



Nurturing the Next Generation



BRISBANE
MONTESSORI

FOR CHILDREN AGED 0-15 YEARS

Guiding the Next Generation

Brisbane Montessori School embodies the very essence of what a school should be:

- a vibrant community of students who are excited to learn
- natural green open spaces that are good for their souls
- bright classrooms full of practical tools
- innovative and proven teaching methodologies
- engaged, dedicated and encouraging teachers, and
- stimulating, challenging and student-centric curriculum.

The only Montessori school in Brisbane, our school aligns the timeless philosophy of Maria Montessori with a modern educational approach for students from infant to 15 years. Situated in a peaceful setting by the Brisbane River in Fig Tree Pocket, our school provides an exceptional educational foundation for children to develop knowledge and meaningful real-world skills to use throughout their life.

The first time you arrive at our school you will notice an absence of school uniforms and an expansive green outlook providing the freedom and space to play. Inside, our classrooms are distinctive because of the unique materials students use and our philosophy where teachers mentor rather than 'teach'. It is a positive and friendly environment that feels like an extended family.

What sets Montessori apart is our educational programme that is centred on the child and allows them to explore and discover in every sense of the word.

Our unique learning platform is based on separate areas for developmental stages, multi-age classrooms and an integrated curriculum. It gives each child the scope to learn at their own pace and pursue their own interests. Our Montessori teachers are highly trained in our philosophy and delivery method, ensuring that students are guided every step of their schooling journey.

At our school's heart, we nurture children to develop an awareness of themselves and the world they live in, to build a sense of inner peace and to tolerate differences. Academically our students thrive and place well in traditional curriculum assessment and readiness for senior schooling and life beyond their school years.

We invite you to consider Brisbane Montessori School for your child's education. It truly is a special place.



Welcome to Brisbane Montessori School

Our Montessori educators and staff are inspired by and privileged to be involved in the lives of so many young and promising individuals and to have the support of their dedicated families. This is the rare and special community of Brisbane Montessori.

This prospectus is designed to give you an introduction to our school and what makes a Montessori education so unique.

However, to truly understand our School and feel what makes it so special, you are invited to come and tour our classrooms and meet with our staff to see first-hand the Montessori philosophy in action. We also provide more in-depth seminars on a Montessori education as part of your induction into our Montessori community.

Our school facilities include a multi-purpose hall, library, playgrounds, sports court, kitchen gardens and ample green spaces. Our students also benefit from using specialist external facilities available to us as required. Our authentic Montessori curriculum has been quality assured and sits well alongside the Australian National Curriculum to provide students with a well-rounded and rigorous learning environment.

As a member of our Brisbane Montessori community you can be assured of more than just an education for your child; your family will enjoy connections and friendships and many school events. Parents can join our P&F and also help in our classrooms. Our School also operates a Before and After School Care service to cater for working parents.

If you want your child to foster a love of learning, to develop personal responsibility, social skills, critical thinking processes, and independence, then Brisbane Montessori School is the place to be.

Come visit us.

We look forward to meeting you and welcoming you and your child into our community.

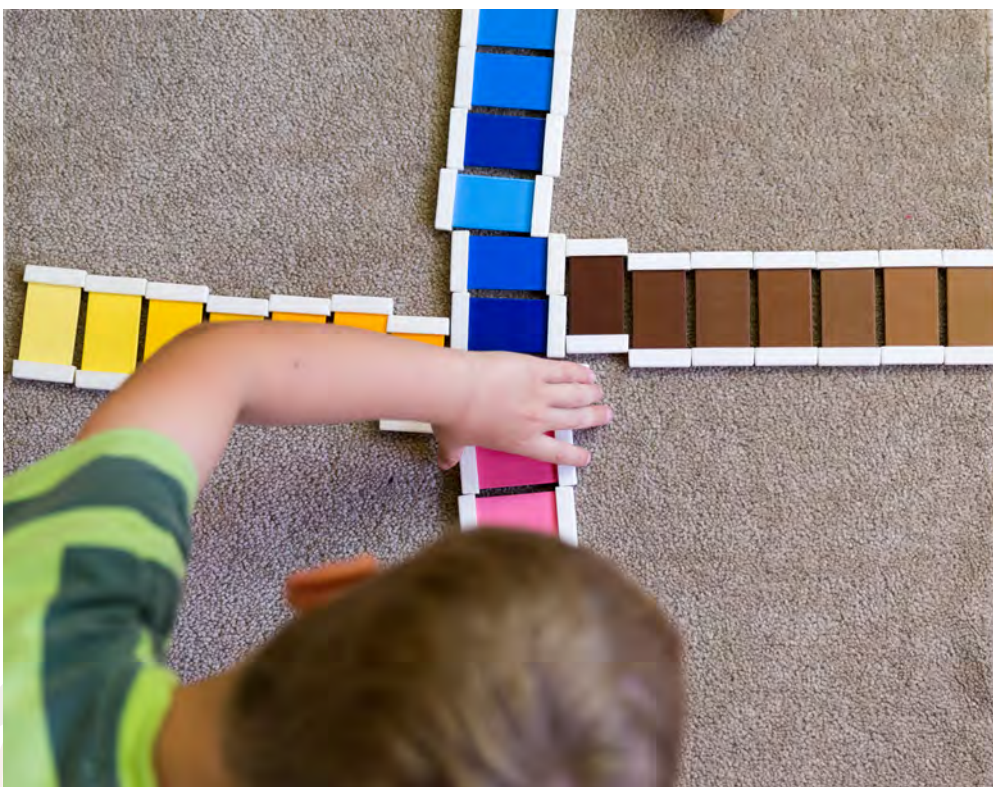
Chris Peach
Principal
Brisbane Montessori School

