

Five Great Benefits of Montessori for the kindy year



SA MONTESSORI
quality early childhood education and care

1



Continuity of learning and teaching

The Montessori curriculum is structured to scaffold the progression of skill development and extension of learning. In their final year of Montessori early learning, your child builds on a strong foundation by embracing challenges. This is supported by the continuity of teachers who know your child's prior knowledge, strengths and skills and also their personality, unique needs and preferences. Their final year at Montessori allows a child to put the pieces of the puzzle together, supported by the educators who know them best.

2



Social skills for life

Our classroom communities are filled with opportunities for collaboration, cooperation, communication and reciprocal respect between peers. Our educators scaffold these social interactions to equip children with the skills they will need to make friends at any age and stage. If you're feeling pressure to transfer to a Government kindy because you want your child to make friends for school, it is worth remembering that if your 4 year old would cope with meeting new peers at kindy now, then after another year of growth, maturation and consolidating social skills your **5 year old** will be even more equipped to flourish with making friends when transitioning from Montessori to Reception.

3



Building confidence and leadership

Our Montessori classroom consists of a mixed-age community. Younger children are guided and supported by their older peers as their confidence builds. In their final year of Montessori, these children step into the shoes of their former role models by becoming the leaders and mentors to younger friends. Being one of the elders in the class encourages self-confidence, leadership and empathy skills, and also helps children reinforce their learning by teaching it to others.

4



Rich curriculum

The Montessori early years curriculum is designed for children to the age of six. The later stages introduce advanced concepts all the way up to grammar, spelling rules, multiplication, division and much more. It is not possible for a child to 'complete' the Montessori curriculum, even if they remain with us until they turn six (which is the age that children are legally required to start formal schooling in South Australia) because of the inclusion of these complex lessons, specialised materials and the myriad of extensions and variations available within the curriculum. There is always more for a child to learn at Montessori.

5



Preparation for school – and for life!

Montessori is education for life. We are empowering children with strategies that will facilitate their lifelong learning journeys. This includes equipping them with experience in areas such as numeracy, literacy, science and more, so they will build fundamental tools that will help them thrive at school. It also means that they are developing practical and personal skills and attributes that will help them throughout their lives!

Remember that sending your child to a Government kindy or a private school ELC is optional.

You are entitled to make your own choices about what is best for your child's early learning journey. If you feel your child will thrive at Montessori until Reception, **you can remain solely at Montessori**, or combine this with part-time attendance elsewhere.

You are able to allocate your child's Universal Access funding to Montessori in the year before school, but you can remain with us if you use those hours at another service.

If you would like help with your decision-making (or if you find yourself under pressure from a Government kindy or private school ELC and would like some support), please speak to an educator.

We empower you to do what is right for your child, your family and your values.