

KENMORE AND DISTRICT MONTESSORI CHILDREN'S HOUSE

2024 INFORMATION BROCHURE



Welcome!

A warm welcome to Kenmore and District Montessori Children's House. where the journey of discovery and learning begins! We cater to children 6 months to 6 years of age. At our centre we embrace the renowned Montessori approach, fostering a nurturing environment that encourages independence, curiosity, and a love for lifelong learning.

In our Montessori program, parents play a vital role as partners in their child's education and care. We believe that the collaborative effort between educators and parents is crucial in making informed choices that cater to each child's unique needs and interests. Our commitment extends beyond the classroom, as we recognize that a supportive home environment enhances a child's overall development.

As you explore the pages of this brochure, we invite you to discover the enriching experiences, tailored curriculum, and strong sense of community that define Kenmore and District Montessori Children's House. Together, let's pave the way for an exceptional early childhood care and education program.

We look forward to sharing the journey of early childhood with your children and family. Please read the information and contact us with any questions, big or small we will do our best to help you.

Contact Details:

Address; 9, Brookfield Road, Kenmore 4069

Behind the Kenmore Village shopping centre on top of the two-story car park.

Postal Address; P.O.BOX 1490, Kenmore 4069

Telephone: (07)33781122

Email; info@kdmch.com.au

Website; www.kdmch.com.au

National Body.

The National Body oversees the new system and guides its implementation in a nationally consistent way.

Australian Children's Education and Care Quality Authority

www.acecqa.gov.au Tel: 1300 422 327



KDMCH is rated as Exceeding in all 7 quality areas by ACECQA.

Our Place

Kenmore and District Montessori Children's House acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land on which we work each day and pay our respects to Elders of those lands, past, present, and emerging.

VISION

Our vision is to support the children to become lifelong learners by inspiring a passion for learning with resilience, tolerance, responsibility, and foundation to become independent in an atmosphere of profound warmth, kindness, and respect while honouring the legacy of Dr. Montessori's vision for world peace with KDMCH children, staff, families, and the wider community.

MISSION

Our mission is to strive for excellence by providing a holistic learning experience that addresses the uniqueness of each child and the child's strong sense of self, wonder and curiosity, innovation, understanding, and respect for others in a sustainable and natural environment.

PHILOSOPHY

We believe the Montessori philosophy is an education for life – a learning process where children are encouraged to develop at their own pace in a safe, caring, and carefully prepared environment designed to foster independent thinkers who are actively engaged in the learning process.

Our approach at KDMCH values the human spirit and the development of the whole child. We believe in providing children with various opportunities to be connected to the world while providing opportunities to learn and develop a sustainable approach to their world while encouraging self-responsibility and awareness of how actions may influence others and the environment. We aim to continually reflect and improve the quality, to provide an exceptional early childhood care and education program.

Our Program

The Kenmore and District Montessori program is holistic. It invites the children to choose activities in an unhurried manner. The classroom provides both active and quiet spaces, where children can feel free to enjoy the many activities in a relaxed atmosphere. The enormous range of equipment and materials allows each child to choose according to his or her own needs and urges. Single tables give the children a greater opportunity to work and play uninterrupted. A strong sense of order within the classroom gives the children respect, structure, freedom and a sense of belonging.

The children's day includes time both indoors and outdoors, listening/story time, music and song, art and craft, construction, and dramatic play. The educators are always carefully observing to enable them to plan for your child as an individual. As the children become ready, they are introduced to new activities, concepts, and skills. The special Montessori materials are designed to enhance the children's discovery and concept development.

In addition, opportunities will be made available for parents to learn more about us and the Montessori Method of education. These education sessions will be conducted in the evenings or at weekends to allow our working parents the opportunity to participate.

Montessori equipment allows your child to learn practical life skills, develop their fine motor skills and hand-eye coordination, develop all their senses and start their education in writing, reading, numeracy, geography, history, biology, science, art and music. By combining these areas of growth, we aim to give each child a strong foundation for later learning.

Registered Kindergarten Program

KDMCH is an approved Kindergarten Program provider. Queensland College of Teachers (QCT) registered Teachers deliver the Kindergarten program 5 days per week. KDMCH Montessori program aligns with the Queensland Kindergarten Learning Guidelines.

From 2024 all the kindy children get 15 hours a week free kindy for 40 weeks a year. In total 600 hours of free kindy.

Licensing

Kenmore Montessori is licensed for 75 places. It has been designed to be flexible and meet the needs of the community. We have five classrooms.

