

The Little Learners



MONTESSORI

Established 1993

“The Little Learners strive to create a safe, secure and stimulating environment in which each individual child has the opportunity to develop their full potential”

# Welcome



**Teresa Hamilton-Heward**  
Founder

## Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Thank you for your interest in The Little Learners Montessori.

We understand that choosing the right nursery is one of the most important decisions you'll make as a parent.

With over 30 years of experience, our family-run nurseries are dedicated to providing a safe, secure, and stimulating environment where each child can develop to their full potential.

Our passionate staff and state-of-the-art resources support your child in building confidence, independence, and a natural love for learning.

We look forward to partnering with you on this exciting journey!

## Our Approach

- We believe children are naturally curious and learn best through practical engagement.
- Our focus is on the whole development of a child, strengthening their social, emotional, physical, and cognitive skills, in a nurturing and supportive prepared environment.
- Every child is treated with respect, their voice heard, and their individuality celebrated, creating a space where they feel valued, confident and free to express themselves.

## What Makes Us Special?



**Family run business with 30+ years of experience**



**State-of-the-art resources and Montessori materials**



**Authentic Montessori education and care**



**Passionate and experienced educators**



**Safe & stimulating environment**



**Award winning nurseries**



**Strong parent partnership**

# What is Montessori?

The Montessori curriculum was created by Dr. Maria Montessori, an Italian educator who believed that children learn best through hands-on experiences and self-directed exploration, at their own pace.



## Montessori Practitioners

Montessori practitioners act as guides, observing each child's interests and development to provide the right materials and challenges at the right time.

Unlike traditional teaching, they step back to allow children to explore independently while offering support when needed.



*"Montessori is an education for independence, preparing not just for school, but for life."*

Maria Montessori

## Our Environment

Everything in the classroom is child-sized and displayed on low shelves, making materials easily accessible. This set up encourages children to choose their own activities, promoting independence, self-discipline, and deep engagement in learning. Our Montessori classrooms are carefully designed to spark curiosity, independence, and a natural love for learning.

Montessori resources support each child's development through the Montessori curriculum, building essential skills for future success.

# What is the EYFS?

The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS), is the national framework that defines the standards of learning, development, and care of children from birth to five years old.

The EYFS divides learning and development into seven key areas, which are further grouped into three prime areas and four specific areas outlined below:

## Prime Areas



### ***Communication and language***

Learning to express thoughts, listen and communicate with others.



### ***Physical development***

Developing coordination, movement, and self-care skills.



### ***Personal, social, and emotional development***

Building confidence, friendships, and emotional well-being.

## Specific Areas



### ***Literacy***

Developing reading and writing skills through books, phonics, and storytelling.



### ***Mathematics***

Understanding numbers, shapes, and problem-solving through hands-on play.



### ***Understanding the world***

Exploring nature, different cultures, and how things work.



### ***Expressive arts & design***

Encouraging creativity through music, art, and imaginative play.

# How Montessori Supports the EYFS

Our unique approach meets the EYFS framework through the Montessori curriculum, which provides a hands-on, child-led way to achieve each area. We make learning engaging, exciting and appropriately challenging, helping children build a strong foundation for future success.

*See our Little Learners in action, using the Montessori materials to explore key EYFS areas:*



## Language

Through activities such as the sandpaper letters and the large movable alphabets, children learn phonics, build vocabulary, and develop early reading and writing skills in a fun and interactive way.



## Mathematics

Children develop a deep understanding of numbers and counting using hands-on materials like number rods and bead chains. This practical approach makes concepts like addition and subtraction easy to grasp.



## Practical life skills

Everyday tasks like pouring, cleaning, and food preparation help children develop independence, coordination, and confidence in looking after themselves and their surroundings.



## Cultural awareness

Children explore the world through music, stories, art, and geography. These activities help them learn about different places and cultures, building curiosity and respect for others.



## Sensorial exploration

Children refine their senses by touching, sorting, and comparing objects by size, shape, texture, sound, and colour. These activities strengthen their observation skills and ability to focus.



# Parent Partnership

We believe that strong parent partnerships create the best start for children. By working closely with families, we ensure every child feels happy, secure, and supported in their learning journey.

## Be Part Of The Learning Experience



### Parent workshops

Informative sessions on Montessori education, child development, and parenting strategies.



### Volunteering

Opportunities to assist during special events, outings, or in-class activities.



### Family events

Celebrations, cultural days, and picnics that bring families together and strengthen our community bond.



## Keeping You Informed



### Daily updates

Receive daily updates at pick up and via the 'Famly' app; including sleep times, nappies changed, meals eaten, as well as photos of them engaging in our stimulating activities.



