



Henley Village Montessori Nursery

PROSPECTUS

2021/2022

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Introduction

Welcome to Henley Village Montessori Nursery School, a Montessori Nursery in the heart of Henley-on-Thames, for one to five-and-a-half year olds.

Our philosophy is 'Lotus, Leatus, Discere' which translates to 'A happy place to learn'.

We pride ourselves in meeting the needs, not only of the children in our care, but of our community as a whole. We are here to support children, and their families, through the Early Years, to become confident, lifelong learners, with the skills and aptitude to thrive through all of life's adventures.

We are a highly qualified team of experienced and knowledgeable teachers who are passionate about the Montessori way of educating.

A day at Henley Village Montessori Nursery School

08:45 – 09:00 Doors open, welcome and settling in time.

Whilst we understand that unforeseeable delays do occur, we request that all children are dropped off and that parents have said their good-bye's by 9:00. This is due to a number of reasons, namely the three-hour work cycle which is a very important aspect of our Montessori day and we respect the children's time and structure.

9:15 - 10:00 Planned Activities in Small Groups

10:00 – 12:00 Individual Work Cycles

A Montessori environment is based on each child's individual developmental needs. There is no specific timetable as each child experiences their own 'sensitive periods' regarding their development. EVERY work cycle offered gives the children an opportunity to explore their environment and actively engage in activities that appeal to their needs.

The activities on offer during each work cycle:



- **Activities of Everyday Living** (independence, fine and gross motor skills, build concentration)
- **Sensorial Development** (development of the senses, foundation of all learning)
- **Numeracy and Arithmetic**
- **Language and Literature**
- **Knowledge and Understanding of the World** (botany, science, geography, zoology, history)
- **Creative Expression** (creative movement, musical exploration, drama, art and design)
- **Physical Development** (explorative movement, gross-motor and stability)

Note: Within this framework/Montessori learning environment, all seven areas of EYFS are met, namely Language and Communication, Physical Development, Personal, Social and Emotional Development (PSED), Literacy, Maths, Art and design and Understanding the world.

12:00 – 12:30 Lunch

The children are involved with the preparation of a meal, setting of tables, and then the experience of sitting down to a meal as a community. (A hot lunch* is supplied, as well as a salad and or vegetable side dish). Grace and Courtesy will be emphasized at these meals, as well as following correct eating etiquette. Emphasis is placed on healthy living and eating.



- 12:30 – 13:00** Children will be Planned Outdoor Activities
- 13:00 - 13:30** Younger Children have a sleep
- 12:30-13:00** Children help tidy up from lunch/ Play Outside
- 13:00-13:30** Planned Activities in Small Groups
- 13:30-15:30** Individual Work Cycles
- 15:30 – 16:00** Getting ready for home time/Story Time

Focus Activities

Outdoor Classroom and Forest School

We incorporate plenty of outdoor learning and experiences into our daily curriculum. To enhance this experience, we have set up our own Outdoor Classroom and Forest School at the Watermans Allotments. The children arrive at nursery, and then go on our school bus to the Outdoor Classroom. At our allotment and Outdoor Classroom there are many opportunities for both planned and self-directed learning to take place – from planting to harvesting, outdoor construction, bug studies and more! Just behind the allotment is a natural woodland area where the Forest School takes place. We have seven Outdoor Classroom trained members of staff who facilitate a diverse and nature focussed curriculum.

Yoga and Mindfulness Classes

The benefits of giving children an opportunity to learn and practice yoga and mindfulness are endless. The children show a keen interest in practicing this life skill and having their own 'me' time. The classes are designed for the children to have fun, explore and enjoy, and also to create an awareness of body, mind and spirit.

What to pack for your child for nursery

Please supply the following for your child to keep at school:

- Bedding – only for children who still nap during the day. (A small sheet, blanket, and pillow for naps. (Sleeping bags / sacks which are 'all in one' work well). Sleeping mats are supplied. Bedding will be returned home frequently, please wash and return.
- An extra change of clothing. We recommend that all children (especially those with developing toilet habits) bring several spare trousers to school. Any dirty laundry will be returned home to be cleaned and returned
- Sunhat and sun cream for the summer months.

