas <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>   |     |          |                         |
|                    | Wheelchair accessible paths <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>  |          |                         | Café/kiosk <input type="checkbox"/>   |     |          |                         |
|                    | Disabled parking <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>   |          |                         | Other:  |     |          |                         |

| DETAILED EQUIPMENT AUDIT   COMMONWEALTH PARK PLAYGROUND |     |          |                             |                     |     |          |   |
|---|-----|----------|-----------------------------|---------------------|-----|----------|---|
| Item  | Y/N | Quantity | Age range/<br>description   | Item                | Y/N | Quantity | Age range /<br>description                |
| <b>Slides</b>   |     |          |                             |                     |     |          |   |
| Straight Slide  |     |          |                             | Wave Slide          |     |          |   |
| Curved Slide  |     |          |                             | Tube Slide          |     |          |   |
| Embankment slide  | Y   | 1        | 3-10                        | Other               |     |          |   |
| <b>Spinners &amp; Rockers</b>                           |     |          |                             |                     |     |          |   |
| Spinner - seated  |     |          |                             | Spinner - standing  |     |          |   |
| See-saw   |     |          |                             | Spring Rocker       |     |          |   |
| Roundabout  |     |          |                             | Other               |     |          |   |
| <b>Sand &amp; water play</b>                            |     |          |                             |                     |     |          |   |
| Sand pit  |     |          |                             | Sand table          |     |          |   |
| Sand diggers  |     |          |                             | Water play          |     |          |   |
| <b>Climbing &amp; flying</b>                            |     |          |                             |                     |     |          |   |
| Cubby house   | Y   | 1        | Whole thing is a cube       | Climbing nets       |     |          |   |
| Climbing walls  | Y   |          | <b>Can climb everywhere</b> | Climbing ropes      |     |          |   |
| Rock wall   |     |          |                             | Climbing frame      |     |          |   |
| Monkey bars   |     |          |                             | Balance beam        |     |          | <b>Not specifically but narrow ledges</b> |
| Flying fox/ zip line                                    |     |          |                             | Other               |     |          |   |
| <b>Sports</b>   |     |          |                             |                     |     |          |   |
| Table tennis  |     |          |                             | Basketball hoop     |     |          |   |
| Bike track  |     |          |                             | Skating             |     |          |   |
| <b>Swinging</b>   |     |          |                             |                     |     |          |   |
| Traditional swings                                      |     |          |                             | Basket swings       |     |          |   |
| Liberty swing   |     |          |                             | Other               |     |          |   |
| <b>Panels, Music &amp; Artworks</b>                     |     |          |                             |                     |     |          |   |
| Fine motor panels                                       |     |          |                             | Musical panels      |     |          |   |
| Sensory play/panels                                     |     |          |                             | Musical instruments |     |          |   |
| Art works   |     |          | <b>Whole playground</b>     | Other music         |     |          |   |
| Other   |     |          |                             |                     |     |          |   |

| Other equipment      |  |          |                           |  |          |          |                            |
|----------------------|--|----------|---------------------------|--|----------|----------|----------------------------|
| Item                 | Y/N  | Quantity | Age range/<br>description | Item   | Y/N      | Quantity | Age range /<br>description |
| <b>Tunnel</b>        | <b>Y</b>   | <b>1</b> |                           | <b>Spiral staircase</b>  | <b>1</b> |          |                            |
| <b>Play surfaces</b> | Rubber <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Real Grass <input type="checkbox"/> Fake Grass <input type="checkbox"/> Wood chip/mulch <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/> |          |                           |  |          |          |                            |
| <b>Facilities</b>    | <b>Picnic Table</b>  |          |                           | <b>Seating</b>   |          |          |                            |
|                      | Shaded <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Open <input type="checkbox"/>   |          |                           | Shaded <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Open <input type="checkbox"/> |          |          |                            |
|                      | <b>Toilets</b>   |          |                           | <b>Change Table</b> <input type="checkbox"/>                             |          |          |                            |
|                      | Male <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Female <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unisex <input type="checkbox"/>  |          |                           |  |          |          |                            |
|                      | <b>Disabled Toilets</b>  |          |                           | <b>Change Table</b> <input type="checkbox"/>                             |          |          |                            |
|                      | Male <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Female <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unisex <input type="checkbox"/>  |          |                           |  |          |          |                            |
|                      | Shaded play areas <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>  |          |                           | Shaded picnic areas <input type="checkbox"/>                             |          |          |                            |
|                      | Wheelchair accessible paths <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>  |          |                           | Café/kiosk <input type="checkbox"/>                                      |          |          |                            |
|                      | Disabled parking <input type="checkbox"/>  |          |                           | Other:   |          |          |                            |

