



At our Nursery we follow the practices, principles and philosophy of Dr. Maria Montessori and this relates closely to the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS).

The EYFS is a framework of delivery of care and education in the early years.

The Four EYFS Principles:

A Unique Child

Positive Relationships

Enabling Environments

Learning and Development

Denning Montessori School
Established 1991

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Please visit our website for more information on Montessori and links to the Early Years Foundation Stage:
www.DenningMontessoriSchool.com
See Our Parent Library
Attend Parent Information Evenings

A Unique Child

Principle: Every child is a competent learner from birth who can be resilient, capable, confident and self-assured.

At The Denning Montessori School we recognise that each child is different, with individual needs that must be met. We believe that through careful observation, the staff can identify the interests, stages of learning and development of each child, and encourage them to develop their full potential. The Life Skills area (also known as practical life) is often the first focus for a new child, and this fosters their own desire to become independent. We value the importance of freedom for children to help them become resilient, capable, confident and self-assured people.



Positive Relationships

Principle: Children learn to be strong and independent from a base of loving and secure relationships with parents and/or a key person.



Children play our Nursery, ones to learn and learn together at enabling the younger from their older peers and feel secure and happy, so they can follow their natural rhythm of learning. We place importance on being part of the wider community through visits from the mobile library, community police officers and local outings. We highly value the strong partnership we maintain with parents, which helps children to be self confident and learn to live well together. The key person system also help to foster good relationships. Children are shown respect and in turn, they also show respect to those around them and to their environment.

Enabling Environments

Principle: The environment plays a key role in supporting and extending children's development and learning.

Our fully equipped Montessori classroom and well resourced garden areas provide the children with an ideal learning environment. The specific Montessori learning materials and additional resources we use, provide a means to sufficiently challenge each child as staff recognise and meet their individual requirements. Children like to learn through the process of an activity rather than the end result. For example, with each repetition of an enticing activity, the child's movements become more refined, s/he learns to solve problems more easily, his/her memory is strengthened, and his/her concentration becomes deeper. The staff observe children discreetly but carefully and use this information to assess their interests and learning and provide appropriate on going learning opportunities.

Learning and Development

Principle: Children develop and learn in different



ways and at different rates and all areas of Learning and Development are equally important and interconnected.

The six areas of learning identified through EYFS are also met through the Montessori curriculum. We recognise that areas of learning all overlap and each child learns in a way best to themselves. We know that children have different learning styles, and the strong emphasis on learning through the senses helps each child to learn effectively. Learning and development flourish when children are given time and space to follow their natural desire to touch, look, listen and work things out for themselves. The freedom of choice that we offer is an important aspect of children's learning.