What to pack for your child for the outdoor classroom

- Rain coat, wellington boots, a warm hat and mittens/gloves. All in one waterproofs.
- An extra change of clothing. We recommend that all children (especially those with developing toilet habits) bring several spare trousers to school. Any dirty laundry will be returned home to be cleaned and returned

Daily:

- Your child should come to school in comfortable clothing and shoes. This is a learning environment and it is highly likely (and encouraged) that your child may get messy, or accidentally damage clothing. Please also consider your child's movement and independence when selecting clothes. Some clothes that are tight, have advanced buckles and fasteners, or are long and flowing (for example 'skinny jeans', dungarees, long dresses/skirts) are cute, but restrict movement and independence)
- Please label all of your child's possessions clearly with his/her name.
- Long hair should be kept out of your child's face and nails kept short.

- Due to our healthy snacks and meals that are provided, as well as milk and water to drink, it is not necessary to send any food or drinks to school, unless your child has special dietary requirements (in which case please discuss with the nursery manager) or is drinking a formula milk.
- Children are encouraged not to bring toys from home. If a child really wants to, we advise parents to have a discussion with their child to explore some of the consequences of bringing the toy to nursery, such as “Is s/he prepared to share / look after the toy?” and to discuss the possibility that it may get damaged in some way. This helps to teach the children responsibility and aids them in thinking through a risk assessment which is a valuable life skill. Please note: if your child does bring something to school, we will do our best to guide your child (and others) to care for the item, however we (the staff) will not take responsibility for any items.
- All nappies and wipes will be provided by the school.

Policies and Procedures

Henley Village Montessori Nursery follows comprehensive and detailed Policies and Procedures with regards to Safeguarding, Education, Pastoral Care and Emergency practices. These Policies and Procedures are reviewed regularly to maintain a high standard of holistic education and safety for the children in our care. We encourage parents to read through these Policies and Procedures which are on MMC (My Montessori Child).

Safeguarding is a top priority at Henley Village Montessori Nursery, and for this reason we will email you a copy of our Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy as well as our Compliments, Complaints and Feedback Policy, upon enrolment.

Important Contact Numbers

Henley Village Montessori Nursery – 0771 318 7353

Police – If you think a child is in immediate danger call the police – 999

Ofsted – 0300 123 1231

Oxfordshire Safeguarding Children’s Board – 0186 581 5843

MASH (Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub) - 0345 0507666

Southern Oxfordshire Locality Social Workers – 0186 532 3041 or the

Emergency Duty Team 0800 833 408 NSPCC Helpline – (National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children) 0808 800 5000

Please see the parents notice board in the entrance hall and our Policies and Procedures for more contact details and information. If you are unsure about who to contact, then please feel free to discuss this with the Nursery Designate Safeguarding Lead or the Nursery Manager.

2021-2022 Term Dates

Autumn Term (1 st half)	Thurs 2 nd September – Fri 22 nd October 2021
Closed: Autumn Half Term	Monday 25 th & Tuesday 26 th October 2021
Autumn Term (2 nd half)	Fri 29 th October – Fri 17 th December 2021
Closed: Christmas Holiday	Mon 20 th December – Monday 3 rd January 2022
Spring Term (1 st half)	Weds 5 th January – Fri 18 th February 2022
Closed: Spring Half Term	Mon 21 st February & Tues 22 nd February 2022
Spring Term (2 nd half)	Thurs 24 th February – Fri 8 th April 2022
Closed: Easter Holiday	Mon 11 th April – Fri 22 nd April 2022
Summer Term (1 st half)	Mon 25 th April – Fri 27 th May 2022
Closed: Summer Half Term	Mon 30 th May & Tues 31 st May 2022
Summer Term (2 nd half)	Mon 6 th June – Friday 29 th July 2022