



Elizabeth Macarthur Montessori Pre-School Association Incorporated

The Montessori Philosophy

Dr Maria Montessori was Italy's first woman doctor and psychiatrist. Her philosophy is based on years of observing children in many different environments and cultures. She came to realise that children have a natural love of learning and that education was an aid and must be provided in a secure and harmonious environment.

Dr Montessori believed that education begins at birth and that the first 6 years of life are the most formative as during this time the Child's power of absorption are at its highest.

- We believe children learn best at their own pace and by their own learning choice within an environment that provides both structure and freedom
- We assist each child to develop his/her own potential in all areas: intellectual, social, emotional, creative and physical.
- We think it is vital that concentration is developed and practiced as a core learning skill
- We value and support each Child's process of learning and working in the classroom
- We believe consideration for others is a core value in the process of guiding children's behavior.
- Montessori education includes music and culture, art and craft, academic, physical and practical skills
- Montessori education curriculum is child-focused and based on principals of child development
- We actively encourage parents to become involved and learn more about Montessori education
- We organize our classrooms in multi-aged groupings
- Montessori is an international education system with schools on six continents. Schools can be found throughout Australia
- Montessori programs include Playgroups, Under 3's programs, Long Day Care Centres, Preschools, Primary Schools and Secondary Schools