



INFINITE SCHOOLS

INFORMATION PACK



Modderfontein Montessori School CC T/A Infinite Schools
CK No. 2010 / 003608 / 23

ADDRESS:

School: 2 Harley Street, Modderfontein, 1609

<https://www.infiniteschools.co.za>

CONTACT PEOPLE AND DETAILS:

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Sunita Parmar (Head of School) – sunita@mmontessori.co.za

"From birth to age six, a child learns more rapidly than any other time in his/her life"



Modderfontein
Montessori School

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Cambridge Assessment
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OUR MISSION STATEMENT

Based on the philosophy and methodology of Maria Montessori we are committed to providing high quality childcare while nurturing our students from early childhood education into well rounded young adults, ready to face an ever changing and demanding world. We aim to cultivate a life-long love of learning in our students and inspire them to realise their full potential while enjoying life's journey and positively contributing to the world around them. Our responsibility is to nurture, guide, educate and prepare the child to become a happy and independent adult. Our philosophy seeks to nourish the child's spirit, imagination, creativity and intellect by providing a safe, fostering environment where every child's emotional, physical and social needs are respected and fulfilled. The school environment is designed around the needs of the child, staffed by credentialed Teachers, Guides and trained classroom assistants.

OUR SCHOOL CATERS FOR STUDENTS FROM 6 MONTHS TO 18 YEARS

- **Pre-toddlers** from babies to 1 years of age
- **Toddlers** from 2 years to 3 years of age
- **Pre-school** from 3 years to 6 years of age
- **Primary school** from age 6 years to 12 years of age
- **Middle School** from age 12 to 15 years of age
- **High School** from age 15 to 18 years of age

We are a private school and run on the four-term independent school calendar





INFINITE SCHOOLS



MONTESSORI 18 MONTHS TO 12 YEARS OLD

A MONTESSORI EDUCATION PROMOTES

- ✓ A love of learning
- ✓ Concentration
- ✓ Self-discipline
- ✓ Sociability in joyful work
- ✓ Mutual aid and co-operation

HOW A MONTESSORI EDUCATION WILL BENEFIT YOUR CHILD

- ✓ Personal, social and emotional development
- ✓ Life skills
- ✓ Sensorial experiences
- ✓ Communication, language and literacy
- ✓ Mathematical development
- ✓ Knowledge and understanding about our world – cultural studies
- ✓ Physical development
- ✓ Creative and imagination development based on reality
- ✓ Music lessons provided by the school
- ✓ Toddler children have free choice of activity within a protected two-hour work cycle in a specially designed Montessori prepared environment
- ✓ Pre-school children have free choice of activity within a protected three-hour work cycle in a specially designed Montessori prepared environment
- ✓ Our classes consist of vertical age grouping
- ✓ The Montessori Guide (teacher), directs the child towards work
- ✓ Independence – “Help me to do it myself”





THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN MONTESSORI & TRADITIONAL TEACHING

"Imagine if schools actually helped their kids identify your child's strengths by exploring their talents from a young age and growing their skills over 18 years, instead of letting them follow the same routine like sheep and leaving them confused in life after graduation." Tallie Dar

The goal of both Montessori and Traditional schooling is the same, to provide learning experiences for the child. The biggest differences lie in the type of learning experience each methodology provides to accomplish this goal. Montessori educators believe (both differences) are important because they help shape what a child learns, his work habits, and his future attitudes toward himself and the world around him.

Montessori	Traditional
✓ Emphasis on Cognitive and Social Development	Emphasis on Rote Learning and Social Behaviour
✓ Guide has guiding role	Teacher controls classroom
✓ Environment and method encourage self-discipline	Teacher acts as primary enforcer of discipline
✓ Mainly individual instruction	Mainly group instruction
✓ Mixed age groups	Same age groups
✓ Grouping encourages children to teach and collaborate	Teaching is done by teacher; collaboration is discouraged
✓ Child chooses own work	Curriculum structured for child
✓ Child discovers own concepts from self-teaching materials	Child is guided to concepts by teacher
✓ Child is allocated time to work on and complete lesson	Child generally allotted specific time for work
✓ Child sets own learning pace	Instruction pace set by group
✓ Child spots own errors from feedback of material	Errors in child's work highlighted by teacher
✓ Child reinforces own learning by repetition of work and internal feelings of success	Learning is reinforced externally by repetition, rewards and punishment
✓ Child can work where he/she chooses, move about and talk at will (yet not disturb work of others), group work voluntary	Child usually assigned seat; required to participate during group lessons
✓ Multi-sensory materials for physical exploration organizes program for learning care of self and environment	No organised program for self-care instruction - left primarily up to parents





INFINITE SCHOOLS



(31 August 1870 – 6 May 1952)

Maria MONTESSORI bequeathed to us a school of thought. It stems from a spiritual attitude towards mankind, and mankind begins with childhood. This has given rise to a form of pre-school education, founded in Italy in the 19th century, which gives 21st century children an excellent start in life.

