# Plenty River Drive Reserve Playground

## Engagement Findings Report

Community engagement for Plenty River Drive Reserve Playground will take place in three stages:

- Stage 1 – local knowledge gathering (25 August 2025 – 12 September 2025)
- Stage 2 – feedback on draft playground concept (10 November 2025 – 30 November 2025)
- Stage 3 – sharing final playground concept (January 2026)

Below is summary of community engagement across the stages.



## Stage 1 – Local knowledge gathering

### How we engaged

Engagement on the project commenced on 25 August 2025 and closed on 12 September 2025. The project was seeking local knowledge to better plan for and design a new playground and fitness station at Plenty River Drive Reserve, Greensborough. **93 people** participated in the following ways:

- **58 people** completed a survey online
- **6 people dropped a pin** on a map to share how they use the space
- **7 adults and 3 teenagers** attended a pop up conversation at the playground on 6 September 2025
- **19 four year old kinder** children drew what they wanted the park to be

This stage of project engagement was promoted through the following methods – on site signage, flyer drops to residents within an 800m walking distance, a social media campaign and contacting a local pre-school. **97%** of the respondents were from Greensborough.

## Access and Equity

Of the participants were access and equity attributes were recorded, this was the level of participation:

- **64%** were woman or female, 31% man or male and 5% prefer not to say.
- **63%** aged between 25-49 years and **26%** aged below 17 years. In comparison, 34% of the local community are aged between 25-49 years and 21% of the local community are aged 17 years of under (ABS 2021 data).
- **12%** live with a disability, including mental illness. In comparison 13% of the local community need assistance due to a disability or have a mental health condition (ABS 2021 data)
- **4%** identify as part of the LGBTIQA+ community
- **12%** identified as carers
- **1%** identified as Aboriginal or Torres Straight Island descent

## What we heard

- **75%** of respondents visit the Reserve once a week or more. In comparison, **38%** of respondents visit the playground once a week or more.
- **90%** of respondents feel safe at the Reserve. Those that don't feel safe, stated it was due to snakes in the area, proximity to the road, illegal parking in the Reserve and no lighting.
- The most popular ways to use the Reserve and playground are to play at the playground (**65%**), walking or jogging (**47%**) and dog walking (**36%**).
- Respondent's favourites things about the Reserve and playground are:
    - The environment - large trees, shade, open grass, bushland, native animals and proximity to the Plenty River.
    - An active space - the shared trail is a popular walking, dog walking and cycling track.
    - A meeting place - a community meeting place and pause point, providing a space to meeting with friends and family. For many respondents, its close to home and their local park.
    - Some elements of the playground - the basketball hoop, monkey bars, firefighter pole and swings are popular items at the park.
- The four year old kinder students shared their ideas for how to improve the playground – 47% wanted monkey bars, 37% wanted an adventure slide and 21% wanted a variety of swing types. There was a strong theme of connection between children throughout the drawings. See page 3 and 4.
- Respondent's shared the following ideas to better deliver the renewal and understand the Reserve, which can be understood in three key themes:

| Provide amenity to feel safe and comfortable in the park: | Active fitness is valued and important at all ages: | Respondents were excited to see the following play elements in a renewal: |
|---|---|---|
| • Maintain shade<br>• Public toilet<br>• Picnic tables<br>• Install fencing to limit access between the playground / basketball hoop and road<br>• A bike repair station and bike racks<br>• A dog park<br>• Lighting<br>• A dog poo dispenser on the bin<br>• Maintenance - increased mowing during summer to reduce grass length, clean paths of debris to increase access and empty bins more often | • A fitness station<br>• Netball ring<br>• Extend the basketball are to include a 3 point line or half basketball court<br>• A heigh adjustable basketball ring<br>• Bike track for kids | • Swings, including a bird nest swings, expression swing (parent / baby) and traditional<br>• Mokey bars<br>• Nature play and wooden play elements<br>• Water play<br>• Cater to a wide age range and access requirements<br>• A big and little slide, with adventure<br>• Rock climbing, climbing obstacles or spider web frame<br>• Interactive panels<br>• In ground trampoline<br>• Pay respect to traditional owners through native animal art |

## Stage 2 – Feedback on draft playground concept

A draft playground concept was developed using stage 1 feedback and shared with community on Shaping Banyule between 10 November 2025 and 30 November 2025. The project was seeking feedback on the draft playground concept to understand what community liked about the concept and what could be improved.

