



Inner Sydney Montessori School

0-3 INFORMATION SHEET

Parent Toddler Program (PTP) 18 – 36 Months

Nido (The Nest) 0 – 18 Months

ISMS offers two early childhood programs at the Smith Street campus in Balmain: NIDO (The Nest, 0-18 months) runs three afternoon sessions each week, and our Parent Toddler Program (PTP, 18-36 months) offers five morning and two afternoon sessions each week.

A parent/carer attends one session a week with their child, in an environment specially set up to facilitate the child's growing need for independence. The room contains child sized furniture and activities that match the children's physical proportions and their stage of development.

For NIDO, the range of activities include:

- Observation
- The Senses
- The Brain
- Hand-eye co-ordination
- Language and enrichment of language
- Music
- Independence
- Gross Motor Movement
- Fine Motor Movement
- Social Relationships

For PTP, the range of activities include:

- Care of the Self
- Care of the Environment
- Food Preparation
- Sensorial Development
- Hand-Eye Coordination
- Language enrichment
- Art and Craft
- Natural Science experiences
- Gross Motor Movement
- Fine Motor Movement
- Social Relationships

All work is set out in such a way that children can use the materials with the minimum of adult assistance and parents are made aware of the importance of allowing their children to complete and repeat tasks without interruption or interference. In this way children build up and concentrate their attention span. These and other principles of every Montessori environment, provide parents with hands-on experience of the practical application of the Montessori philosophy of education that can be applied to the home.

The Dr Maria Montessori approach to education is essentially an "aid to life". It is about assisting the development of human beings during their formative years and therefore goes far beyond the concept of education as in "school" or "curriculum". In Dr Maria Montessori own words: "our work as adults does not consist in teaching, but in helping the infant mind in its work of development". Montessori believed that the first three years of life form the foundation for the rest of our lives.

The overall objective of the Inner Sydney Montessori School's NIDO and PTP programs is to increase the parent's awareness of the child's capabilities and need for independence, with a view to transferring the understanding of the child's stage of development from NIDO and PTP into many applications in the home environment. This is both the physical and psychological aspects of the environment (that is the actual materials in the environment as well as our attitude to the child).

When working with children, we need to learn to give help only when it is needed and to understand the importance of standing back and observing the "unfolding life of the child before us" (Dr Maria Montessori).

By having this special time each week with your child in an especially prepared environment, without the interruptions experienced at home, the relationship between you and your child stands to benefit. It is not the intention to give you a text book on Montessori or parenting; on the contrary, we would like to pass on some of Dr Maria Montessori's observations in the hope that they will enrich your life with your child. Soon, her observations will cause you to become more observant yourself and you will be able to draw your own conclusions, just as she did. In this way, Montessori NIDO/PTP assists both parents and children.



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Dr Maria Montessori believed that 'play' and 'work' are interchangeable concepts when we talk about young children. Every experience in a prepared environment in the child's life is of value. All the work of young children is done to meet their inner need of self-realisation. Working together we can assist the children respectfully on their own personal road of independence.

NIDO Sessions for 2011

Monday	1.00 - 2.30pm
Tuesday	1.00 - 2.30pm
Friday	1.00 - 2.30pm

PTP Sessions for 2011

Monday	9am - 11am
Tuesday	9am - 11am
Wednesday	9am - 11am
Thursday	9am - 11am
Friday	9am - 11am

Location: Inner Sydney Montessori School (ISMS)
44 Smith Street, Balmain NSW 2041

Fees: NIDO \$211.00 per child per **8 week term** for one 1.5 hour session per week.
PTP \$400.00 per child per term for one 2 hour session per week.

Families must attend on their enrolled day. Unfortunately, sessions missed due to public holidays or scheduled 'pupil free days' at the school cannot be made up and there is no provision for reimbursement for missed sessions. Payment is required in advance and is not refundable if student does not commence nor is there reimbursement for early withdrawal.

2011 Dates:	Terms	Start	Finish	Duration
	Term 1	31 January	7 April	10 weeks
	Term 2	28 April	30 June	10 weeks
	Term 3	19 July	22 September	10 weeks
	Term 4	11 October	8 December	9 weeks

Additional Details:

- Your child must attend with a parent or carer.
- NIDO is designed for children aged 0-18 months, PTP is designed for children between 18-36 months.
- There is no charge to go on the NIDO or PTP waitlist. Re-enrolment is required prior to the last week of each term to secure a place for the following term. Places that are not reconfirmed by then will be opened to the waitlist.
- Children are encouraged to bring a piece of fruit to share each session.
- At no time are nuts, or products that contain nuts, allowed on campus.
- Please notify the Director if grandparent/s, siblings or other family members are coming to observe.
- An information session is held each term for all new parents and carers to help them understand their role in the classroom and to ask questions that may have arisen in their first few sessions.

Enrolment into the ISMS, NIDO or PTP program is not a prerequisite for entry into the Inner Sydney Montessori School and it DOES NOT place you on the school waiting list.

To join the school waitlist, a separate application plus a waitlist fee of \$150.00 for each child and a \$70.00 Membership fee is payable at the time of application.