MARIA MONTESSORI was born in Italy and was Italy's first female doctor. Her training in psychology, physiology and neurology was extensive. Her first job was at the psychiatric clinic of the University of Rome. She had a very special affinity for and a great appreciation of the potential of children and decided to make the transition from medicine to education.

In 1899 Dr Montessori attracted the attention of the Minister of Education, who commissioned Maria to give a series of lectures to teachers. In 1901 she returned to university to study experimental psychology and philosophy. In 1906 Montessori initiated her educational methods amongst the normal children. She was nominated three times for a Nobel Peace Prize. In 1950 she became the Italian delegate to UNESCO.

Montessori insightfully described children as: "the forgotten citizens" who had never been accorded their rights. For, within the child there is the possibility of the true nature of man being realised, the perfect union of body and soul, the compound that is there to be attained in the right soil.

International recognition came quickly the Montessori movement spread all over the world. The first Montessori training course was given in 1909. Montessori travelled extensively lecturing in many countries worldwide.

Montessori stressed the need for a **prepared environment**, which maximizes the special creative periods of a young person's development. The child loves to use his own will, and this is strengthened by his freedom to choose an activity at his own level, from the prepared environment. The immediate use of maximum effort at the instigation of a person's own will brings new self-mastery coupled with a serene and joyous disposition.





CAMBRIDGE ASSESMENT INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION 12 TO 18 YEARS OLD

Our High School follows the Cambridge Assessment International Education Curriculum. While the Montessori philosophy is carried through this age group, the students education is geared towards the Cambridge model for their education.

CURRICULUM:

The Cambridge curriculum offers student 3 possible exits from High School. Children can exit with IGCSE, AS Levels or A Levels depending on their career path, passion and abilities.

In Middle school (12 – 15 years old) children set the foundation for their subject choices which will be carried through to High School (15 – 18 years old).

Starting from a foundation of core subjects, children are exposed to cross-curricular perspectives. Children are encouraged to engage with a variety of subjects and make connections between them. Cambridge IGCSE offers a flexible and stimulating curriculum in High School 15-18 Year phase.

Cambridge IGCSE develops learner knowledge, understanding and skills in:

- Subject content
- Applying knowledge and understanding to new as well as unfamiliar situations
- Intellectual enquiry
- Flexibility and responsiveness to change
- Working and communicating in English
- Influencing outcomes
- Cultural awareness.

Cambridge Advanced (A and AS Levels) builds on the foundations of Cambridge IGCSE. Students take internationally recognised Cambridge International AS & A Level. The syllabuses develop a deep understanding of subjects and critical independent thinking skills. Students have an increased chance of university entrance by exiting their High School with Cambridge International AS Levels or A Levels.

HIGH SCHOOL ASSESMENT OPTIONS

After having selected their subjects, students can choose from a range of assessment options to gain Cambridge International AS & A Level qualifications:

1. Take the Cambridge International AS Level only. This builds on the foundation of the IGCSE level.
2. Take a 'staged' assessment route – take the Cambridge International AS Level in one examination series and complete the final Cambridge International A Level at subsequent series.
3. Take all papers of the Cambridge International A Level course in the same examination session, usually at the end of the course.



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Cambridge Assessment International Education is the world's largest provider of international education programmes and qualifications for 12 to 18 year olds. Over 10 000 schools in more than 160 countries belong to the Cambridge community.

For more information please refer to our website: www.infiniteschools.co.za



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CODE OF CONDUCT

Following a code of conduct protects the rights and liberty of each individual Student and Staff member. They promote the internalization of good social behaviours and values including:

- Self-control of impulses
- Consideration of others and
- A sense of responsibility for oneself and the welfare of the group.

Ground rules can help to make life at school easier, the days run more smoothly, enable children to be more independent, and help to develop responsibility. The number of rules is generally kept to a minimum, stated and presented in a positive manner with the emphasis on safety, respect for others and the environment, and the results benefit all members of the group.

No child may threaten any other person physically or verbally, use racist, offensive or derogatory language, harass another person, bully or steal.

