



“The curriculum in this setting is a real strength. Managers and staff have a really clear understanding of what they want children to learn. They provide ambitious experiences that fully engage and motivate children. This means that children are confident and ready for the next stage of education” Ofsted 2023



**41 Full & Part time
places 18 months -
5 Years
Established 2002**



Welcome to the Colour Box Montessori nursery school!

“The goal of early childhood education should be to activate the child’s own natural desire to learn”

The Colour Box Montessori is an established Montessori nursery that provides a colourful learning experience to our young learners and countless opportunities to play, explore, learn, problem-solve, create, grow and thrive. The children’s needs and interests mould our educational programme that is designed to give teachers the flexibility to tailor their teaching to every child’s individual learning style. We see our children as amazing explorers, young scientists, happy learners, creative artists, independent team players, kind achievers, imaginative problem solvers. Our Montessori nursery and its holistic approach to learning values children’s voice and approaches them as active and confident learners, teaches them lifelong learning skills and prepares them for their future. At the Colour Box we learn and grow along our children, which makes it a unique learning experience for everyone, parents, teachers and children alike.





START OF A NURSERY SCHOOL LIFE AND A CHILD'S PROGRESS

A child starting with us has the benefit of the early learning foundation within the Montessori structure and optimum chances to complete the whole teaching cycle at rising five; at this age, we aim to bridge the gap between home and school life. Initially a child might prefer to work with familiar material like puzzles, beads or building bricks but often starts with early practical life exercises like pouring, folding or polishing. He will then be introduced to sensorial education and the corresponding learning materials.

Each child is assigned to a teacher who observes him closely and records his progress. Although the child himself dictates the pace of learning, his teacher will help with the difficulties, stimulate his interests and will spot his readiness to progress to stages ahead. At the end of the first term and third term we hold parent evenings, where parents can talk to their child's teacher and discuss his progress.

THE MONTESSORI TEACHING METHOD

Dr Maria Montessori was the founder of this unique method of teaching young children. She initially observed children and how they learn. Unlike conventional teaching, which often instructs and installs knowledge from outside, Dr Montessori discovered that every child is gifted with a will and love for learning, a so-called inner teacher. Her approach therefore was to assist and guide a child, meeting their needs to help them reach their maximum learning potential and to unfold their unique personality.

The essence of Montessori education is that every child is treated with respect, given freedom within the limits of a carefully structured environment and allowed to develop naturally at his or her own pace. Based on her findings, Dr Montessori developed her own teaching materials and changed the role of the traditional teacher. With the right approach children learn willingly, so the Montessori teacher is gentle, sympathetic and full of encouragement. She/he provides the stimulus and inspiration for the child to learn and progress. As a friendly helper, she/he is always at hand to guide and encourage positive attitudes and help create well-balanced individuals.

Once settled, a child is free to choose his* own activity. He is usually taught on a one-to-one basis, to encourage maximum response, but never pressured into learning or rushed in any way. This in turn promotes confidence and independence. Children are involved in different activities, working alongside each other therefore learning to respect one another and form friendships. The Montessori method of teaching has been accepted in almost every culture in the world. The curriculum embraces practical life exercise, sensorial education, language and mathematics and all the cultural and creative subjects. *the use of the words he or his infers both genders



GENERAL INFORMATION

RATIOS AND KEY WORKERS

For staff trained up to *Level 5*
Age 2-3 1 member of staff to five children

Age 3-5 1 member of staff to eight children

For staff trained at *Level 6* and above

Age 2-3 1 member of staff to four children

Age 3-5 1 member of staff to thirteen children

All teaching staff are fully qualified and carefully chosen and undergo enhanced DBS checks before they can work with the children

THE SCHOOL HOURS

The school will operate during term times only. There are three terms a year, each term is usually eleven weeks long and although holidays differ each year, we will endeavour to co-ordinate with other schools in the area.

We offer Morning, Afternoon and Full day sessions (*Minimum 2 sessions per week)

*Please read the General Information under the Fees

MORNING SESSION
08:50 TO 11:50

AFTERNOON SESSION
11:50 TO 2:50

FULL-DAY SESSION
08:50 TO 2:50



We practice

Montessori Method In Conjunction With EYFS Curriculum

We are proud of the way we approach learning and child development. Our curriculum is inspired by special events and children's interests and designed to 'plant seeds of curiosity' through a wide range of exciting and colourful activities. From creating artwork inspired by Kandinsky and Picasso, visiting the Royal observatory, baking banana bread and making Rocket fruit kebabs, recycling, talking about women who changed the world, make salt dough dinosaur fossils, celebrate Holi, build our own London city to our weekly STEM activities with volcano eruption and colour science experiments, we know how to have fun and learn through play.

Extra Curricular

Investing in our children and believing in their strengths and abilities, we have enriched our curriculum with Dance lessons, Yoga and Sports to provide more learning opportunities to the children to enjoy music, express themselves in different forms, practise their gross motor skills, get to know their body and gain control of their movements.