**206 people** visited the Shaping Banyule project page to view the draft playground concept. Of these, three people made a comment on the concept. The themes of the comments were:

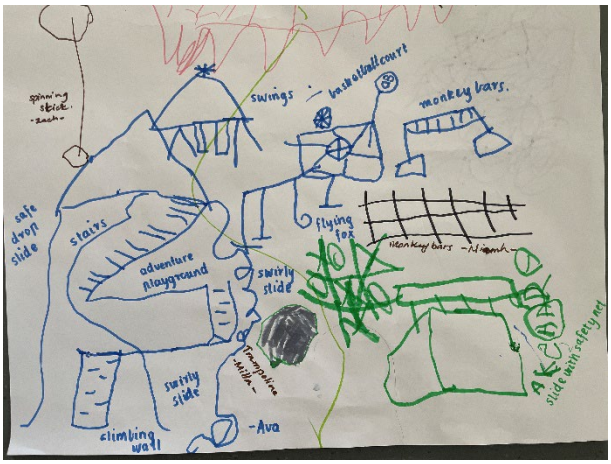
- Local children will love the play tower selected
- A greater range of play equipment was requested, including in ground trampolines and more swings

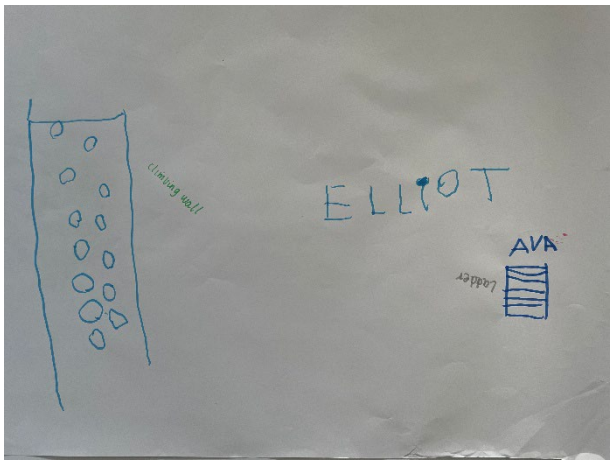
This stage of project engagement was promoted through the following methods – on site signage, a social media campaign, emailing followers of the Shaping Banyule project pages and contacting a local pre-school.

## Stage 3 – Final playground concept

The final playground concept was shared with community in January 2026. Stages 1 and 2 of community engagement have informed the final playground concept. In response to community feedback, a greater range of play equipment has been included in the final playground concept, including the addition of a play cubby, spinner and see saw. Additional playground equipment was chosen to complement the design and fit between existing trees.

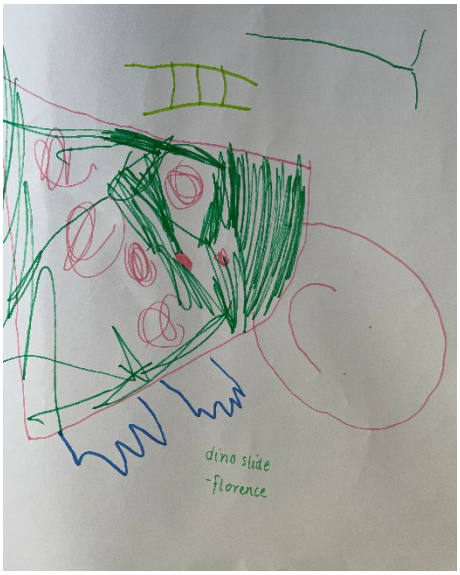
Drawings from children at Apollo Parkways 4 Year Old Kinder during stage 1 community engagement (September 2025)



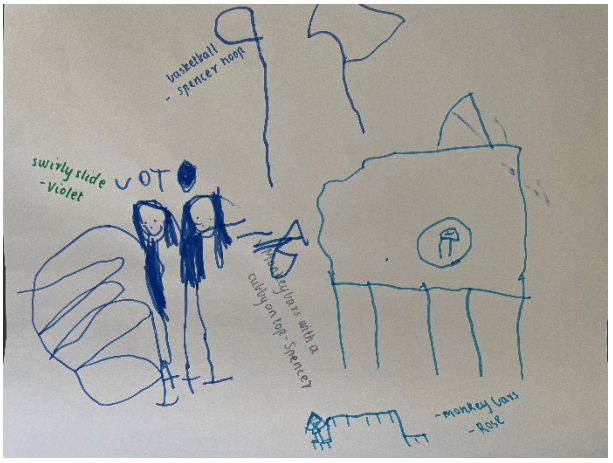



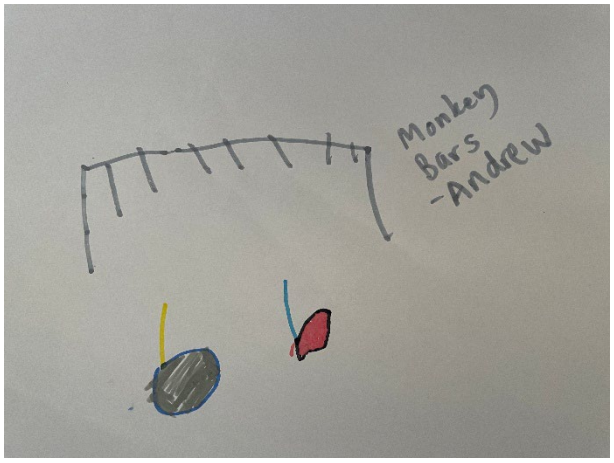










basketball
- Spencer roof
swirly slide
- Violet
monkey bars with a
cubby on top - Spencer
- monkey bars
- Rose


Monkey
Bars
-Andrew


Monkey bars, slide,
big swing & baby swing - Ivy
little
cubby + monkey bars + swing
+ fireman pole + see saw
- ALYSSA


A really Big Slide
- Archer
Slide with a ladder +
swing - Annie