| DETAILED EQUIPMENT AUDIT   GLEBE PARK PLAYGROUND |     |          |                           |                     |     |             |  |
|--|-----|----------|---------------------------|---------------------|-----|-------------|--|
| Item   | Y/N | Quantity | Age range/<br>description | Item                | Y/N | Quantity    | Age range /<br>description             |
| <b>Slides</b>                                    |     |          |                           |                     |     |             |  |
| Straight Slide                                   |     |          |                           | Wave Slide          |     |             |  |
| Curved Slide                                     | Y   | 1        |                           | Tube Slide          |     |             |  |
| Embankment slide                                 |     |          |                           | Other               |     |             |  |
| <b>Spinners &amp; Rockers</b>                    |     |          |                           |                     |     |             |  |
| Spinner - seated                                 |     |          |                           | Spinner - standing  |     |             |  |
| See-saw  | Y   | 1        |                           | Spring Rocker       | Y   | 1           |  |
| Roundabout                                       |     |          |                           | Other               |     |             |  |
| <b>Sand &amp; water play</b>                     |     |          |                           |                     |     |             |  |
| Sand pit   |     |          |                           | Sand table          |     |             |  |
| Sand diggers                                     |     |          |                           | Water play          |     |             |  |
| <b>Climbing &amp; flying</b>                     |     |          |                           |                     |     |             |  |
| Cubby house                                      |     |          |                           | Climbing nets       | Y   | 2           |  |
| Climbing walls                                   |     |          |                           | Climbing ropes      |     |             |  |
| Rock wall  |     |          |                           | Climbing frame      |     |             |  |
| Monkey bars                                      | Y   | 2        |                           | Balance beam        | Y   | 1           |  |
| Flying fox/<br>zip line                          |     |          |                           | Other               |     | 2<br>1<br>1 | Ladders<br>Rope bridge<br>Sliding pole |
| <b>Sports</b>                                    |     |          |                           |                     |     |             |  |
| Table tennis                                     |     |          |                           | Basketball hoop     |     |             |  |
| Bike track                                       |     |          |                           | Skating             |     |             |  |
| <b>Swinging</b>                                  |     |          |                           |                     |     |             |  |
| Traditional swings                               | Y   | 1        |                           | Basket swings       | Y   | 1           |  |
| Liberty swing                                    |     |          |                           | Other               | Y   | 2           | Horizontal muscle bars                 |
| <b>Panels, Music &amp; Artworks</b>              |     |          |                           |                     |     |             |  |
| Fine motor panels                                |     |          |                           | Musical panels      |     |             |  |
| Sensory play/panels                              |     |          |                           | Musical instruments |     |             |  |
| Art works  |     |          |                           | Other music         |     |             |  |
| Other  |     |          |                           |                     |     |             |  |

| Other equipment |  |          |                         |  |     |          |                         |
|-----------------|--|----------|-------------------------|--|-----|----------|-------------------------|
| Item            | Y/N  | Quantity | Age range / description | Item   | Y/N | Quantity | Age range / description |
|                 |  |          |                         |  |     |          |                         |
| Play surfaces   | Rubber <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Real Grass <input type="checkbox"/> Fake Grass <input type="checkbox"/> Wood chip/mulch <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/> |          |                         |  |     |          |                         |
| Facilities      | <b>Picnic Table</b><br>Shaded <input type="checkbox"/> Open <input type="checkbox"/>   |          |                         | <b>Seating</b><br>Shaded <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Open <input type="checkbox"/> |     |          |                         |
|                 | <b>Toilets</b><br>Male <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Female <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unisex <input type="checkbox"/>  |          |                         | <b>Change Table</b> <input type="checkbox"/>   |     |          |                         |
|                 | <b>Disabled Toilets</b><br>Male <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Female <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unisex <input type="checkbox"/>   |          |                         | <b>Change Table</b> <input type="checkbox"/>   |     |          |                         |
|                 | <b>Shaded play areas</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>   |          |                         | <b>Shaded picnic areas</b> <input type="checkbox"/>  |     |          |                         |
|                 | <b>Wheelchair accessible paths</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>   |          |                         | <b>Café/kiosk</b> <input type="checkbox"/>   |     |          |                         |
|                 | <b>Disabled parking</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>  |          |                         | <b>Other: BBQs</b>   |     |          |                         |

