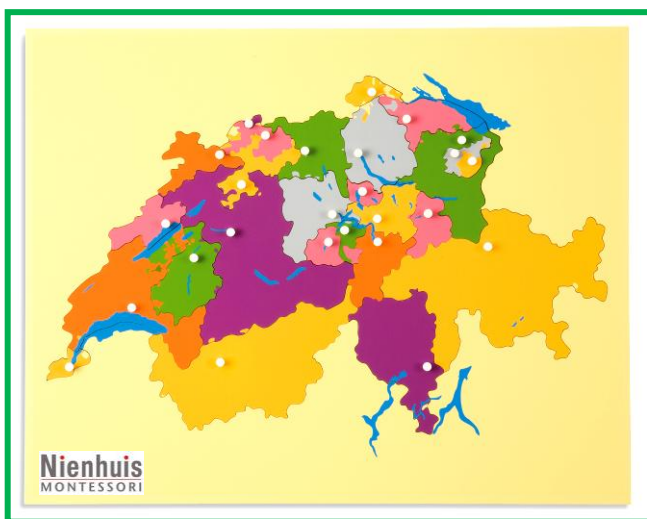


English Montessori School



*Swiss
Montessori
Centre*

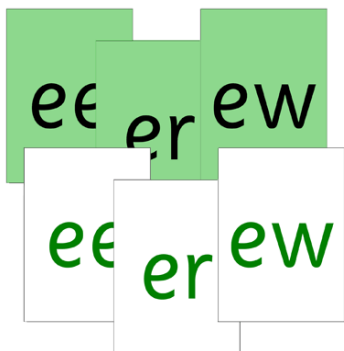


Puzzle map of Switzerland

English Montessori School

ENGLISH MONTESSORI CLASSES FOR CHILDREN FROM 3 TO 7 YEARS OF AGE

The SMC offers five days of weekly tuition (total of 20 hours a week): Monday till Friday from 08:00 to 12:00H. These class hours are equivalent to the 23 periods of 45 minutes a week required by the public school (HarmoS timetable). In keeping with the Montessori guidelines, the number of pupils attending the class is eighteen. The school is recognized by the canton of Neuchâtel.



English Montessori School



THE OWNER

The Swiss Montessori Centre is a leading institution, at both national and international level, in the field of the educational Montessori Method. The Swiss Montessori Centre (2010) is headed by Elisabeth Houweling, who previously founded the International Montessori School (IMS) of Neuchâtel (1986-2003). Following the sale of this institution, Ms Houweling completed a five-year Psychology and Education Certificate at the University of Neuchâtel.

English Montessori School

FACILITIES

A SPACIOUS CLASSROOM & AUDIENCE ROOM

A 100 square metre room is situated on the ground floor. English classes and educational & Montessori conferences are held in this space, which can comfortably host up to 100 people. This facility is used for exhibiting the Montessori materials for the education of children aged 3 to 7 as well as for conducting physical exercise with children such as walking on the line, rhythmical exercises and musical games.



A SMALLER CLASSROOM

A large custom-built sink is used by the pupils for Practical Life activities and group Art activities.

A collection of Montessori materials and books for sale are also exhibited in this space.

A KITCHEN

The kitchen is used for refreshments and snacks as well as for the preparation of paint projects.

OUTDOOR PLAYGROUND

An outdoor area with grass and equipment can be used by pupils for outdoor activities such as physical exercise, maintenance and botany & biology activities.

English Montessori School

CONCENTRATION

Montessori has developed a set of materials and a system of education in which the learning process is individualized to every child. She believed that deep concentration was essential for intellectual

development. According to her, this was best achieved through the use of materials.



sensorial: brown stair

English Montessori School



THE MONTESSORI PHILOSOPHY

MOVEMENT AND COGNITION

At a young age, children learn through movement and cognition. Based on this insight Montessori developed a method of education in which a great deal of object manipulation occurs.

FREE CHOICE

Montessori noted that children's intellectual development was enhanced with free choice and control. Indeed, Montessori children have the ability to control their learning process more so than children in traditional classrooms. In addition, children can choose to work alone or in self formed groups.

English Montessori School

ORDER

Research in psychology suggests that order is very helpful for the child's learning process and development. Therefore, in a Montessori classroom, everything is in its place and children work quietly. Montessori classrooms do not have tightly ordered daily schedules, but are very orderly in terms of how each task is performed by the children.

