

# Ashley Cross Montessori Day Nursery

Education for life



**Open all year  
2 -4 years of age**

Chapel Road  
Ashley Cross  
Poole  
BH14 0JU

**01202 735521**

e-mail: [Ashley.cross@live.co.uk](mailto:Ashley.cross@live.co.uk)

[www.montessorieducation.co.uk](http://www.montessorieducation.co.uk)

# Ashley Cross Montessori



We aim to provide every child with a highly stimulating, caring Montessori educational environment for children. An environment within which each child is safe and happy and able to develop at their own pace, to his/her full potential. Nursery education for most children is their first step outside the family unit. At Ashley Cross Montessori we recognise the importance of this transition. Together we can lay the foundations for learning, and nurture the development of your child.



## The Facilities

Our school building was once the Oddfellows meeting hall. We have designed a Montessori classroom for the mixed age 2-5 years. From the classroom we have doors leading directly onto two separate outdoor areas where the children can do their work. There is a separate room upstairs which can be used to music, dance and drama activities. We have laid down an artificial lawn, which is appealing to the eye and can withstand the activities of busy children. There are plants and a vegetable patch for the children to tend and learn about gardening. During our sessions we do singing, dance, French club and lots of cooking.



## The Teachers

A child's first teacher plays a pivotal role in nurturing a love of learning. Ashley Cross Montessori has a dedicated and experienced team that is committed to providing the highest quality of education and care. By building strong lines of communication between the teachers and the parents/carers we can work together in the best interests of your child.

The nursery owner Alex Shepherd was awarded **Child Carer of the Year 2005 for Bouremouth**.

Purnima Tanuku, Chief Executive of National Day Nurseries Association comments: "NDNA is delighted to celebrate and reward the outstanding work, commitment and dedication of day nurseries in the community. It is always very difficult to select a winner, as every nursery worker deserves to be recognised, but Alex shows exceptional quality and makes a difference to children's lives every day." Borough of Bournemouth.

## General Information

- Please provide your child with at least one set of spare clothes (clearly labelled).
- A coat and wellington boots in the winter months and sun hats and sun cream in the summer months.
- The children are provided with water, juice, biscuits, fruit and raw vegetables.
- Children should bring their own pack lunch and anything they do not eat will be returned.
- Please inform us of any allergies your child may have. We have a strict *no nut policy*.
- We will occasionally have trainee Montessori students who are CRB checked.
- Parent evenings will be held every 6 months. Staff will always be available to talk to at the beginning and end of the day.
- We have an equal opportunities policy for all the children, parents and staff. We will treat each child with respect, equality and care, regardless of race, religion, disability or gender.
- A news letter will be attached to the invoice each month.



## Opening Hours

We are open five days a week between the hours of 8am and 5.00pm, 51 weeks of the year. We are closed Bank holidays and 1 week at Christmas. The morning session is from 8am –12pm. The afternoon session is from 1pm – 5pm. Parents/carers can choose to add the lunch hour (12 –1) to either the morning or afternoon sessions. Children may attend all day. We recommend that a child attend a minimum of 3 sessions a week. This provides continuity for the child and time to access the whole curriculum. We regret that no reduction in fees can be offered due to absence through illness or holiday.



## Fees and Registration

The morning session between, 8 –12pm costs £16.50

The afternoon session between, 1 –5 pm costs £15.50

The lunch hour (12 –1pm) costs £4.00 and can be added to either session.

A full day (8am - 5pm) costs £36.00.

Fees are paid monthly and are due on the 1<sup>st</sup> of the month in advance and are reviewed annually. Fees are fixed and non-transferable without one month's written notice. Four weeks written notice is required if you wish to withdraw your child. Payments can be made by direct debit or childcare vouchers. A registration fee of £25 (non-refundable) is payable to secure a place. Please make cheques payable to 'A C M'.





## **Illness and Medicine**

We rely on all parents/carers to take care not bring their child to nursery if they are unwell. Particular care should be taken to maintain a period of absence of 48 hours after a bout of sickness or diarrhoea. We will contact you if your child becomes unwell at nursery, and only if necessary request you come and collect your child.

We will not administer any medicines without your specific instructions and authorisation to do so.



## **Funding**

There is government funding for 3 and 4 year olds available please ask management for details.

*“We look forward to seeing you and your child at Ashley Cross Montessori.”*



## Montessori Curriculum



### Practical Life

Practical life describes the area of the Montessori curriculum in which the child is able to learn and refine practical skills. These are skills as adults we take for granted, but to a child they are exciting and new. Every day activities such as pouring, transferring, polishing, threading, cleaning, cutting and fixing are introduced to the child. With each of these tasks accomplished he/she grows in confidence and independence, indirectly helping his/her ability for logical thinking, concentration, fine and gross motor skills, hand-eye co-ordination and self-esteem. Practical life is the foundation for future learning and these direct and indirect skills are used not only in all other areas of the curriculum, but are with the child for life.



### Sensorial

Our very first impressions of the world are formed through our senses. Dr Montessori designed materials which refine the child's ability to understand all these sensory inputs. By having specific exercises which isolate different qualities, such as colour, texture, size, dimension, weight, taste and sound the child is able to distinguish and categorise them.



### Language

A child is developing language skills in every area of the nursery as soon as they start. New vocabulary is learnt, listening skills are enhanced and fine motor skills are refined even before the child actively engages in any formal language activities. The whole Montessori curriculum lays down a solid foundation for language development. Montessori uses the phonic approach to reading and writing and has specific language materials that allow a child to develop at his/her own pace.



### Mathematics

Dr Montessori designed maths materials in the same way as every other piece of equipment in the curriculum, as something for the child to discover, to handle and touch. By starting with a concrete understanding, physically quantifying, comparing and ordering the child eventually leads on to abstract understanding and a love of maths.



## Cultural

Dr Montessori believed in the development of the whole child. By introducing the child to all aspects of the world, such as geography, botany, science, history, music, dance and art, he/she develops an impression of the world as a whole and an understanding of his/her place within it.

## Policies

The Ashley Cross has full nursery policies that are available for you to read at any time. Below is a list of the key policies.

- Equal opportunities
- Children with Additional Needs
- Child Protection
- Complaints Procedure
- Behaviour Management
- Administration of Medication
- Sick Child Policy
- Parent Involvement