



The future of playgrounds in the Howick Local Board Area

Feedback must be received by **9 February 2025**.

The Howick Local Board manages over 70 playgrounds, but with rising costs, it's challenging to renew and maintain these play spaces. Feedback suggests many new playgrounds across Auckland feel too similar, lack creativity, and only cater to a narrow age range. In contrast, larger playgrounds in Howick, such as those at Howick Domain and Cockle Bay Reserve, have become popular family destinations. We want your input on how to improve play spaces, including your preferred activities, age suitability, skate and bike park locations, and how you access information about parks.

The suburbs included in the Howick Local Board area are:

- Botany Downs
- Bucklands Beach
- Burswood
- Clover Park
- Cockle Bay
- Dannemora
- East Tamaki
- East Tamaki Heights
- Eastern Beach
- Palm Cove
- Flat Bush
- Golflands
- Half Moon Bay
- Highland Park
- Howick
- Huntington Park
- Mellons Bay
- Mission Heights
- Northpark
- Ormiston
- Pakuranga
- Pakuranga Heights
- Shamrock Park
- Shelly Park
- Somerville
- Sunnyhills

We encourage you to give feedback online at [akhaveyoursay.nz](https://www.akhaveyoursay.nz), or you can:

Scan and email your completed form to:

communityconsultation@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz

Post your completed form to:

Howick Local Board Playgrounds
Freepost number 190198
Auckland Council
Private Bag 92300, Victoria Street West
Auckland, 1142

Your details

Your name and feedback will be included in public documents. All other personal details will not be made available to the public.

First name:

Last name:

Email or postal address:

Your local board or suburb:

Important privacy information

The personal information that you provide in this form will be held and protected by Auckland Council in accordance with our privacy policy (available at aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/privacy and at our libraries and service centres) and with the Privacy Act 2020. The privacy policy explains how we can use and share your personal information in relation to any interaction you have with the council, and how you can access and correct that information. You should familiarise yourself with this policy before submitting this form.

These questions are optional but will help us understand which groups of the community are engaging with us.

What gender are you?

☐ Male ☐ Female ☐ Another gender: _____

What age group are you?

☐ Under 15 ☐ 15-17 ☐ 18-24 ☐ 25-34 ☐ 35-44
☐ 45-54 ☐ 55-64 ☐ 65-74 ☐ 75+

Which ethnic group(s) do you feel you belong to? (Please select as many as apply)

☐ Pākehā/NZ European ☐ Māori ☐ Cook Islands Māori
☐ Samoan ☐ Tongan ☐ Indian
☐ Chinese ☐ Southeast Asian ☐ Korean
☐ Other (please specify): _____

Would you like to subscribe to any of the following? (tick all that apply)

- ☐ People's Panel – to take part in council surveys
- ☐ OurAuckland – your weekly guide to what's happening in Auckland
- ☐ Auckland Conversations - free public events offering ideas, inspiration and action for world-class cities

You can also visit AK Have Your Say at akhaveyoursay.nz to find out about, or register to receive regular updates on, consultation activities happening across Auckland

Your feedback (all questions are optional)

1. Are you responding to this survey as one of the following?

- ☐ The parent or caregiver of someone who uses the playgrounds
- ☐ A playground user
- ☐ An organisation
- ☐ A future playground user

- ☐ A community member who doesn't use playgrounds
- ☐ Other (please specify): _____

If you are responding as a parent or caregiver, what ages are the tamariki (children) or rangatahi (adolescents) that you are responsible for?

- ☐ Under 5 years
- ☐ 5-9 years
- ☐ 10-14 years
- ☐ 15-19 years
- ☐ Prefer not to say

If you are responding as a playground user, what age are you?

- ☐ 5-9 years
- ☐ 10-14 years
- ☐ 15-19 years
- ☐ Prefer not to say

If you are responding as an organisation, tell us which one:

2. How do you want the Howick Local Board to prioritise our playground investment? (Select one)

- ☐ Keep the same number of playgrounds and make sure they are renewed to the same quality.
- ☐ Remove some of the less-used playgrounds and add more play equipment to others nearby.
- ☐ I don't know
- ☐ Other (please specify):

3. Which are your top 3 favourite playgrounds in Howick, and what do you like most about them?

4. How often do you or your family use the playgrounds in the Howick Local Board area?

- ☐ Most days/every day
- ☐ Once or twice a week
- ☐ Once or twice a month
- ☐ Less often
- ☐ Never

5. What are the top reasons you visit playgrounds? (Select all that apply)

- ☐ To hang out with friends and family
- ☐ To play and have fun
- ☐ To exercise and be physically challenged
- ☐ To get outside and connect with nature
- ☐ To have a break from technology
- ☐ Because they are a free activity
- ☐ To give parents or carers a break
- ☐ Other (please specify): _____

6. What is important to you when choosing a playground to visit?

	Not important	Somewhat important	Very important	I don't know
The playground is accessible for those with mobility and sensory challenges	☐	☐	☐	☐
The park has facilities that make it easy to meet or hang out with friends (toilets, picnic areas, car parking)	☐	☐	☐	☐
The park is conveniently located on my way to or from somewhere I go regularly (school, sports, work, etc.)	☐	☐	☐	☐
The playground is within walking or cycling distance from home	☐	☐	☐	☐
The surrounding natural environment is appealing (e.g., near the beach, lots of trees)	☐	☐	☐	☐
The playground caters for a variety of ages	☐	☐	☐	☐
The playground is fenced	☐	☐	☐	☐
The playground is located on a public transport route	☐	☐	☐	☐
It's close to a shop or café	☐	☐	☐	☐

7. Is there anything else you take into account when picking a playground to visit?

8. On a scale of 1 (very poor) to 5 (very good), how well do you think the playgrounds in the Howick Local Board area cater to different age groups?

	1 (Very poor)	2	3	4	5 (Very good)	I don't know
Under 5 years old	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
5-9 year olds	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
10-14 year olds	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
15-18	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Adults	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Tell us why:

9. Playgrounds are not the only spaces that offer play and recreation opportunities to children, families, and visitors. What other “play” activities do you regularly participate in when using Council’s open spaces and parks? (Select all that apply)

- | | |
|--|--|
| ☐ Walking | ☐ Bushwalking |
| ☐ Swimming at the beach | ☐ Fishing |
| ☐ Informal water sports such as kayaking, canoes, or stand-up paddle boarding. | ☐ Hanging out with family and friends |
| ☐ Cycling | ☐ Wheeled play activities such as pump track or skateparks |
| ☐ Exercising the dog | ☐ Informal play outdoors (tree climbing, rolling down hills, playing in the sand) |
| ☐ Playing with a ball or frisbee | ☐ Picnics |
| ☐ Wharf jumping | ☐ Using outdoor fitness equipment |
| ☐ Informal court sports such as basketball, volleyball, badminton or pickleball | ☐ Imaginative play for example role playing and storytelling |

☐ Other (please specify):

10. Skate parks and pump tracks are increasing in popularity among all ages. Would you prefer to see them as standalone facilities or next to other play elements?

- ☐ Stand-alone facilities with no other play elements around them
- ☐ In a larger park next to other play elements such as playgrounds
- ☐ I do not know / I have no opinion

11. The Howick Local Board area has over 70 playgrounds. As a playground user, do you find it easy to access information about our playgrounds, play opportunities, and supporting amenities? (E.g. Information about accessibility or toilets)

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Other, please specify: _____

12. How could we improve access to information about our playgrounds?

13. Do you have any other feedback you wish to provide regarding the future direction of the playgrounds in the Howick Local Board area.

Need more room? You can attach extra pages.