



Adelaide Montessori Early Learning Centre

PROSPECTUS

"The child is both a hope and a promise of mankind. If we therefore mind this embryo as our most precious treasure, we will be working for the greatest of humanity."

-Maria Montessori

www.adelaidemontessori.com.au

Adelaide Montessori Pty. Ltd.
ACN 127 441 392

Adelaide Montessori Early Learning Centre



MISSION STATEMENT

Adelaide Montessori aims to provide a quality education of self-directed learning within a caring secure environment that nurtures children's desire to learn and enables them to reach their full potential.

We are firmly committed to Maria Montessori's approach to learning which is one that lays a solid and "hands-on" foundation where academic and developmental success is fostered.

Adelaide Montessori guides the growth and development of the whole child in an environment that:

- Fosters a love of learning
- Maximises individual potential
- Promotes academic excellence
- Inspires creativity
- Celebrates diversity
- Encourages mutual respect
- Nurtures compassion and humanitarianism
- Advocates stewardship of the environment
- Graduates responsible, productive citizens of the world

"And so we discovered that education is not something which the teacher does, but that it is a natural process which develops spontaneously in the human being"

- Maria Montessori

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WHY MONTESSORI?

Dr. Maria Montessori was born in Italy in 1870. She was the first woman in Italy to attend medical school and later completed education, philosophy and anthropology degrees. She received world acclaim for her work to aid the education and development of children. The Montessori philosophy of education is highly regarded and widely recognised throughout the world.

The underlying principle in the Montessori philosophy of education is that all children carry within themselves the person they will become. In order to develop physical, intellectual, and spiritual potential to the fullest, the child must have freedom; a freedom to be achieved through order and self-discipline. Dr. Montessori developed what she called the PREPARED ENVIRONMENT, which already possesses a certain order and allows children to learn at their own speed, according to their own capacities and in a non-competitive atmosphere.

Dr. Montessori recognised that the only valid impulse to learning is the self-motivation of the child. Children move themselves towards learning. The teacher prepares the environment, guides the activity and offers the child stimulation, but it is the CHILD who learns, who is motivated through his work to persist in a given task.

The environment within our Montessori centre caters for the purposeful activity, growth and development of children. Everything is relative to the child's size and proportion. The chairs are light enough for the child to move and easily clean; the shelves are low and the tables small. Water and glasses are available for the child to pour their own drinks; knives and cutting boards allow them to prepare their own fruit. Sweeping brushes, mops, and cleaning implements are small enough for the children to manage. Allowing the children independence to manage their needs and their movements enables them to be masters of their own environment. This freedom to work, to make choices and to manage daily challenges develops self-esteem and self-discipline.

"She must do it herself or it will never be done. The goal of early childhood education should not be to fill the child with facts from a structured course of studies, but rather to cultivate her own natural desire to learn."

- Maria Montessori

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CURRICULUM

The Montessori materials cover developmental activities designed to meet the needs of children in **five main curriculum areas**:

Practical Life

Practical life exercises instil care for self, for others, and for the environment. These activities include some of the daily routines the child has already observed at home: preparing food, washing dishes, dressing oneself, and practicing accepted societal rules of grace and courtesy. Practical life activities serve to enhance muscular coordination, and to develop powers of concentration and control in the child that he will need for other work in the classroom.

Sensorial

Sensorial materials are designed to develop cognitive skills, and to help children classify and order impressions by touching, seeing, smelling, tasting, listening, and exploring all the physical properties of their environment.

Language

Language development is vital to all human development. The Montessori classroom is rich in oral language opportunities, allowing the child to experience conversation, poetry, and stories. Children effortlessly link sound to symbol while tracing sandpaper letters with their fingers, thus encouraging the natural progression of written expression and reading skills.

Mathematics

Mathematical activities help children learn and understand the concepts of math by manipulating concrete materials. The work helps children acquire a solid understanding of basic mathematical principles, and prepares them for later abstractive reasoning.

Geography and Cultural Studies

Geography, biology, botany, zoology, art, and music are presented as extensions of language activities, and are integrated into the environment as part of the curriculum. Children learn about people and cultures in other countries with an attitude of respect and admiration. Through familiarity, children come to feel connected to the global human family. Lessons and experiences with nature inspire a reverence for all life. Art and music in the classroom give children the opportunity to enjoy creative activities, as well as gain knowledge of the great masters.

