



Statement of Philosophy

Description

Gisborne Montessori School is a small, co-educational school of approximately 150 students, educating children from birth to 12 years of age. The school is situated on 10 acres, nestled at the foot of Mt Macedon. The school offers facilitated playgroup sessions, early learning classes (for ages 2 to 3), pre-school classes (ages 3 to 5) and primary school education from Foundation (prep) through to Grade 6.

Vision

Delivering an exceptional Montessori program which guides and inspires our students to become empathetic leaders and life long learners.

Mission

We provide quality Montessori education for all children enrolled at Gisborne Montessori School. We achieve this by employing Montessori qualified educators at all levels of the school and by having a carefully prepared environment to meet the developmental needs of each child at each level of the school. We also provide quality Montessori materials in our purpose built classrooms.

Values

Our values are based on the broad values of the Montessori philosophy, with emphasis on

- Respect
- Kindness
- Gratitude
- Creativity and
- Environment.

Objectives

Montessori education is an approach supporting the full development of the human being. As an educational system, it is used in over 22,000 schools worldwide and has a longer track record of success than any other educational approach in the world. The Montessori approach to education inspires children to a lifelong love of learning, by following each individual child's natural developmental trajectory. Children become confident, responsible and independent learners who trust in their own abilities.

Montessori education is grounded in a deep respect for the child as an individual. We aim for every child to be working to their potential through all areas of the curriculum. Our goal is for them to become independent, self-directed learners who achieve at or above expected national and state standards in all areas of the curriculum. Each child will do this in their own way, depending upon their individual learning style, individual aptitude and learning needs.

We enact our philosophy through three main pillars.

- 1 Montessori materials are hands on learning tools that allow each child to manipulate them until they have fully understood each concept before moving to the abstract.
- 2 All aspects of schooling are based on mutual respect and developing a deep sense of responsibility to themselves and to the world around them. We do this through Montessori's five great stories and through specific wellbeing and environmental programs.
- 3 We encourage all children to develop a strong sense of self, a keen desire to be independent learners, and to develop strong executive functioning skills through the way we work with each child as an individual.

Our statement of philosophy is published on our website, in the Parent and Staff Handbooks and is included in our enrolment packs.

Democratic Principles

In accordance with the Education and Reform Act 2006, Gisborne Montessori School will deliver programs and teaching in a manner that supports and promotes the principles and practice of Australian democracy. This includes a commitment to

- Elected government
- The rule of law
- Equal rights for all before the law
- Freedom of religion
- Freedom of speech and association
- The values of openness and tolerance