

Canberra Montessori School Strategic Plan 2010 – 2012



VALUES BASED PLANNING

Strategic planning is a dynamic process. It ...

involves every aspect of the school's operations: curriculum, specialty subjects, building expansion and improvement, finances, parent involvement and education, program assessment, and, of course, the child's total development. (It)..must reflect a deeply held Montessori perspective. It is a living document; it must engage the school community as it is discussed, rethought, and rewritten to fit the evolving status of the school.

...the Montessori (strategic plan), then, must reflect goals consistent with Montessori values and philosophy.

The Whole-School Montessori Handbook

Our Values

- That education is a preparation for life that should foster the potential within each child
- That children soak up values from their environment and culture so these should be worth of a child's emulation
- The need for dignity and respect for others, for self and the wider environment
- The need to foster a sense of wonder that will form the basis for spiritual development
- That education is a key to peace, social harmony and the cooperation of individuals and groups for the betterment of humanity
- That Montessori education provides an individualised curriculum tailored to a child's stage of development and capabilities
- That each classroom will be different reflecting the individuality of a director who has prepared the Montessori environment
- That parents should be encouraged to build their understanding of Montessori education philosophy
- That the school forms a community of families working towards a common goal with responsibilities to the wider Australian Montessori community
- The need for open communication so that all are free to express and opinion while mindful of not imposing strong views on others
- The need to work together, consult, build consensus and bring the community along

CMS Strategic Plan 2010-2012

Vision

To be a school that continues to provide and develop best practice Montessori Education.

Mission

To provide a learning environment based on Montessori philosophy that fosters the development of every child in reaching their full potential.

Goals and Imperatives

- ❑ *Education*: To ensure that each child will reach their own full potential
- ❑ *Business*: To ensure that the Canberra Montessori School supports each child in reaching their own full potential
- ❑ *Community*: To ensure that the Canberra Montessori School community supports each child in reaching their own full potential

GOALS AND IMPERATIVES:

Education: To ensure that each child reaches their own full potential		
Targets	Key Strategies	Imperatives
Continue providing and developing best practice Montessori education	Maintaining the integrity of the Montessori education method as the primary concern in school decision making	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Communicate core Montessori principles to all members of the School community ➤ Ensure foundational education in national core curricula through Montessori principles ➤ Value and promote innovation in Montessori practice, in particular incorporating modern advances in educational technology
Ensure that each classroom reaches its full potential	Maintain the integrity and continuity of the classroom environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Develop and implement a continuity plans for the educational structure of the school and each classroom ➤ Develop and maintain a continuing education program for all staff of the Canberra Montessori School appropriate to their needs ➤ Guarantee a safe and secure social and learning environment ➤ Maintain appropriate age and gender balance of each class
Continue improving the external learning environment	Review the external environment with a focus on environmental sustainability, connection between the internal and external environments and integration of the Learnscapes plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Develop and implement a Learnscapes action plan ➤ Promote the external environment as integral to the learning process ➤ Develop and implement a sustainability program

Business: To ensure that the Canberra Montessori School supports each child in reaching their own full potential

Targets	Key Strategies	Imperatives
Maintain the financial viability of the Canberra Montessori School	Enhance marketing activities	➤ Whole school emphasis for the marketing plan
	Work for targeted growth in student numbers	➤ Target primary classrooms as main area for growth, particularly through increasing retention rates
Make the school as accessible to the wider community as possible	Develop targeted information and marketing messages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Assess appropriate messages for the various groups ➤ Actively market in the international communities from embassies ➤ Investigate mutually beneficial financial aide systems for families with need.
Invest in the future of the Canberra Montessori School	Run at an operating surplus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Develop and implement a financial plan ➤ Develop an investment program ➤ Promote increased community and external investment in the Building Fund
Enhance retention levels, both between cycles and within classrooms, and maintain classroom occupancy levels	The School itself to act as key demonstration to parents as to why they should stay at each cycle	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Foster mutual respect ➤ Communicate detailed and directed messages focusing on both the development of the child and the school ➤ Educate and engage the whole School community

Community: To ensure that the Canberra Montessori School community supports each child in reaching their own full potential

Targets	Key Strategies	Imperatives
Promote improvement in communication	Utilise efficient and effective communications using appropriate communication media	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Information provision and education for the whole School community ➤ Build parental understanding of School organisation and educational processes ➤ Open new communication strategies ➤ Regular and frequent communications from all levels of the school
Make the community inclusive and welcoming	Encourage and support communities of families working towards common goals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Include current, prospective and past community members ➤ Encourage and proactively facilitate parental input ➤ Enhance the use of the class parent networks in a coordinated manner
Raise the profile of Montessori education	Broaden the Canberra Montessori community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Promote the interests of Montessori education within the wider educational community ➤ Maintain active support and involvement with national Montessori groups ➤ Work to ensure recognition of Montessori training and education within the national framework of educational accreditation and development