

The Georgian Montessori Primary School CLG

40 Belvedere Place

Dublin 1

Ireland

Email: admin@thegeorgianmontessori.com

Phone: 01 5674988



Statement of Purpose and Function

The purpose of The Georgian Montessori Primary School CLG is to provide a secure, safe environment where children can achieve their true potential using the Montessori Method. It is a parent run school and is classified as a full-day care service under the Child Care Act 1991 (Early Years Services) Regulations 2016.

Principle

This policy is underwritten by the Child Care Act 1991 (Early Years Services) Regulations 2016.

Rationale

The Georgian Montessori Primary School aspires to become a leader in the field of education of the whole child. This means bringing a holistic mind, body and heart approach to our work and draws on the educational system created by Maria Montessori. This aspiration is underpinned by a promise to educate ALL children, including vulnerable children and children with disability, so they have happier childhoods and achieve their full potential.

We recognise that the national school curriculum is not appropriate for all children. We understand that education is not a 'one size fits all'. As a result, The Georgian Montessori Primary School was established to provide a unique educational environment and to provide an alternative education option for parents including children with intellectual and physical disabilities. Children with special needs will excel in a Montessori environment. Students are encouraged to move ahead at their own pace in a multi-sensory environment. This ensures a high degree of stimulation. Disabled children also derive great benefit from observing other children. In essence, the Montessori method embraces uniqueness.

The Georgian Montessori provides an environment to support the learning of children from pre-school to 6th class. It is open for 52 weeks per year from 1st September to 31st August. We can cater for 50 children at any one time. The school has dedicated teachers and staff who are committed to high academic standards. The school provides a rich and diverse curriculum catering for the needs of each individual student.

Our Purpose

- To provide a secure, safe, inclusive and non-bias environment where children can reach their full potential using the Montessori method
- Promote and provide assistance towards the education of children in social or economic disadvantage;
- To provide a Montessori education for and promote and advance the welfare of children, young people and their families whose lives may have been affected by economic, social or other disadvantage or loss.
- To ensure that children from all cultures are respected and welcomed as per our Inclusion, Equality and Diversity Policy.
- Ensure that we have no barriers to entry in our school.
- To provide Montessori classrooms that are beautifully crafted environments designed to meet the needs of children in a specific age range. Dr. Maria Montessori discovered

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that experiential learning in this type of classroom led to a deeper understanding of language, mathematics, science, music, social interactions and much more.

- To ensure that all material in our classrooms supports an aspect of child development, creating a match between the child's natural interests and the available activities.
- Encourage every child to learn through their own experience and at their own pace. That way they can respond at any moment to the natural curiosities that exist in all humans and build a solid foundation for life-long learning.
- As custodians, the Board of Management will endeavour to ensure that good governance is adhered to at all times.

The following outlines the reasons why a child/children would benefit from a Montessori Education:

The Prepared Environment

Montessori classrooms are prepared in advance based on observations of the students' individual needs. They include student-centered lessons and activities. Traditional classrooms are based on teacher-lead lessons or activities.

Active vs. Passive

Montessori lessons are hands-on and active. Students discover information for themselves. Traditional school lessons are often orated to students who listen passively, memorize, and take tests.

Providing Time

In the Montessori classroom, children work on lessons as long as need be, and interruptions are avoided whenever possible. Time limitations are mandated by arbitrary schedules in traditional classrooms.

The Teachers' Role

Montessori teachers act as guides and consultants to students on a one-on-one basis. They assist each child along his or her own learning path. Traditionally, the pace and order of each lesson is predetermined. The teacher must deliver the same lesson, at the same pace, in the same order, for all of the students.

Age Groups and Grade-levels

In Montessori schools, "class levels" are flexible and determined by the child's developmental range, 3-6, 6-9, 9-12, years of age. In traditional schools, class levels are not flexible and strictly defined by chronological age within a twelve-month period.

Adaptable Curricula

Montessori curricula expand in response to the students' needs. Traditional curricula are predetermined without regard to student needs.

The individual child's work pace is honoured and encouraged in the Montessori classroom. Traditional classrooms expect all children to work at the same pace.

Self-Made Self-Esteem

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Montessorians understand that the child's self-esteem comes from an internal sense of pride in his or her own accomplishments. In traditional classrooms, self-esteem is thought to come from external judgement and validation.

Love of Learning

Montessori curricula are intended to appeal to the child's innate hunger for knowledge. Children learn to love learning. Traditional curricula focus on standardized test performance and grades. Children learn because it is mandatory.

Change is Good

The Montessori Method was created by Maria Montessori and is based on a lifetime of study and observation with regard to the way children really learn. Traditional education is based on tradition.

The Georgian Montessori Beliefs for every Child

- needs feel safe, have enough food and somewhere comfortable to call home
- needs to have someone who looks after them and loves them no matter what
- should have the opportunity to learn and have fun
- needs to feel accepted for who they are and to be part of a circle of family, friends and community who will understand them and value their opinions
- should get help when they need it

Setting Details

Name of Setting	The Georgian Montessori Primary School
Address	40 Belvedere Place, Dublin 1
Eircode	D01 V4F5
Contact Person	Suzie O'Neill
Position in Setting	School Directress
Contact Telephone Number	01 5674988
Email address	admin@thegeorgianmontessori.com

Description of Setting

Type of Setting	Full pre-school, primary school and afterschool care
Curriculum/Programme being followed	Full national school curriculum covered using the Montessori method.
Dates open	Daycare: All year round but closed Bank Holidays School: Open from September to June ECCE: Open from September to June

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Opening hours	8am to 6pm
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Number of Children and Staff

School Only	Number of Children	Adult Child Ratio
0-1 years	Nil	N/A
1-2 years	Nil	N/A
2-3 years	Nil	N/A
3-5 years	22 (approx.)	1:11
6-8 years	15 (approx.)	1:15
9-12 years	13 (approx.)	1:20
Total number of children	50	
Total number of staff	7	

Corporate Governance Structure

Title	Area of Responsibility	Current Position Holder
Director	School Director/School Principal. Responsible for children's interests, classroom organisation, curriculum and school books. Manager of the other teaching staff.	Suzie O'Neill
Director	Chairman Board of Management Responsible for chairing the monthly Board of Management meetings. Also responsible for maintenance of school building.	Neil O'Leary
Director	Operations Director. Responsible for parent communication, TUSLA compliance and general administration manager.	Maedbh Counihan
Director	Finance. Responsible for supplier payments, payroll, annual audit, monthly management accounts and forecasts.	Catherine Melody
Company Secretary	Responsible for maintaining our public record at the Company's Registration Office and for co-ordinating the monthly meetings	Pragatheswari Rajavel
Teacher Liaison	Represents the concerns of the teachers at	Suzanne O'Neill

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	the Board of Management meetings.	
Parent Liaison	Represents the concerns of the parents at the Board of Management meetings.	Michelle Kenny

Person Responsible: _____

This policy was adopted by The Georgian Montessori Primary School CLG on date: _____

Signed by: _____ on behalf of the Board of Management.

Review date: _____

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