

Barton Court Park

Community survey

The City of Warrnambool conducted a survey to gather ideas and information from the local community about a proposed play space in Barton Court. Local residents and children from local schools participated in the survey and some very positive feedback was received. The survey involved questions about how often people visited parks and the main activities enjoyed there, as well as the opportunity to pick their top 3 pieces of play equipment and rank desired activities.

Summary

The following outlines the questions asked on the survey with the highest ranked answers and a brief description of how these elements were incorporated in the overall design of the Barton Court Park play space. The play space design has prioritised the area with a playground for all ages incorporating nature based play opportunities, a sheltered social space and open lawn areas, and desired amenities such as seating, picnic tables and pathways.

The following outlines the highest ranked answer to each of the questions asked:

The top three most desired play items were:

- Rope climb
- Multi-swing
- Spinning disc

What do you do when you visit parks in Warrnambool?

- Use play equipment

How often do you visit a park in Warrnambool?

- Once per week
- Once a month

What type of features do you think should be installed at Barton Court?

- Interactive & educational playground
- Natural play equipment in a native garden setting

Which age group should the park be designed for?

- Everyone

What particular activities should be included in the play equipment design?

- Social interaction
- Balancing
- Fine motor skills development
- Open areas for ball games

What other items should be provided?

- Park seats
- Picnic tables
- Pathways
- Trees to provide shade
- Bins
- Drinking tap

Do you live within walking distance of Barton Court?

- Yes = 17
- No = 11

Is there any other community group or school that are likely to use the park?

- Various school & kinder groups

Anything else you would like to tell us?

- Areas for kids to run and play
- Areas for families groups to use
- Play equipment for a range of ages

Based on the answers above the play space design includes a social seating space with picnic table, bins and drinking fountain, a varied play space offering play opportunities for all ages including swings, climbing nets, slides and nature play elements including balancing logs, rock scramble and sensory plantings. A pathway around the playground connects the adjacent residential streets through open lawn areas with trees for shade.

Other high ranking play items included a climbing net, bridge, swings and slides. Based on the feedback received we have included these elements into the play space design. The most popular activities when visiting other parks in Warrnambool was to use the play equipment and stay for lunch or a picnic. The park design provides a sheltered seating area with picnic table overlooking the play space as well as open grassy areas with shade trees for picnics and informal ball sports.

The community engagement surveys provided key information used to design the space for the enjoyment of the local residents.