| DETAILED EQUIPMENT AUDIT   JOHN KNIGHT PLAYGROUND |     |          |                           |                     |             |          |                            |
|---|-----|----------|---------------------------|---------------------|-------------|----------|----------------------------|
| Item  | Y/N | Quantity | Age range/<br>description | Item                | Y/N         | Quantity | Age range /<br>description |
| <b>Slides</b>                                     |     |          |                           |                     |             |          |                            |
| Straight Slide                                    | Y   | 2        | 0 - 6, 3 - 12             | Wave Slide          |             |          |                            |
| Curved Slide                                      |     |          |                           | Tube Slide          |             |          |                            |
| Embankment slide                                  | Y   | 1        | 1-12                      | Other               | Snake climb | 1        | 0-12                       |
| <b>Spinners &amp; Rockers</b>                     |     |          |                           |                     |             |          |                            |
| Spinner - seated                                  |     |          |                           | Spinner - standing  | Y           | 1        | 2-12                       |
| See-saw   | Y   | 1        | 0-12                      | Spring Rocker       |             |          |                            |
| Roundabout  |     |          |                           | Other               |             |          |                            |
| <b>Sand &amp; water play</b>                      |     |          |                           |                     |             |          |                            |
| Sand pit  |     |          |                           | Sand table          |             |          |                            |
| Sand diggers                                      |     |          |                           | Water play          |             |          |                            |
| <b>Climbing &amp; flying</b>                      |     |          |                           |                     |             |          |                            |
| Cubby house                                       | Y   | 2        | 1-12                      | Climbing nets       |             |          |                            |
| Climbing walls                                    | Y   | 1        | 3-12                      | Climbing ropes      |             |          |                            |
| Rock wall   |     |          |                           | Climbing frame      | Y           | 2        | 1-12                       |
| Monkey bars                                       |     |          |                           | Balance beam        | Y           | 2        | 1-12                       |
| Flying fox/ zip line                              | Y   | 1        | 3-12                      | Other               |             |          |                            |
| <b>Sports</b>                                     |     |          |                           |                     |             |          |                            |
| Table tennis                                      |     |          |                           | Basketball hoop     |             |          |                            |
| Bike track  |     |          |                           | Skating             |             |          |                            |
| <b>Swinging</b>                                   |     |          |                           |                     |             |          |                            |
| Traditional swings                                |     |          |                           | Basket swings       |             |          |                            |
| Liberty swing                                     |     |          |                           | Other               |             |          |                            |
| <b>Panels, Music &amp; Artworks</b>               |     |          |                           |                     |             |          |                            |
| Fine motor panels                                 | Y   |          | Abacus                    | Musical panels      | Y           | 1        | Tubular bells              |
| Sensory play/panels                               |     |          |                           | Musical instruments | Y           | 8        |                            |
| Art works   | Y   |          | Red mosaic snake theme    | Other music         |             |          |                            |
| Other   |     |          |                           |                     |             |          |                            |

| Other equipment |  |          |                           |   |     |          |                            |
|-----------------|--|----------|---------------------------|---|-----|----------|----------------------------|
| Item            | Y/N  | Quantity | Age range/<br>description | Item  | Y/N | Quantity | Age range /<br>description |
|                 |  |          |                           |   |     |          |                            |
| Play surfaces   | Rubber <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Real Grass <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fake Grass <input type="checkbox"/> Wood chip/mulch <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/> |          |                           |   |     |          |                            |
| Facilities      | Picnic Table<br>Shaded <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Open <input type="checkbox"/>   |          |                           | Seating<br>Shaded <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Open <input type="checkbox"/> |     |          |                            |
|                 | Toilets<br>Male <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Female <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unisex <input type="checkbox"/>   |          |                           | Change Table <input type="checkbox"/>   |     |          |                            |
|                 | Disabled Toilets<br>Male <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Female <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unisex <input type="checkbox"/>  |          |                           | Change Table <input type="checkbox"/>   |     |          |                            |
|                 | Shaded play areas <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>  |          |                           | Shaded picnic areas <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>                             |     |          |                            |
|                 | Wheelchair accessible paths <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>  |          |                           | Café/kiosk <input type="checkbox"/>   |     |          |                            |
|                 | Disabled parking <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>   |          |                           | Other: BBQs   |     |          |                            |