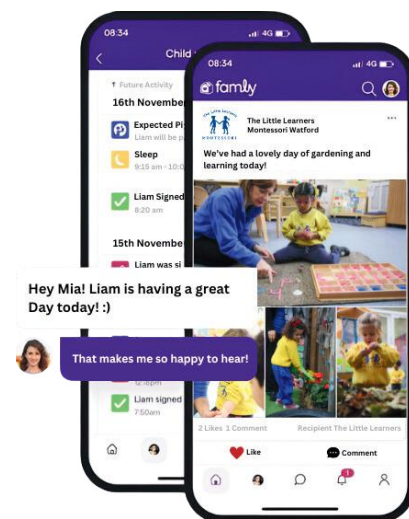
### Newsletters

Monthly newsletters with updates on events, curriculum highlights and important information.



### Parent-teacher meetings

Scheduled meetings to discuss your child's development and set goals.



## Celebrating Successes



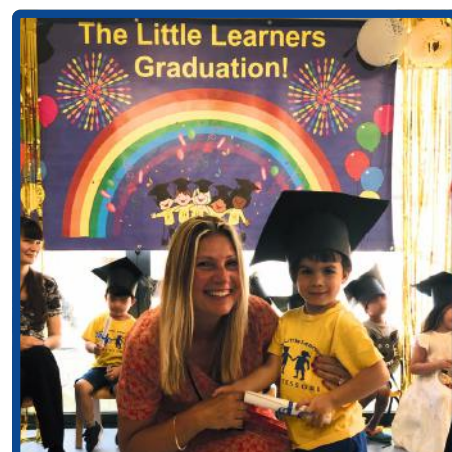
### Progress reports

Regular updates on your child's achievements and development, sent out before their parent-teacher meeting.



### Graduation concert

Celebrate your child's completion of their educational journey with The Little Learners Montessori.



# Our Enrolment Process

## Schedule a tour

1

- Visit our website
- Choose your preferred nursery
- Select an available date that suits you



## Visit and explore

2

- Tour our nursery
- Meet our team
- Ask any questions



## Secure your space

3

- Complete the application form
- Pay the registration fee and deposit once sessions are agreed



## Settling in

4

- Whilst your child settles, you will attend a 1-1 consultation so that we can understand your child's interests and needs



## First day

5

- Receive daily updates via the Famly app
- Activities based on your child's interests will be set up and our experienced team will help your child feel safe and happy



For more information,  
please scan the QR code

The Little Learners



MONTESSORI

# Our Team and Culture

We believe that a happy, motivated team creates the best place for children to thrive. When valued and supported, they bring warmth, energy, and passion to the classroom. This creates a calm, nurturing space where children feel secure, engaged, and ready to learn.



## We Create A Strong Team Culture Through:



### ***A supportive environment***

We value teamwork, respect, and open communication.



### ***Ongoing training and development***

Our sister company Montessori Apprentice Academy offers industry recognised courses, such as the Level 2, Level 3, and Level 5 Early Years qualifications. We also provide regular training and upskilling opportunities, including our Montessori Diploma & CPD workshops.



### ***Mentorship and buddy system***

We pair up our new staff with experienced mentors, so that they can familiarise themselves with The Little Learners way of working. This is further supported by regular meetings, covering topics within a training booklet to support their development.



### ***Team bonding and socials***

We love coming together for team outings and events, including our annual Christmas party and a Professional Development Day, which strengthens the relationship within our team.



# Growing Our Own

At The Little Learners Montessori, we are more than just a workplace; we are a family of passionate educators, who love what we do!

Being a family-run business with over 30 years experience delivering high-quality education and care, we are committed to developing talent from within. This involves helping staff develop their careers through structured training, mentorships, and professional growth. We're proud of our long-standing team, which reflects the strong, supportive culture we strive for.

## Screening process



Our recruitment process includes two interviews and a three hour working trial. During the trial candidates are supervised carrying out an activity with the children, demonstrating their knowledge, skills and passion.

## Safer recruitment and induction



Your child's safety is our top priority. Every team member passes enhanced DBS checks, provides a minimum of two satisfactory references, and completes a thorough induction with our Human Resources team prior to starting, outlining our policies, procedures, and expectations for their first three months.

## Onboarding process



From day one, new staff are already trained in:

- Basic First Aid
- Safeguarding Children (Level 2)
- Food Safety & Hygiene (Level 2)

During their Manager's induction, they are provided with a clear training plan, ensuring they receive top-tier support from our experienced team. They are then paired up with a mentor, typically the room manager, who will gradually train them up on our Little Learners ways of working.

## Ongoing development and career progression



Many of our leaders began as assistants, developing their expertise through training, mentoring, and hands-on experience. This provides consistency and stability in our team, further enhancing our strong team culture, as well as motivating others to develop their skills. When we invest in our team, we invest in the future of every child in our care.