The Montessori Approach

Montessori education is an educational approach developed by Italian physician and educator, Maria Montessori. In 1907 Maria Montessori opened her first classroom, the Casa dei Bambini or Children's House, in Rome. From the beginning, Montessori based her work on her observations of children and experimentation with the environment, materials, and lessons. She observed that children under six absorb limitlessly and effortlessly from the world around them and in doing so lay down all the foundations for later in life.

Montessori education is characterised by an emphasis on independence, freedom within limits, and respect for a child's natural psychological development. Essential elements include:

- mixed-age classrooms allowing a child to develop socially, intellectually and emotionally
- student choice of activity within a prescribed range of options
- uninterrupted blocks of work time
- a constructivism or 'discovery' model, where students learn concepts from working with materials rather than by direct instruction. They are guided by a trained adult who is there to support them.
- specialised education materials that are carefully designed and scientifically researched to fit the developmental needs of children.



Montessori education is practised in an estimated 20,000 schools worldwide, serving children from birth to 18 years old. It seeks to promote:

- self-confidence and self-esteem
- a sense of achievement and self-worth
- a sense of responsibility for themselves and their actions
- independence and adaptability
- cooperation with others and a sense of community
- respect for the rights and needs of others
- initiative and self-motivation
- concentration and persistence in completing a task.

There are three key components for the optimal Montessori working environment: the prepared environment, the children and the adults. You can read more about this on our website.

Observation is a major part of assessment in a Montessori classroom. This provides the platform to engage and prepare both formative and summative assessments. Children are continuously assessed through formal and informal test environments, and precise records are kept for each individual's educational programme.



Our Curriculum

Our school delivers the approved Montessori National Curriculum. The Montessori Curriculum has been mapped against the Australian National Curriculum so that parents can be assured that children attending Brisbane Montessori School are covering approved content.

The Montessori curriculum is much broader than many other programmes as it helps a child to become a competent and confident learner, which in turn develops the child's capacities. The Montessori curriculum also helps children develop strong foundations in language and maths, and an in-depth knowledge of physical and cultural geography, zoology, botany, physical science, history, art, physical education, practical life and grace and courtesy.

A music programme is offered in Children's House (3-6 year olds). All children in Primary and Middle School can access our specialist teachers for French, Music and Physical Education.



Learning for Life

Our Four Programme Areas (0-15 years)

We currently have the following Montessori programmes:

- Infants and Toddlers (0-3 years)
- Children's House (3-6 years)
- Primary School (6-12 years)
- Middle School (12-15 years)

Infants and Toddlers

The first six years of a child's life is by far the most important, with the first three years being the key time for orientation. The Infant & Toddler Community (referred to as Nido, 'nest' in Italian) caters for groups of 8 to 12 children, attending with a parent. This unique approach is extremely beneficial to the child and parents within the Montessori setting and at home. The children participate in an environment that is based on respect, grace, courtesy and responsibility.

Lotus - our Montessori Independent Toddler Community - caters for children between 15 months and three years of age, with children attending without parents. The environment is prepared to complement the home and offers the toddler a place where they can achieve self-esteem, self-mastery and self-awareness through practice and repetition at their own pace.