| DETAILED EQUIPMENT AUDIT   KAMBAH DISTRICT PAYGROUND |     |          |                           |                     |     |          |                            |
|--|-----|----------|---------------------------|---------------------|-----|----------|----------------------------|
| Item   | Y/N | Quantity | Age range/<br>description | Item                | Y/N | Quantity | Age range /<br>description |
| <b>Slides</b>  |     |          |                           |                     |     |          |                            |
| Straight Slide                                       | Y   | 1        | 3 to 12                   | Wave Slide          |     |          |                            |
| Curved Slide   |     |          |                           | Tube Slide          |     |          |                            |
| Embankment slide                                     | Y   | 4        |                           | Other               |     |          |                            |
| <b>Spinners &amp; Rockers</b>                        |     |          |                           |                     |     |          |                            |
| Spinner - seated                                     | Y   | 2        | 4 to 6 & 6 to 12          | Spinner - standing  | Y   | 2        | 3 to 8                     |
| See-saw  |     |          |                           | Spring Rocker       | Y   | 2        | 5 to 10                    |
| Roundabout   |     |          |                           | Other               |     |          |                            |
| <b>Sand &amp; water play</b>                         |     |          |                           |                     |     |          |                            |
| Sand pit   |     |          |                           | Sand table          |     |          |                            |
| Sand diggers   |     |          |                           | Water play          |     |          |                            |
| <b>Climbing &amp; flying</b>                         |     |          |                           |                     |     |          |                            |
| Cubby house  |     |          |                           | Climbing nets       | Y   | 2        | Spider 4 to 15             |
| Climbing walls                                       | Y   | 4        | 3 to 6                    | Climbing ropes      | Y   | 2        | 4 to 6                     |
| Rock wall  | Y   | 2        | 2 to 6                    | Climbing frame      | Y   | 2        | 3 to 6                     |
| Monkey bars  |     |          |                           | Balance beam        |     |          |                            |
| Flying fox/ zip line                                 | Y   | 2        | 3 to 6 & 4 to 15          | Other               |     |          |                            |
| <b>Sports</b>  |     |          |                           |                     |     |          |                            |
| Table tennis   |     |          |                           | Basketball hoop     |     |          |                            |
| Bike track   | Y   |          | Passes through            | Skating             | Y   |          | Bowl                       |
| <b>Swinging</b>                                      |     |          |                           |                     |     |          |                            |
| Traditional swings                                   | Y   | 4        | 2 to 15                   | Basket swings       | Y   | 1        | 2 to 15                    |
| Liberty swing  | Y   | 1        |                           | Other               |     |          |                            |
| <b>Panels, Music &amp; Artworks</b>                  |     |          |                           |                     |     |          |                            |
| Fine motor panels                                    | Y   | 1        | Os & Xs                   | Musical panels      |     |          |                            |
| Sensory play/panels                                  | Y   | 1        | Happy/sad face            | Musical instruments |     |          |                            |
| Art works  | Y   | 2        | Bird designs and lizard   | Other music         | Y   | 1        | Talking tube               |
| Other  |     |          |                           |                     |     |          |                            |



| Other equipment  |  |          |                           |  |     |          |                            |
|------------------|--|----------|---------------------------|--|-----|----------|----------------------------|
| Item             | Y/N  | Quantity | Age range/<br>description | Item   | Y/N | Quantity | Age range /<br>description |
|                  |  |          |                           |  |     |          |                            |
| Play<br>surfaces | Rubber <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Real Grass <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fake Grass <input type="checkbox"/> Wood chip/mulch <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/> |          |                           |  |     |          |                            |
| Facilities       | Picnic Table<br>Shaded <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Open <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>  |          |                           | Seating<br>Shaded <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Open <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |     |          |                            |
|                  | Toilets<br>Male <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Female <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unisex <input type="checkbox"/>   |          |                           | Change Table <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>   |     |          |                            |
|                  | Disabled Toilets<br>Male <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Female <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unisex <input type="checkbox"/>  |          |                           | Change Table <input type="checkbox"/>  |     |          |                            |
|                  | Shaded play areas <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>  |          |                           | Shaded picnic areas <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>  |     |          |                            |
|                  | Wheelchair accessible paths <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>  |          |                           | Café/kiosk <input type="checkbox"/>  |     |          |                            |
|                  | Disabled parking <input type="checkbox"/>  |          |                           | Other: Sinks   |     |          |                            |