# Hear From Our Happy Parents

**We are proud to have over 600 five star reviews across our four Montessori nurseries!**



## HIGHLY SKILLED STAFF

★★★★★

The staff at this nursery are highly skilled in engaging the children with a wide range of topics. Our daughter has developed remarkable confidence and constantly amazes us with the new things she learns every day. The focus on all-round development is truly impressive

-Urvee Veera  
Watford Branch

## BEST MONTESSORI IN WEMBLEY

★★★★★

Little Learners Wembley is by far the best Montessori I have seen in the whole of the Wembley area! Thanks Ms Bala and all the other teachers who take care of my son every single day! Thank you!!

-Yogendra Joshi  
Wembley Branch

## I AM SO IMPRESSED

★★★★★

I am so impressed with the level of care my child receives. All the staff are welcoming. Friendly and enthusiastic. My child has built strong bonds with all adults. All the activities are well planned and engaging. Sometimes it's difficult to tear her away at the end of the day!

-Malick Owesh  
Cricklewood Branch

## REGULARLY HOST EVENTS

★★★★★

Our child has been there for two years and cannot fault their hard work they have put in towards our child's education. They do daily trips to the local park during the summer and regularly host and celebrate seasonal events from all backgrounds.

-James Keeling  
Watford Branch

## SUPPORTIVE COMMUNITY

★★★★★

Communication with the staff is seamless, with regular updates on our child's progress and well-being. We always feel informed and involved in our child's learning journey. We feel grateful to be part of such a supportive community

-Benjamin Rodriguez  
Northwood Branch

## I CAN'T PRAISE THE NURSERY ENOUGH

★★★★★

As a former student at this nursery over 25 years ago and now a parent whose children go there, I can't praise the nursery enough.

The nurturing environment, dedicated staff and engaging activities focus not just on learning but create a genuine love for growth and exploration amongst the children.

-Aishah Abbasi  
Wembley Branch

## WE LOVE THIS NURSERY

★★★★★

My son's vocabulary and his understanding about everything just grows by the week. He always comes out with a smile. 10/10

-Malick Owesh  
Cricklewood Branch

## CARING AND NURTURING STAFF

★★★★★

Little Learners Northwood is a wonderful nursery with a team of caring and nurturing staff who really do go above and beyond for the children. My son has been attending for a year and is thriving thanks to the wonderful team.

-Rina Popat  
Northwood Branch



# FAQs

## 1 How do you support my child settle into the nursery?

We offer a settling in period, allowing your child to gradually adjust to the environment and build relationships with staff and other children. Whilst they are settling, we carry out a 1-1 consultation with you to best understand their unique interests and needs, so that we can plan engaging activities around them.

## 2 What is your policy on sickness?

To ensure the health and safety of all children, parents are asked to keep their child at home if they are unwell, especially if they have a fever, diarrhoea, or any contagious illness. If a child becomes ill while in our care, our nursery will contact the parents and may require the child to be collected.

## 3 Are your staff trained in paediatric first aid?

Yes, over 90% of our staff are paediatric first aid trained. We hold two external training workshops throughout the year to upskill any new and existing team members.

## 4 Do you offer any extra-curricular activities?

Yes, most of our nurseries offer extra-curricular activities such as foreign languages, sports, yoga, and dance classes. Please contact the branch for more details.

## 5 What do I need to provide for my child?

Please provide seasonal essentials (a sun hat and sun cream in summer; a coat, hat, and gloves in winter) and must-haves like two spare outfits, nappies (if needed), and a piece of fruit for snack time (no kiwi, grapes, or nuts). If required, bring bedding, formula, and a comforter.

## 6 Is there a waiting list for enrolment?

Due to high demand, some age groups may have a waiting list. Early enrolment is encouraged to secure preferred sessions. To book, please complete an application form online.





# Our Nurseries

## The Little Learners Montessori Watford

62-78 Merton Road,  
Hertfordshire,  
Watford, WD18 0WY

Open: 7.30am - 6pm, 50 weeks a year

Tel: 01923 804 488

[watford@thelittlelearners.co.uk](mailto:watford@thelittlelearners.co.uk)



## The Little Learners Montessori Northwood

The Hall,  
10 Oaklands Gate,  
Northwood, HA6 3AA

Open: 7.30am - 6pm, 50 weeks a year

Tel: 01923 824 324

[northwood@thelittlelearners.co.uk](mailto:northwood@thelittlelearners.co.uk)



## The Little Learners Montessori Cricklewood

St Vitus Hall,  
35 Gillingham Road (off Cricklewood Lane),  
Cricklewood, NW2 1HR

Open: 7.30am - 6:30pm, 48 weeks a year

Tel: 0208 450 3322

[cricklewood@thelittlelearners.co.uk](mailto:cricklewood@thelittlelearners.co.uk)



## The Little Learners Montessori Wembley

United Reformed Church Hall,  
The Broadway, East Lane,  
Wembley, HA9 7NN

Open: 9am - 3pm, Term time only

Tel: 0208 904 1001

[wembley@thelittlelearners.co.uk](mailto:wembley@thelittlelearners.co.uk)