INTERNAL REWARDS

Montessori considered material rewards to be disruptive for a child's concentration. Self-achievement is likely to be the most important reward for a child. When adults provide clear limits but set children free, and respond to their needs while keeping high expectations, children show high levels of maturity, achievement, empathy, and other desirable characteristics (Lillard, 2007, pp. 18-22).



English Montessori School

SCHOOL PROGRAM

INDIVIDUAL ACTIVITIES

1. *Practical life exercises*
2. *Sensorial education*
3. *Development of language*
4. *Early preparation of the mathematical mind*
5. *Cultural education*



SMALL GROUP ACTIVITIES

Reading corner, cultural corner, topic centre and art- & paint corner.

GROUP ACTIVITIES

Stories, poems, songs, cultural lessons, puppet show, walking on the line, rhythmical exercises and musical games.

OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES

These are held in the school playground and in the very nearby public park & beach of Jeunes-Rives, including museum visits.



English Montessori School

SCHOOL RULES

1. *Children can attend the class if they are toilet-trained.*
2. *A confirmation of enrolment is given after a trial period of one month.*
3. *Parents should leave the school premises by 08:00 so as to enable pupils to concentrate on their work.*
4. *For safety purposes, the backdoor will be locked after 08:30.*
5. *No dummies, stuffed animals or other toys should be brought to the classroom so as to enable pupils to concentrate on their work.*
6. *Children should wear a pair of slippers or indoor shoes with good support in the classroom.*
7. *Each child should bring his/her own middle-sized plant.*
8. *It is suggested that children bring a healthy snack and drink to the classroom each day.*
9. *A rain jacket should be brought to class on days of bad weather*
10. *Children cannot be collected by unfamiliar individuals unless prior arrangements have been made with the teacher.*
11. *Parents must inform the school in written in case of absence (one or more days) or change of address.*
12. *Parents must inform the school prior to the start of class in case of illness.*
13. *No refund will be given for illnesses or other absences.*



English Montessori School

FEES ENGLISH KINDERGARTEN AND 1ST ELEMENTARY YEAR 2½ TILL 7 YEARS

HARMOS 0-1-2-3

5 MORNINGS: MONDAY TILL FRIDAY 08:00-12:00H

Registration fees are CHF 200.- for each school year

CHF per month	HarmoS	Hours	Fees
PRE-SCHOOL: 2½ -3 YEARS	0	20	600.-
KINDERGARTEN: 4 -5 YEARS	1&2	20	600.-
FIRST GRADE: 6 YEARS	3	20	650.-

Tuition must be paid on three occasions during the school year: at the beginning of July, November and March. A deduction of CHF 200.- is given if the entire tuition is paid at once. Registration fees are CHF 200.- for each year the child is enrolled. This amount is non-refundable. Please notify the SMC two months in advance of any permanent departure. In the event of a departure during the school year, two additional months of tuition will be billed.

**BANK ACCOUNT - ELISABETH HOUWELING-SWISS MONTESSORI
CENTRE: 0290-516021.01M, IBAN: CH80 0029 0290
5160 2101 M - UBS PLACE PURY 5, 2000 NEUCHÂTEL**

English Montessori School



MONTESSORI MATERIALS DISTRIBUTOR

The SMC is an official distributor of Nienhuis Montessori International B.V., the Netherlands, and is proud to offer individuals and institutions the opportunity to purchase Montessori materials at its premises. This constitutes a service that is unique to the French-speaking part of Switzerland.

PROMOTIONAL ACTIVITIES

The SMC offers a number of workshops and conferences about topics relevant to the Montessori Method so as to educate and inform parents, teachers and scientists. In addition, the SMC promotes the Montessori Method outside of its premises at conferences and continued professional development courses.

English Montessori School

Classroom



WRITING

It is in childhood that the motor mechanisms are in their sensitive stage. The hand of the child of six or seven has already lost its precious period of sensitivity to movement. While the hand of an infant of four is still uncoordinated but pliable; it strives to touch everything and to stabilize his various movements. Writing does not only require the work of three fingers, but also the cooperation of the fine movements of the whole hand (Montessori, 2007).



*Smaller classroom:
Practical Life,
Art activities
& display
Montessori
materials*