| DETAILED EQUIPMENT AUDIT   TUGGERANONG TOWN CENTRE PLAYGROUND |     |          |                           |                     |                     |          |                             |
|---|-----|----------|---------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|----------|-----------------------------|
| Item  | Y/N | Quantity | Age range/<br>description | Item                | Y/N                 | Quantity | Age range /<br>description  |
| <b>Slides</b>   |     |          |                           |                     |                     |          |                             |
| Straight Slide  |     |          |                           | Wave Slide          |                     |          |                             |
| Curved Slide  | Y   | 1        | Infant to 4               | Tube Slide          |                     |          |                             |
| Embankment slide  |     |          |                           | Other               | Parallel metal bars | 1        | 6 to 10                     |
| <b>Spinners &amp; Rockers</b>                                 |     |          |                           |                     |                     |          |                             |
| Spinner - seated  |     |          |                           | Spinner - standing  |                     |          |                             |
| See-saw   | Y   | 1        |                           | Spring Rocker       | Y                   | 2        | Infant to 4                 |
| Roundabout  |     |          |                           | Other               |                     |          |                             |
| <b>Sand &amp; water play</b>                                  |     |          |                           |                     |                     |          |                             |
| Sand pit  | Y   | 1        | Infant to 8               | Sand table          |                     |          |                             |
| Sand diggers  | Y   | 2        | Infant to 8               | Water play          |                     |          |                             |
| <b>Climbing &amp; flying</b>                                  |     |          |                           |                     |                     |          |                             |
| Cubby house   |     |          |                           | Climbing nets       | Y                   | 1        | 6 to 10                     |
| Climbing walls  |     |          |                           | Climbing ropes      |                     |          |                             |
| Rock wall   |     |          |                           | Climbing frame      | Y                   | 6        | Attached to climbing towers |
| Monkey bars   |     |          |                           | Balance beam        | Y                   | 2        | Logs and stepping stones    |
| Flying fox/ zip line  |     |          |                           | Other               |                     |          |                             |
| <b>Sports</b>   |     |          |                           |                     |                     |          |                             |
| Table tennis  |     |          |                           | Basketball hoop     |                     |          |                             |
| Bike track  |     |          |                           | Skating             |                     |          |                             |
| <b>Swinging</b>   |     |          |                           |                     |                     |          |                             |
| Traditional swings  | Y   | 3        | Infant to 4 x 2, 6+ x 1   | Basket swings       |                     |          |                             |
| Liberty swing   |     |          |                           | Other               | Solid tyre swing    | 16 to 10 |                             |
| <b>Panels, Music &amp; Artworks</b>                           |     |          |                           |                     |                     |          |                             |
| Fine motor panels   |     |          |                           | Musical panels      |                     |          |                             |
| Sensory play/panels   |     |          |                           | Musical instruments |                     |          |                             |
| Art works   | Y   | 4        | Tin animals in towers     | Other music         |                     |          |                             |
| Other   | Y   |          | Ceramic art in path       |                     |                     |          |                             |

| Other equipment |  |          |                           |   |     |          |                            |
|-----------------|--|----------|---------------------------|---|-----|----------|----------------------------|
| Item            | Y/N  | Quantity | Age range/<br>description | Item  | Y/N | Quantity | Age range /<br>description |
|                 |  |          |                           |   |     |          |                            |
| Play surfaces   | Rubber <input type="checkbox"/> Real Grass <input type="checkbox"/> Fake Grass <input type="checkbox"/> Wood chip/mulch <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/> |          |                           |   |     |          |                            |
| Facilities      | Picnic Table<br>Shaded <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Open <input type="checkbox"/>   |          |                           | Seating<br>Shaded <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Open <input type="checkbox"/> |     |          |                            |
|                 | Toilets<br>Male <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Female <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unisex <input type="checkbox"/>   |          |                           | Change Table <input type="checkbox"/>   |     |          |                            |
|                 | Disabled Toilets<br>Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female <input type="checkbox"/> Unisex <input type="checkbox"/>  |          |                           | Change Table <input type="checkbox"/>   |     |          |                            |
|                 | Shaded play areas <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>  |          |                           | Shaded picnic areas <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>                             |     |          |                            |
|                 | Wheelchair accessible paths <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>  |          |                           | Café/kiosk <input type="checkbox"/>   |     |          |                            |
|                 | Disabled parking <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>   |          |                           | Other: BBQs   |     |          |                            |

