

ENHANCEMENT

Montessori Inspired



Welcome to Montessori Inspired

As part of our long-term commitment to improve the experiences and outcomes of all children in our care we are delighted to be introducing a Montessori Inspired learning enhancement into your child's nursery.

Who & What is Montessori?

Maria Montessori was an 19th Century Italian doctor who devoted her life to the holistic education of young children. Her child-centric approach, theories and practice were embraced by other renowned educators of the time, and the 'Montessori' method of teaching was developed. Montessori remains a well-respected and mainstream teaching method in many countries and is currently enjoying a resurgence of popularity in the UK - we are so thrilled to introduce key aspects of this practice to the children in our care.

The Montessori philosophy follows that children better reach their potential when submersed in a thoughtfully prepared environment. In a Montessori environment, the adult introduces new concepts to the child, ensures thorough understanding, and then steps to one side allowing the child to self-develop and practise these new skills - the adult will watch closely and step-in to support and encourage when needed. When the adult is confident that the child has mastered a particular skill or learning, the adult can then introduce learning extensions and additional concepts.

Montessori understood the significance of giving children time and space to understand and embrace their world and how they should be free to question, probe, investigate and reflect during any learning experience. She also understood that children should be urged to follow their own individual interests and curiosities. Allowing young children to learn and flourish in this way helps develop communication skills, positive self-image, self-motivation, confidence, and resilience. It embeds a deep love of learning from an early age and helps children think critically, work collaboratively, and act with integrity and compassion.

Practical Life: Focuses on daily tasks developing independence and fine/gross motor skills. Encourages care of self, care of environment and care of others.

Sensorial: Engages the senses through activities like matching colours, grading shapes, and exploring textures to refine sensory perception.

Language: Encourages language development through vocabulary building, phonetic exercises and storytelling.

Mathematics: Introduces mathematical concepts through hands-on activities with counting, sorting and exploring patterns.

Knowledge and Understanding of the World: Broadens understanding of the world through activities related to geography, history, science and the arts.



Montessori Inspired Promise

The Montessori method emphasises five key learning areas, each of which uses specific learning materials and practises, and which will be introduced in phases to your child.



A cornerstone of Montessori learning is Practical Life. Children will learn how to look after themselves, others and their environment.

e.g.: Pairing socks is a typical Practical Life activity for a toddler – it is a fun activity that most children love, and once mastered they enjoy helping at home. But far from ‘simply pairing socks’, the children are also subconsciously tackling early maths skills (shapes, pattern recognition and numbers), language skills (dots, stripes, names of colours) and literacy skills (busy hands hone fine and gross motor skills and muscle memory in preparation for early writing).



Learning to lay the table, helping during and after mealtimes. Helps develop emotional intelligence, teamwork, manners, and social skills. It also gives the child a sense of achievement and belonging.



Pouring liquid from a large vessel into smaller vessels. Pouring the same amount into each and trying not to spill. This is good for early maths concepts, spatial awareness and language development. A tricky activity which really helps develop concentration and fine/gross motor skills.



Sorting and grading materials by colour, shape or size. Using hands, tongs, spoons, tweezers. These are important ways to help a child develop their concentration and the important ‘pincer grip’, essential for learning how to hold a pencil.

Montessori Teaching Staff

We are fortunate enough to have several qualified Montessori teachers across our family of nurseries, all of whom continue to attend courses and learn, just like our children do.

What might I see in the Nursery?

You might start to see some new materials and resources appear in your child’s nursery and we will of course be sharing images of your child using these on Parent Zone. We also hope that your child will be keen to show you some of their newly acquired Practical Life skills at home!

At the heart of our **Brighter Learning Approach** is our commitment to fortifying the foundations of lifelong learning. Your nursery offers Montessori Inspired as part of an overall engaging curriculum instilling curiosity, creativity and well-being.