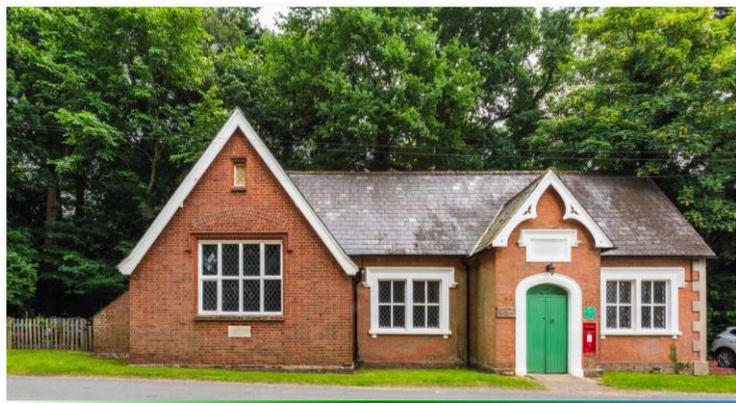


The Little House



Montessori Nursery School

Prospectus



“Education is a natural process carried out by the child and is not acquired by listening to words but by experiences in the environment.”

Dr Maria Montessori





Introduction

The Little House Montessori Nursery School is a small, graduate led Montessori pre-school with a reputation for providing high-quality care and education. It offers ideal preparation for school in a calm, nurturing and loving environment. The setting is owned and run by Mrs D. (Julie) Price a qualified Montessori Directress.

The school was originally founded in 1996 and is based in an attractive Church Hall in the rural village of Burstow. It is within easy access of Horley, Crawley, Redhill, East Grinstead and surrounding villages.

Children are welcomed from age 2 to 5 years, into small class sizes led by experienced and qualified staff committed to delivering a genuine Montessori education. Morning sessions are held every weekday during term time, with optional extended days Monday to Thursday.

Our Vision

Our vision at The Little House is to support every child in their quest to become the best they can be, through engaging them in our rich learning environment and caring for them with genuine affection.

We foster a passion for learning and exploration that will last your child a lifetime and instil in them moral values which respect the environment as well as people and their cultures.

Our children will leave us with excellent skills of independence, an ability to engage in meaningful play, and knowledge that they are capable, loveable, and valuable members of the community.

Contact Details

Head of School: Mrs D. (Julie) Price
Diploma in Montessori Pedagogy
(Birth to Seven)
Bsc (Hons) Environmental Studies

Email: info@littlehousenursery.org
Website: www.littlehousenursery.org

School Address: John Flamsteed Hall
Church Road
Burstow, RH6 9RG

School
Telephone: 07938 524184
Session times only

Correspondence Address: 2 Holly Lea,
Jacobs Well
Guildford
Surrey
GU4 7PG



General Information

Age

Children are accepted from 2 years and can attend the setting until the end of the term in which their 5th birthday falls.

Hours/Attendance

Morning sessions run every weekday during term time 9.15 a.m. – 12.30 p.m. Extended sessions operate Monday through Thursday 9.15 a.m. – 2.30 p.m. for children aged 3 years and over. Children must attend a minimum of two sessions per week at age 2 years, and we expect children to attend 3 extended sessions or 5 morning sessions once they claim the Early Years Free Entitlement.

Snack

A drink of water or milk, as well as a selection of fruit and vegetables are provided by the school for snack. Drinking water is available throughout the session. Parents are asked to provide their child with a packed lunch in line with our healthy eating policy.

Clothing

Children should wear comfortable clothing which they can manage by themselves. Items of clothing embroidered with the nursery logo can be purchased from the nursery (Fleece jacket £10.00: Polo shirt £7.00). Please provide a pair of plimsolls and a pair of wellington boots to be kept at school. These items must be clearly named so your child can recognise them.

Record Keeping and Reporting to Parents



Teachers use pioneering software that helps them to deliver the best possible educational experience for young children. They use the system to record the activities your child engages in and to share information with you.

Your child's key person will regularly review the collective observations and use them to plan future activities for your child. Parents have access to view photographs and records of our observations through a dedicated secure website.

Your child's key person will share information with you regularly and will meet with you during the first three weeks for a 'settling-in review', which may also include a '2 year check' if your child is under 36 months. In addition you will be invited to meet with your child's key person at the nursery once a term for a more formal review of your child's progress. If there is anything you wish to discuss with Mrs Price you may of course speak to her at the nursery, by telephone, by appointment or via email.