| DETAILED EQUIPMENT AUDIT   WESTON PARK |     |          |                             |                        |     |          |                            |
|--|-----|----------|-----------------------------|------------------------|-----|----------|----------------------------|
| Item                                   | Y/N | Quantity | Age range/<br>description   | Item                   | Y/N | Quantity | Age range /<br>description |
| <b>Slides</b>                          |     |          |                             |                        |     |          |                            |
| Straight Slide                         |     |          |                             | Wave Slide             | Y   | 1        | Small                      |
| Curved Slide                           |     |          |                             | Tube Slide             |     |          |                            |
| Embankment<br>slide                    |     |          |                             | Other                  |     |          |                            |
| <b>Spinners &amp; Rockers</b>          |     |          |                             |                        |     |          |                            |
| Spinner -<br>seated                    |     |          |                             | Spinner -<br>standing  | Y   | 1        | Broken                     |
| See-saw                                |     |          |                             | Spring Rocker          |     |          |                            |
| Roundabout                             |     |          |                             | Other                  |     |          |                            |
| <b>Sand &amp; water play</b>           |     |          |                             |                        |     |          |                            |
| Sand pit                               | Y   | 1        |                             | Sand table             |     |          |                            |
| Sand diggers                           | Y   | 2        |                             | Water play             | Y   |          |                            |
| <b>Climbing &amp; flying</b>           |     |          |                             |                        |     |          |                            |
| Cubby house                            |     |          |                             | Climbing nets          | Y   | 1        | V large                    |
| Climbing walls                         | Y   | 1        | Natural<br>boulders         | Climbing<br>ropes      |     |          |                            |
| Rock wall                              |     |          |                             | Climbing<br>frame      |     |          |                            |
| Monkey bars                            |     |          |                             | Balance beam           | Y   | 2        | Carved tree<br>trunks      |
| Flying fox/<br>zip line                |     |          |                             | Other                  |     |          |                            |
| <b>Sports</b>                          |     |          |                             |                        |     |          |                            |
| Table tennis                           |     |          |                             | Basketball<br>hoop     |     |          |                            |
| Bike track                             |     |          |                             | Skating                |     |          |                            |
| <b>Swinging</b>                        |     |          |                             |                        |     |          |                            |
| Traditional<br>swings                  | Y   | 4        |                             | Basket swings          |     |          |                            |
| Liberty swing                          |     |          |                             | Other                  |     |          |                            |
| <b>Panels, Music &amp; Artworks</b>    |     |          |                             |                        |     |          |                            |
| Fine motor<br>panels                   | Y   |          |                             | Musical panels         |     |          |                            |
| Sensory<br>play/panels                 | Y   |          |                             | Musical<br>instruments | Y   |          | Triangle, bells            |
| Art works                              | Y   |          | Wood & metal<br>dragonflies | Other music            | Y   |          | Foot button<br>bells       |
| Other                                  | Y   |          | Speaking tube               |                        |     |          |                            |

| Other equipment |  |          |                           |  |     |          |                            |
|-----------------|--|----------|---------------------------|--|-----|----------|----------------------------|
| Item            | Y/N  | Quantity | Age range/<br>description | Item   | Y/N | Quantity | Age range /<br>description |
|                 |  |          |                           |  |     |          |                            |
| Play surfaces   | Rubber <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Real Grass <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fake Grass <input type="checkbox"/> Wood chip/mulch <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/> |          |                           |  |     |          |                            |
| Facilities      | Picnic Table<br>Shaded <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Open <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>  |          |                           | Seating<br>Shaded <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Open <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |     |          |                            |
|                 | Toilets<br>Male <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Female <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unisex <input type="checkbox"/>   |          |                           | Change Table <input type="checkbox"/>  |     |          |                            |
|                 | Disabled Toilets<br>Male <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Female <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unisex <input type="checkbox"/>  |          |                           | Change Table <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>   |     |          |                            |
|                 | Shaded play areas <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>  |          |                           | Shaded picnic areas <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>  |     |          |                            |
|                 | Wheelchair accessible paths <input type="checkbox"/>   |          |                           | Café/kiosk <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>   |     |          |                            |
|                 | Disabled parking <input type="checkbox"/>  |          |                           | Other: BBQs  |     |          |                            |