*"We must help the child act for himself, will for himself,
think for himself."*

- Maria Montessori

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THE ROLE OF THE TEACHER IN A MONTESSORI CLASSROOM

The teacher's prime objectives are to:

- Maintain order and beauty in the prepared environment
- Facilitate the development of the child
- Allow development to progress unhindered
- Encourage independence and self-sufficiency
- Ensure there is great respect for the prepared environment, children and adults
- Promote learning and create a climate for discovery
- Extend and enrich the child's own interest
- Help the child develop to his or her full potential
- Help the child to develop an inner discipline to control his or her behaviour
- Develop a teacher-child relationship that is warm, happy and rewarding
- Be a good role model
- Observe the children to make sure the prepared environment is meeting their needs, that the materials are involving and maintaining their interest and through close observation know when a child is ready for the next challenge.

"It is true we cannot make a genius, we can only give each individual the chance to fulfil his potential possibilities to become an independent, secure and balanced human being."

- Maria Montessori

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ENROLMENT DETAILS

Operating Hours and Sessions

The Centre is open Monday to Friday from 8.00am to 4.30pm for 49 weeks of the year. The Centre is closed for three weeks over the Christmas – New Year period.

Montessori sessions are offered for children 2 years to school age as follows:

Full day - \$73.00

8.45am - 3.15pm

Half day - \$38.00

8.45 - 11.45am or 12.15 - 3.15pm (Thebarton only)

Full day plus extended hours care - \$80.00

8.00am - 4.30pm

In order to receive the full benefit of the Montessori program, it is a requirement that children attend for a minimum of three half days per week at the age of two years and at least two full days per week from the age of three years.

Commonwealth Childcare Assistance Scheme / Child Care Rebate

Our Centre is registered with the National Childcare Accreditation Council and families qualify for receipt of Child Care Benefit. Please contact the Family Assistance Office to obtain further information regarding entitlement to Child Care Benefit.

The Childcare Rebate is available to parents who are working, unemployed or studying during the time their child is in our care. Our Centre qualifies as a registered provider for this government rebate system.

Our centre does not receive any financial assistance or government funding.

Fee Payment Policy

Fees are invoiced fortnightly in advance and cannot be refunded. Preferred payment method is by direct deposit or EZIDEBIT. Other forms of payment are accepted by negotiation with the Director.

Missed sessions cannot be refunded or made up. Full fees are applied irrespective of public holidays falling on any particular week day with the exception of Christmas – New Year when the centre is closed. Four operating weeks notice must be given in writing for the change or withdrawal of a child's placement at the Centre.

Bond

A bond equivalent to four weeks' gross fees is payable upon acceptance of our offer for enrolment in the Centre. The bond is repayable at the conclusion of your child's enrolment.

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WAITING LIST APPLICATION FORM Private and Confidential

CHILD'S DETAILS

First name: _____ Surname: _____ M/F

Date of birth: _____

PARENT/GUARDIAN DETAILS

Mother/Guardian: _____ Father/Guardian _____

Contact Address: _____

Email Address: _____

Telephone Home _____ Mobile _____

Please indicate which days you would like your child to attend:

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Extended Day 8.00 - 4.30	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Full Day 8.45 - 3.15	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Half Day 8.45 - 11.45 or 12.15 - 3.15 (Thebarton only)	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>

When would you like your child to start at Adelaide Montessori? _____

Which Centre would you like your child to attend? Thebarton Norwood

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Please send completed form to Adelaide Montessori Early Learning Centre, 5a Walter Street, Thebarton SA 5031 or 33 Gray Street, Norwood SA 5067 with a non-refundable application fee of \$50 to ensure your child's details are registered onto our database. Thank you for your interest in Adelaide Montessori and we look forward to welcoming you to our centre.

Please debit my credit card for the total amount of \$50.00

Name of cardholder: _____

MasterCard / Visa _____/_____/_____/_____ Exp: ____/____ CVV_____

Signed: _____