The children are made aware of behaviour which is acceptable and that which is not. Issues arising between children are always discussed with them first. Parents will be called in to discuss discipline problems if need be. If a disciplinary problem does arise, it is dealt with individually, keeping the child's self-esteem as our priority.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

*Please note: - The below service providers are **independent companies at an additional cost.***

- Swimming Lessons (water safety, learn to swim and stroke correction)
- Piano Lessons, Guitar Lessons
- Kinder Musik
- French
- Coding & Robotics
- Chess
- Soccer Stars
- Growing Pro (Sport Fitness)
- Karate
- Yoga
- Ballet
- Phyz Ed (Physical Education)
- Krafty Kids (Art)
- Build Em Brix (Lego)

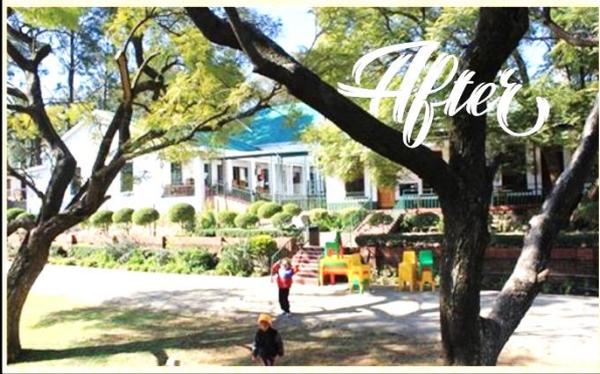
TRANSPORT SERVICES: *There are several independent transport services available. Please contact them directly.*



INFINITE SCHOOLS

MAKING OUR DREAM A REALITY

With the massive expansion happening in Greenstone, Modderfontein and surrounding areas we saw the need for opening a Montessori School in the heart of Modderfontein. **We opened our first classroom in 2010.**



Together with my family we opened Modderfontein Montessori Pre-School catering for children from age 18 months to 6 years old. I previously owned and worked in Montessori schools for nearly 30 Years. Our Pre-school was well established and due to the high demand from our parents, we expanded to Montessori Primary School as well.

Our children, at all ages, **benefit from our full-time music teacher** through their weekly music lessons. Our Primary school children learn how to read music and play a variety of instruments. The 6-12 children are also given an opportunity to learn basic French and Zulu as bonuses to the curriculum.

We also offer chess and piano as extra mural activities. Besides many other extra mural activities, the school offers, there is a **Swim school opposite our own school**. We regard learning how to swim as an important extra mural activity for your child. Modderfontein Swim School has a staff member who fetches the children from our school, helps them change and brings them back

to the school. The swimming pool is covered and heated to ensure all year swim lessons (www.modderfonteinswimschool.co.za).

“**Montessori**” has become a household name and parents can make their choices on experiences or well published information via the internet. It is an alternative form of education based on the individual characters and learning abilities of each individual child.

Montessori classrooms include mixed ages and mixed skill-levels, generally divided into three-year groups (i.e. 3-6-year olds, 6-9-year olds and 9-12-year olds). Peer learning is encouraged as the young ones learn through observing their older friends and the older children solidify their knowledge and gain valuable leadership skills through giving lessons to the younger children. Each classroom is divided into a specific are of learning.

Practical Life consists of exercises to help children learn skills used in everyday life. For young children, this includes carefully pouring water, tying their shoe laces or scrubbing a table etc. For older children, this includes things like budgeting and starting a small business.

Sensorial exercises were designed by Montessori to cover every quality that can be perceived by the senses such as size, shape, composition, texture, loudness or softness, matching, weight, temperature, etc. Because the exercises cover such a wide range of senses, Montessori categorised these into eight different groups: Visual, Tactile, Baric, Thermic, Auditory, Olfactory, Gustatory and Streognostic.

Everything in the classroom consists of real child size materials. Their environments are beautifully prepared every day and displayed in the five main areas of the classroom, namely *Practical Life, Sensorial, Language, Mathematics and Cultural*.

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A Montessori guide's job is to observe the children and introduce them to the academic materials at just the right time. She is often hard to find in the classroom, as she is generally working one-on-one with a child, rather than standing at the front of the room talking to the whole group. **Maria Montessori** saw the role of the teacher as providing children with tools for learning, rather than pouring knowledge and facts into them.

We have a wonderful team of teachers and assistant teachers. Our Principal, Sunita believes in an open-door philosophy to both the parents and children within our school. She is often seen having long conversations with the children in her office or on the school grounds.

I therefore invite parents who are interested in a Montessori education for their children to contact us on 011 6080902 or 083 229 1247 to book a tour of our beautiful School. Please have a look at our website www.mmontessori.co.za and visit our Facebook page or follow us on Instagram for more information.



Sincerely,

Shineen Klein

Founder of Modderfontein Montessori School

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