| DETAILED EQUIPMENT AUDIT   YERRABI POND DISTRICT PARK |     |          |                           |                        |     |          |                            |
|---|-----|----------|---------------------------|------------------------|-----|----------|----------------------------|
| Item  | Y/N | Quantity | Age range/<br>description | Item                   | Y/N | Quantity | Age range /<br>description |
| <b>Slides</b>   |     |          |                           |                        |     |          |                            |
| Straight Slide  | Y   | 1        |                           | Wave Slide             |     |          |                            |
| Curved Slide  |     |          |                           | Tube Slide             |     |          |                            |
| Embankment<br>slide                                   |     |          |                           | Other                  |     |          |                            |
| <b>Spinners &amp; Rockers</b>                         |     |          |                           |                        |     |          |                            |
| Spinner -<br>seated                                   |     |          |                           | Spinner -<br>standing  |     |          |                            |
| See-saw   |     |          |                           | Spring Rocker          |     |          |                            |
| Roundabout  |     |          |                           | Other                  |     |          |                            |
| <b>Sand &amp; water play</b>                          |     |          |                           |                        |     |          |                            |
| Sand pit  |     |          |                           | Sand table             |     |          |                            |
| Sand diggers  |     |          |                           | Water play             |     |          |                            |
| <b>Climbing &amp; flying</b>                          |     |          |                           |                        |     |          |                            |
| Cubby house   |     |          |                           | Climbing nets          |     |          |                            |
| Climbing walls  | Y   |          |                           | Climbing<br>ropes      |     |          |                            |
| Rock wall   |     |          |                           | Climbing<br>frame      |     |          |                            |
| Monkey bars   |     |          |                           | Balance beam           |     |          |                            |
| Flying fox/<br>zip line                               | Y   | 3        |                           | Other                  |     |          |                            |
| <b>Sports</b>   |     |          |                           |                        |     |          |                            |
| Table tennis  |     |          |                           | Basketball<br>hoop     | Y   | 2        | Court                      |
| Bike track  | Y   |          |                           | Skating                | Y   |          |                            |
| <b>Swinging</b>                                       |     |          |                           |                        |     |          |                            |
| Traditional<br>swings                                 | Y   |          |                           | Basket swings          | Y   | 1        | Very large                 |
| Liberty swing   | Y   | 1        |                           | Other                  |     |          |                            |
| <b>Panels, Music &amp; Artworks</b>                   |     |          |                           |                        |     |          |                            |
| Fine motor<br>panels                                  |     |          |                           | Musical panels         |     |          |                            |
| Sensory<br>play/panels                                | Y   | 4        | Various                   | Musical<br>instruments |     |          |                            |
| Art works   |     |          |                           | Other music            |     |          |                            |
| Other   |     |          |                           |                        |     |          |                            |

| Other equipment |  |          |                           |  |     |          |                            |
|-----------------|--|----------|---------------------------|--|-----|----------|----------------------------|
| Item            | Y/N  | Quantity | Age range/<br>description | Item   | Y/N | Quantity | Age range /<br>description |
| Waterplay       | Y  |          | Jetty to feed ducks etc   |  |     |          |                            |
| Play surfaces   | Rubber <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Real Grass <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fake Grass <input type="checkbox"/> Wood chip/mulch <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/> |          |                           |  |     |          |                            |
| Facilities      | Picnic Table<br>Shaded <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Open <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>  |          |                           | Seating<br>Shaded <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Open <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |     |          |                            |
|                 | Toilets<br>Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female <input type="checkbox"/> Unisex <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>  |          |                           | Change Table <input type="checkbox"/>  |     |          |                            |
|                 | Disabled Toilets<br>Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female <input type="checkbox"/> Unisex <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>   |          |                           | Change Table <input type="checkbox"/>  |     |          |                            |
|                 | Shaded play areas <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>  |          |                           | Shaded picnic areas <input type="checkbox"/>   |     |          |                            |
|                 | Wheelchair accessible paths <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>  |          |                           | Café/kiosk <input type="checkbox"/>  |     |          |                            |
|                 | Disabled parking <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>   |          |                           | Other:   |     |          |                            |