Room	Ages	No of Children	Minimum attendance
Nido	6mths to 2 yrs	8	2 days per week
Infant A Community	15mths to 3 yrs	8	2 days per week
Infant B Community	2 yrs to 3 yrs	15	2 days per week
Cycle 1 Pre- Kindy	2.5 yrs to 4yrs	20	2 days per week
Cycle 1 Kindy	3yrs to 6 years Fully toilet trained	24	3 days per week

The National Quality Framework includes.

The National Quality Framework (NQF) is **Australia's system for regulating early childhood education and care**. It provides a national approach to regulation, assessment, and quality improvement. The Australian Children's Education and Care Quality Authority (ACECQA) is an independent national authority that helps administer the NQF.

National Quality Standards - KDMCH Exceeding in all 7 areas.

1. Educational program and practice – KDMCH Exceeding quality
2. Children's health and safety – KDMCH Exceeding quality
3. Physical environment – KDMCH Exceeding quality
4. Staffing arrangement - KDMCH Exceeding quality
5. Relationship with children - KDMCH Exceeding quality
6. Collaborative partnership with families and communities- KDMCH Exceeding quality
7. Governance and Leadership - KDMCH Exceeding quality

Enrolments

All applications for enrolment are considered equally. However, where we have more applications than places available, we will give preference to:

- ◆ Kenmore Montessori siblings of children already attending the Centre; and
- ◆ Children whose parents are committed to providing their children with Montessori education and care.

If the Centre is operating at maximum capacity, we must comply with Commonwealth guidelines for priority access. Currently, these guidelines require priority to be given to:

- ◆ Families where both parents or the sole parent is working.
- ◆ Families where a child or parent has special/additional needs.
- ◆ Families where parents or the sole parent are training or looking for employment.

Applications for enrolment

As a rule, children need to have been placed on our waiting list before entry. Once on the waiting list, contact must be made by the applicant to confirm interest each quarter. If no contact is made over 12 months the application will be archived.

Rights of Access/ Anti- Anti-Discrimination

It is the policy of KDMCH to offer enrolment to all children regardless of race, culture, religious belief, and diverse abilities.

Centre visits

Before enrolment, we encourage families to visit the Centre, so their decision is an informed one. Appointments for visits throughout the year can be made through the office.

Notification of a place

When a place becomes available you will be contacted to arrange an interview as the first part of the orientation process. After the interview between parent/s, the child/children and the Director, a formal offer of placement will be made in writing stating the agreed starting time and days.

Orientation

Once your enrolment has been confirmed you will be contacted to arrange an orientation. These visits usually take an hour, for 1-2 visits. During Orientation, you will spend some time in the classroom to meet the educators/ teachers and observe the class routine.

Change of details

You must immediately notify us in writing if any of the information you have provided to us changes.

Fees – 2024

Child Care Subsidy

Childcare Subsidy is available to Australian residents attending a registered childcare provider. CCS is income and work/activity tested.

Centrelink administers the CCS. Centrelink can be contacted at 136150.

We are required to have your Customer Reference Number (CRN), whether you intend to claim or not.

Waitlist Application Fee

A non-refundable application fee of \$50 per child is payable upon submission of your waitlist application. We require that you communicate with us regularly to keep your application active.

Enrolment Fee

Upon acceptance of a place at the centre, a non-refundable fee of \$300 per child is payable.

Bond

In addition to the Enrolment fee, a bond of \$1000 is payable. The bond is refundable at the end of care or can be used towards the final statement.

Charges for late payment of fees

Accounts are processed fortnightly and **payable 2 weeks in advance**. A late fee of \$20 will apply to all overdue accounts. If fees are not received for a period of four

weeks and/or the outstanding fees are greater than the bond held the child's place MAY be terminated.

Withdrawal

If you wish to terminate your child's enrolment with Montessori Kenmore, you must give us at least 4 weeks written notice. If you withdraw your child within those 4 weeks, you will still be liable for the fees during that period.

Similarly, if you are dropping a booked day, you must give 1 month's written notice.

In the case of your child exiting to begin prep or school, your child's place will terminate on the last KDMCH day in December.

Absences

Child Care Subsidy is paid in certain circumstances when a family is charged for care but their child did not attend.

Under the new Child Care Subsidy System (CCSS) each parent/child is eligible to receive CCS for an initial 42 days of absences per financial year, which can be used for any reason and without proof of circumstances (includes public holidays).

Once the initial 42 absence days have been exhausted, additional absences may be claimed in certain circumstances.

