Policies & Procedures ("PP") - A. Our Vision, Ethos and Beliefs

## A. <OUR VISION, ETHOS AND BELIEFS>

(link Statutory Framework or  $SF^1$  s.1 p.6) At Montessori Garden Nursery School we consider every child to be a unique, beautiful, independent and creative individual with a huge amount to offer the world. The importance of the Early Years in a child's development cannot be over-emphasised and we believe in the natural capabilities of each child to effortlessly learn with joy. The enabling, prepared and favourable environment has a great influence in optimising education, learning and development, particularly during the early years, setting a solid base for a lifelong joy of learning. Rich experiences which cater for the needs of the children, before they reach statutory school age, establish strong foundations for preparing the child in many areas of human experiences throughout his/her life. In the pre-school years, the child's main rights are:

- the right to life, survival and development
- the right to love and security (protection from abuse and neglect)
- the right to new positive experiences (to positive relationships)
- the right to be heard (listened to, to express their opinions)
- the right to participate and play
- the right to be provided a framework of responsible behaviour

## A 1. Our Beliefs

First and foremost, nursery school should be deeply enjoyable and fulfilling! This is our main priority in everything we do. We aim to make learning a fun, exciting and challenging experience, which will give a solid foundation to the children for many years ahead. The habits and skills developed in early years will help children concentrate and work efficiently for a lifetime (Montessori, 2012).

A child's first nursery school is an important stepping stone. Our aim is to make this step as happy and as rewarding an experience as possible, helping each child to develop confidence, self-esteem, independence, concentration, social skills and self-discipline (Montessori, 2012).

We follow the Montessori philosophy of education, which recognises the importance of the early years in forming a child's character (self-esteem, passion, resilience, emotions) and talents in later life, aptitude for learning and respect for the world and others. Other research also shows us that early years experiences can also affect physical health in adulthood and we know that childhood language and culture is deeply engrained in adulthood. Children learn at their own pace, absorbing new information and concepts naturally (link SF s.1)

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- ✓ We believe the pre-school years are the **optimal** time for absorbing a wealth of information and creative, effortless and joyous learning.
- ✓ We are passionate about guiding each child to **reveal** his/her inner self and equipping him/her with the tools necessary for achieving their own objectives (we therefore do not believe in moulding the child's personality to fit external expectations).
- ✓ We believe that excellent Early Years education helps very young learners to become stimulated and excited by the fun of learning through play, which supports a **positive life-long attitude** to learning and succeeding.
- ✓ We believe we can serve our children best through a firm commitment to regular self-assessment, training and research.
- ✓ Our carefully structured programme combines a Montessori approach in delivering the Early Years Foundation Stage ("EYFS") Curriculum.

## A 2. The Greater Purpose

Our Greater Purpose is to transform the world of tomorrow into a beautiful garden of content and 'organic' humans blooming to each of their full potential, each offering a different shape, colour and perspective to the variety rich human experience!

It is the environment that has a crucial influence during the early years and we recognise that the environment includes all the humans each child has interactions with in addition to the classroom, home and locality which the child frequents.

Each of our Montessori Gardener's role is therefore much more than a job, it's a transformative and rewarding role where each detail of our being carries into the next generation and to implement this potential, we strive to fulfil our own full potential, each of us offering a different shape, colour and perspective to the MG Team!

We realise our purpose by providing more than childcare, we offer lasting education tailored to each child's individual needs and interests, within the EYFS framework and by applying the Montessori philosophy and curriculum. We communicate regularly, openly and honestly with each other, parents and carers about each child's holistic experiences with us, building lifelong skills of independence and the love of learning.

In pursuit of the Greater Purpose, we aim to support Working Parents by bringing the Montessori philosophy and curriculum available within a full-time and all-year-round childcare format. We aim to support those within the child's immediate environment to our best abilities, within the framework of our Policies and Procedures.

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