

Privett Montessori Nursery School

Privett Montessori Nursery School was founded on Montessori principles in 1988 and has functioned since then in Privett Village Hall. The School is situated on the fringe of the village within 3 miles of Petersfield and surrounding villages. We offer morning, afternoon and full day sessions for children aged 2 years 9 months to 5 years. All three year olds are eligible to receive the government grant, which the School claims and deducts from fees each term. For information about fees

The current principal, Kate Pritchard who has been teaching at the School since 1995, took over the headship in April 2003. The School became a member of the Montessori Schools Association in 2004. Kate is a qualified teacher with Montessori training. She has been teaching for 17 years in a variety of schools in Ethiopia, Italy and England ranging from Nursery through to adult education. She has three of her own children, all of whom attended Privett Montessori.

Kate's deputy, Maggie Webzell is a qualified NNEB nursery nurse and has over 30 years of experience with pre-school age children. Maggie was the leader of a pre-school for 8 years and a branch Field Worker for the Pre-School Alliance for 5 years. She has worked at Privett Montessori since 1989. Maggie is trained in Montessori methodology and is our Special Needs Co-ordinator.

Carole and Caroline our Nursery assistants also had children who attended the School. Carole has worked at the School since and Caroline since September 2002. Caroline is currently studying for her NVQ in childcare.

The School is spacious and open plan. We are extremely fortunate to have a large garden area where the children can play safely on the climbing frame, bikes and in the sandpit. We are currently planning a garden with raised beds specifically for the children to work in. This year we observed a variety of different birds which visited our garden and we were delighted to find that a dormouse had made it's home in one of our nesting boxes.

We provide the children in our care with a safe and stimulating environment where they may develop at their own pace. We focus on what a child **can** do and use this as our starting point for each child. Our philosophy and curriculum is based upon the teaching of Dr Maria Montessori who recognised each child's unique aptitude for learning and stressed the importance of respect for the world and its inhabitants.

Our Purpose:

To give **your child**:

- ◆ Knowledge, understanding and skills developed from exploration and investigation in a safe, caring environment.
- ◆ Self esteem and respect for other children, adults and the environment.
- ◆ Confidence and independence.
- ◆ Equality and diversity of opportunity.

We offer:

- ◆ A balanced curriculum including French and music, taught according to the philosophy of Maria Montessori and leading to the Six Early Learning goals.
- ◆ Individual care and attention.

- ◆ Fun and friendship with other children and adults.
- ◆ Project work that includes off site visits and guests whose knowledge and experience will enhance children's learning (musicians, storytellers, doctors etc.)

Our Nursery School offers education and care for children below school age and over the age of two years nine months. We are registered to receive the Early Years Education Grant for all 3 year olds. Our Ofsted Report (2004) is available on line.
<http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/reports/524/524493.htm>