Equal Opportunities

We welcome all children and their families regardless of ethnicity, culture or religion, gender, or ability.

Admission

A child's place is confirmed upon receipt of the Registration Form and Registration Fee of



Montessori Nursery School

£45.00. Priority is given to children who solely attend The Little House Montessori Nursery School. Fees are due termly in advance. A full term's notice or fees in lieu will be payable if a child is not continuing at nursery school or reduces their weekly sessions.



Our Aims

Important Note

We strongly recommend children do not attend other pre-school settings, as this is not compatible with the Montessori approach of care and education.

- To create a happy, calm, industrious classroom.
- To provide stimulating activities and expert guidance to further every child's individual development.
- To increase children's self-motivation and independence.
- To help children develop their powers of concentration and self-discipline.
- To promote children's personal, emotional, social, moral, and spiritual development.
- To encourage the development of children's physical control, mobility, awareness of space and manipulative skills in an indoor and outdoor environment.
- To give children a thorough grasp of the English language, including developing competence in talking, listening and in becoming readers and writers.
- To provide children with a thorough foundation of numeracy through practical activity.
- To establish a firm link with the real world, thereby encouraging a love of nature.
- To provide a foundation for historical, geographical, scientific, and technological learning.
- To develop the child's imagination, ability to communicate and express ideas and feelings in creative ways.
- To include parents in their child's journey of learning and development and offer support and guidance on their own journey as parents of young children.

"By the age of three the child has already laid down the foundation of his personality as a human being and only then does he need the help of special scholastic influences"

Maria Montessori



Our Montessori Classroom

Montessori philosophy is a child-centred developmental educational method, based on theories of child development originated by Italian educator Maria Montessori (1870-1952).

Maria Montessori believed the early years of a child's life to be the most important for developing the child's intelligence.

Entering our classroom, you will immediately notice a calm but busy atmosphere, where the children are involved in small group or individual activities. The equipment they are using was largely designed by Maria Montessori, to develop the child's concentration co-ordination and independence. The children are given freedom within a structured environment to choose activities that interest them, and to work with the materials for as long as they need. We support the need for each child to develop their learning and their own individual pace

Montessori teachers closely observe each individual child, kindly and gently directing them in their learning rather than entertaining them or telling them what to do. When a teacher notices an interest awakening in the child, she introduces him to an activity that will satisfy his/her learning desire.

Nothing in our classroom is there by accident; every activity is there for a reason and has a specific purpose. Specially designed Montessori activities aid the child's development of their sensory, numeric, language, scientific and practical skills. Current research in paediatric neuropsychology supports Maria Montessori's observation that the child's brain is constructed by movement. For children to make sense of the world, they need to experience with their senses, need to touch, move, manipulate, smell, taste, and construct. All Montessori activities require the child to be active, or 'hands-on'.

In our classroom, mistakes are a means of learning. 'How could I make this work?' is the question which keeps our children busy and motivated. "I did it all by myself" is a phrase we hear every day accompanied with the big smiles on our children's faces. Our children do not need rewards or stickers, but develop their self-esteem and self-respect naturally, and children who feel self-respect, naturally learn to respect others as well.



Your Child's Day

- 9.15 Children arrive, change into plimsolls and self-register
Whilst your child is settling, we would ask a parent to come in to help them with this part of the day.
- 9.20 Free choice, child or adult-led individual or small group activities* from the Montessori curriculum, including access to the outside area and the opportunity for walks in the surrounding countryside
- 10.15 Snack available
- 12.10 Group circle time, including lessons of Grace and Courtesy, sharing of news, singing and/or story time*
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|--|--|
| <i>Morning only children</i> | <i>Children staying for extended session</i> |
| 12.20 Put on outdoor clothing and collect items for home | Toilet and wash hands |
| 12.30 Children collected | Take place at the lunch table |
| 13.15 | Afternoon activity
Monday – Tots in Sports
Tuesday – Science
Wednesday – Dance First
Thursday – Yoga |
| 14.20 | Put on outdoor clothing and collect items for home |
| 14.30 | Children collected |

** Inclusion in group activities is optional for all children*



Curriculum

The well planned and resourced curriculum has been developed to take children's learning forward and to provide opportunities for all children to feel valued and to achieve success.