After the initial 42 absence days have been paid, for a financial year, only absences which meet the additional absence criteria will attract CCS. Additional absence reasons are:

- An illness (with a medical certificate)
- Any other absences due to sickness of the child, a parent or sibling supported by medical certificates.
- A parent being on a rotating shift or rostered day off
- A temporary closure of a school or a pupil free day
- Shared custody arrangements due to a court order, consent order or parenting order
- Attendance at preschool
- Exceptional circumstances

The initial 42 absence days must be exhausted before additional absences can be claimed.

Further information on Allowable Absences, Approved Absences, and Government Policy is available through Centrelink.

Public Holidays also incur fees as usual.

Holidays

All care is classed as booked care. This means that all booked care must be paid for, even if your child does not attend on that day. This includes family holidays and public holidays.

The centre will close for 2 weeks each year from Christmas through to January.

Fees are not charged for these two weeks.

Fee schedule for 2024

Fees include the provision of meals and drinks (with the exception of babies' bottles and formulas).

Our daily fees are \$140 which include:

- Education and care
- Meals, including morning tea, lunch with milk, afternoon tea
- Concerts, performers and cultural activities
- Sheets for sleep time and laundering

The amount payable by you will be dependent on the level of Child Care Subsidy (CCS) notified to us by Centrelink. Until such time as notification is received from Centrelink, you will be responsible for the full amount of the fees.

Payment of fees

Preferred payment of fees is by way of Direct Deposit through your Bank, or you may pay at the office with Visa or Master Card.

Accounts are processed fortnightly and are **payable 2 weeks in advance**. A late fee of \$20 will apply to all overdue accounts fortnightly. If overdue fees exceed the bond held your child's enrolment will be suspended.

Absences from childcare

Initial 42 absence days

Families can get CCS when their child is absent from a session of care, they would normally attend for up to 42 days per child, per financial year.

<http://www.education.gov.au/childcare-FAQ>

Food and Nutrition

Kenmore Montessori is proud to offer the children nutritious and delicious meals. Menus are designed to provide at least 50% of the daily recommended intake and to maximise nutrition, including providing fresh fruit and vegetables daily. Milk is provided at lunchtime. Artificial additives and allergen items are minimised as much as possible.

If your child has any dietary requirements, please note them on the enrolment form and discuss them further with the staff. In circumstances where families wish to provide food, please do so in clearly labelled lunch boxes. A guide to acceptable foods is available from the office. **We are a nut-aware centre.**

Babies have very special diets and these need to be considered closely. A well-balanced and healthy diet is vital for young growing bodies. We ask that parents of children in the Baby and Infant rooms discuss meals with the staff and advise the staff of any special requirements.

If your child has special dietary needs, a form for “Special Dietary Needs” is required to be completed and signed by a dietitian or doctor. Without this form, parents are expected to provide all meals.

What to bring

What we supply

Sheets, Bibs, Wipes, Towels, 50+ sunscreen

What you need to supply

All items brought to the centre must be clearly labelled with your child's name.

Each day you will need to bring the following.

All children:

Sun hat – with a brim, or legionnaire style

Nappies- enough to last the day, if required

Spare clothes – weather-appropriate

Water bottle

Sunscreen we supply 50+ sunscreen, however, if your child requires a special formula, this will need to be provided by you, clearly named and with a pharmacy label.

KDMCH Kindergarten Program

KDMCH Montessori 3–6-year class forms a strong foundation for an excellent kindergarten program by emphasizing holistic development through a child-centric approach. Our Montessori, Kindy classrooms promote self-directed learning, fostering independence and intrinsic motivation. In the 3-6 age group, children engage in activities that encompass practical life skills, sensorial experiences, language development, and mathematical concepts.

Incorporating Montessori principles into a kindergarten program enhances the overall learning experience. The emphasis on hands-on, experiential activities encourages creativity, critical thinking, and problem-solving skills. Montessori language lessons promote early literacy through phonics and vocabulary-building exercises.

Furthermore, the inclusion of extracurricular activities like music, art, yoga, and language lessons complements the Montessori method. Music and art stimulate creativity and self-expression, while yoga fosters physical well-being and mindfulness. Language lessons extend beyond basic literacy to include cultural and linguistic diversity.

In summary, integrating Montessori principles into our kindergarten program, coupled with diverse extracurricular activities, creates a rich learning environment that nurtures not only academic skills but also social, emotional, and physical development in young learners.

"Help me to do it myself".

– Maria Montessori

Kenmore and District Montessori Children's House

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