Children's House

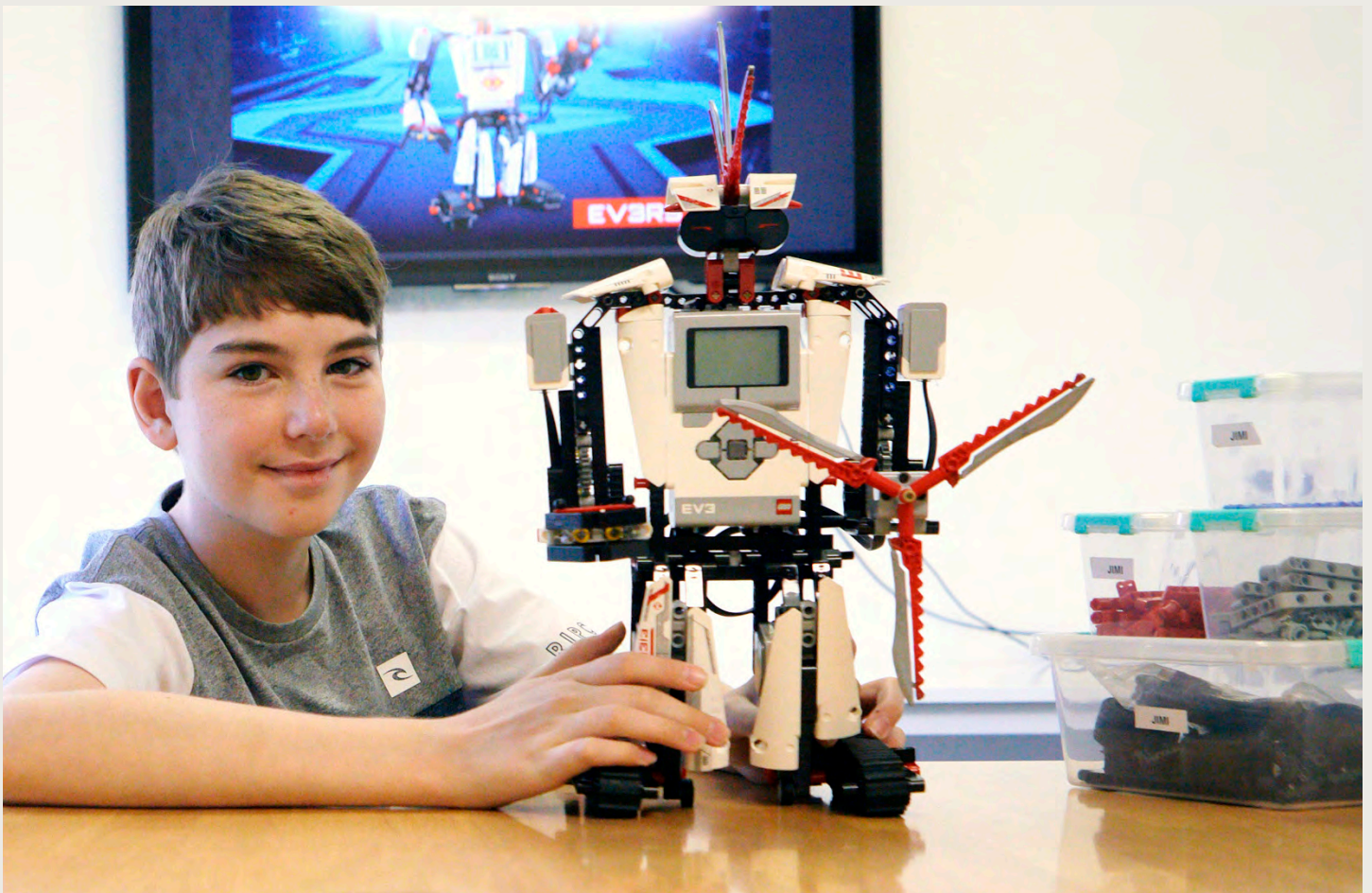
Children are accepted into Children's House from three years of age. At three and four years of age they can attend a morning class five days a week or a full day, five days a week. At around 4.5 years, or when they are ready, all children will move to an extended day.

Primary School

Primary School is divided into two stages: Lower Primary (6-9 year olds) and Upper Primary (9-12 year olds). Each classroom environment is made up of children who are at different levels of physical, emotional, social and academic development so that no student ever feels left behind. The ingenuity of Montessori materials ensures that students who are ready for academic extension but not yet for the next stage can always be supported and challenged.

Middle School

Middle School practices include mixed-age classes, individualised education options with individual and small group instruction, hands-on learning experiences and an integration of all curriculum subjects within a flexible timeframe. The Montessori Middle School environment is designed to build an adolescent community in which young people gain social experiences that prepare them for adulthood. The right environment for adolescents, according to Dr Montessori, is one in which they can have 'effective, practical experience of every aspect of social life'.



Situated beside the Brisbane River on a beautiful pocket of land, Brisbane Montessori School offers a unique educational programme for infants to adolescents.

The Brisbane Montessori School community empowers individuals to be independent, realise their potential, value life-long learning and build a culture of peace.

We are Brisbane's only Montessori school for children aged 0-15 years.



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Brisbane Montessori School – 0 to 15 year olds. Mactier Street, Fig Tree Pocket.

P: 07 3327 0600 E: enrolments@bms.qld.edu.au www.bms.qld.edu.au