The resources and equipment in the nursery are prepared and set out to reflect the Montessori philosophy of education and include a wide range of Montessori materials and activities. The Montessori curriculum works in harmony with the areas of learning and development as set out in the Early Years Foundation Stage, as shown below:

Montessori Curriculum Areas

EYFS Areas of Learning and Development

Practical Life

Personal, Social and Emotional Development
Physical Development

Sensorial

Understanding the World
Mathematics
Expressive Arts and Design

Language

Communication and Language
Literacy

Mathematics

Mathematics

Cultural

Understanding the World

Creative

Expressive Arts and Design
Physical Development

The children have daily access to a secure outdoor area with an all-weather surface, and enjoy walks through the surrounding countryside.

The practitioners work closely with parents to enable each child to develop to their full potential, and to provide support through each child's transition to their Primary School. We respect each parent/carer's role as the child's first educator and endeavour to develop a strong and effective partnership with each parent/carer. We provide regular information in a variety of ways including our website, the My Montessori Child system, notices, meetings, and progress reports.



Staff

The nursery is owned and managed by Mrs Price, she is supported by Miss Helena, Miss Charlotte and Miss Sophie who are also highly qualified and experienced childcare workers. Research tells us that the qualification level of practitioners has a direct bearing on the well-being and outcomes for young children. All practitioners hold, or are studying towards, a relevant childcare qualification and attend regular courses to further their professional development.

Additional DBS checked support staff are available as necessary.



School Fees – September 2020

Children not in receipt of Early Years Free Entitlement funding

Morning Session

9.15 a.m. - 12.30 p.m. £19.95

Extended Session – available the term a child turns 3 years

9.15 a.m. – 2.30 p.m. £31.95

Early Years Free Entitlement for 3 & 4 Year Olds

All families are entitled to claim Early Years Free Entitlement from the term following their child's third birthday through the registered provider. This allows parents to claim a maximum of 15 hours a week of early education for 38 weeks a year, completely free of charge. Once children are claiming this entitlement, we require them to attend a minimum of 3 extended sessions or 5 morning sessions each week.

Some families where both parents are working (or sole parent in the case of lone parent families) will be able to claim up to 30 hours funding, although a maximum of 23 hours may be taken at The Little House due to operating restrictions.

Morning Session	Hours Funded*	Additional Cost
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9.15 a.m. - 12.30 p.m.	3	£6.95
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Extended Session

9.15 p.m. - 2.30 p.m.	5	£9.95
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*Please remember you can only claim a maximum of either 15 or 30 hours per week depending on your circumstances, including hours claimed through another Early Years provider. If your child's attendance exceeds this limit additional hours will be charged at £6.00 per hour.

Fees are payable termly in advance and a full term's notice must be given in writing when a child is to leave nursery, otherwise a full term's fees must be paid. Full payment must be received within seven days, unless alternative arrangements have been agreed, otherwise a charge of



5% will be levied. Refunds will not be made for holiday taken in term time or other child absence.

Free Childcare for Two Year Olds (FEET)

Some families are entitled claim FEET from the term following their child's second birthday. This allows parents to claim a maximum of 15 hours a week of early education for 38 weeks a year, completely free of charge. Information is available from Surrey Family Information Service, please use the following link to find out more.

<https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/people-and-community/family-information-service/choosing-childcare-for-children-and-young-people/paying-for-childcare/free-early-education-for-2-year-olds-fee>

If your child is entitled to claim this funding, we require them to attend 5 mornings per week.

Childcare Choices

The government offers additional financial support to some families to help with childcare costs. For more information please go the following website

<https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk>

Late Collection Charge

Children must arrive and depart on time. Please note a late collection charge of £20.00 will be levied for every 15 minutes, or part thereof, for late collections. Should you be unavoidably delayed it is essential you notify us using the school telephone number.



Term Dates

Autumn Term 2021

Monday 6 September	Term Begins
Monday 25 October to Friday 29 October	Half Term
Friday 17 December	Term Ends

Spring Term 2022

Tuesday 10 January	Term Begins
Monday 14 February to Friday 18 February	Half Term
Friday 1 April	Term Ends

Summer Term 2022

Tuesday 19 April	Term Begins
Monday 30 May to Friday 3 June	Half Term
Friday 22 July	Term Ends