"The Colour Box provides a warm, joyful atmosphere for the children. I am impressed by the enthusiastic and professional staff and the range of topics and activities"

GEORGINA C.S

Safeguarding

As a childcare provider, we have a legal and moral duty to recognise and record any signs and incidents which may harm a child psychologically or physically. Our staff are trained to follow child abuse procedures, and we will report concerns to the appropriate agency and/or police.

Special Educational Needs

We show commitment to include children with special needs and disabilities within the setting, and have an appointed member of staff as our Special Educational Needs Co-Ordinator.

A nursery day

8:50am to 9:20am Free play
 9:20am to 10:00am Focus activity (Teacher led)/ STEM/ Cooking
 10:00am to 10:25am Snack time
 10:30am to 11:00am Circle time
 11:10am to 11:30am Free play - Montessori resources
 11:30am to 11:50am Outdoor play/ Gym
 12:00pm to 12:30pm Lunch time
 12:30pm to 12:50pm Free play - Montessori resources
 12:50pm to 1:30pm - Focus Activity
 1:30pm to 2:00pm - Indoor/Outdoor
 2:00pm to 2:30pm - Free Play
 2:30pm to 2:45pm - Circle Time /Snacks

Our parents have said..

"The team care deeply about the stimulation and wellbeing of the children, this care is evident in their creation of an interesting and broad range of activities and topics for the children to explore. They listen to feedback and ideas from the children which is so lovely to see and they take the time to understand their specific interests and dislikes. Gently encouraging and supporting whilst allowing the child the opportunity to express themselves is something I value highly and it's been wonderful to see the team express this in their work. The weekly newsletter is so fun and we enjoy reading it together each week and seeing everything my son has been up to (although he does share a lot as well). We have had a brilliant experience with the team, their vibrant, positive and gentle approach has helped my son to feel comfortable, safe, engaged and happy during his time at The Colour Box"

ZAHRA B.

"My daughter thoroughly enjoys her time at The Colour Box and always comes out high as a kite! She has hugely benefited from being able to play and build relationship with other children her age independently from her older sister. The educational programme is outstanding and it's great to see what she is doing including singing songs to me and telling me about books the class has read together. A massive thank you to the Colour box team - you all clearly love your work and deeply invested in the children"

RACHAEL S.



Term Dates 25-26

AUTUMN TERM DATES:

03/09/2025 - START OF TERM

27/10/2025 - HALF TERM START

31/10/2025 - HALF TERM ENDS

12/12/2025 - END OF TERM

SPRING TERM DATES:

07/01/2026 - START OF TERM

16/02/2026 - HALF BREAK START

20/02/2026 - HALF BREAK ENDS

27/03/2026 - END OF TERM

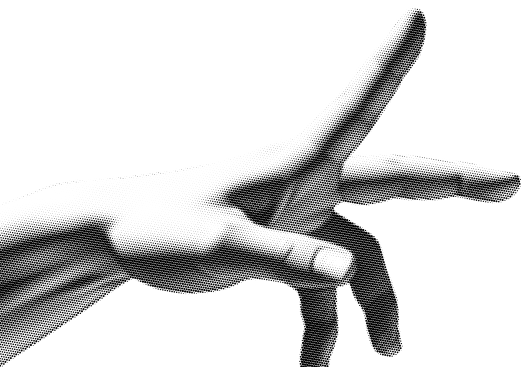
SUMMER TERM DATES:

15/04/2026 - START OF TERM

25/05/2026 - HALF BREAK START

29/05/2026 - HALF BREAK ENDS

17/07/2026 - END OF TERM



UNIVERSAL ENTITLEMENT OF 15 HOURS FREE EARLY EDUCATION AND CHILDCARE, 30 HOUR FOR WORKING FAMILY ENTITLEMENT AND WORKING FAMILY ENTITLEMENT FOR 2 YEAR OLD

All 9-23 months & 2, 3-4 year olds are entitled to a 15/30 hours free Place for 38 weeks of the year. The Colour Box has an additional service package which will be added for Staff, Building Rent, Montessori Equipment and Montessori Training, Ongoing Administration Costs, Stationary, Toys, Art Supplies and Gym Apparatus. This list is not inclusive. Parents must sign to agree to our additional services package if they are claiming the universal hours and pay our additional charges each term.

The 2 year old funded children:
A morning only session (08:50am-11:50am) is offered to 2 year old disadvantaged funded children

ADMISSIONS

A waiting list is in operation. Siblings of children already attending the school will have preference of admission. A place is normally offered for the term in which the child's second birthday occurs (unless otherwise requested on the registration form) and written offers are sent around the previous half term.

VIEWING AND APPLICATION PROCESS

Please telephone and or email the Nursery Manager to arrange a viewing. Registration operates on a first come, first served basis. However, if a place is not available when required, you may choose to be included on our waiting list.

020 3488 8067

info@thecolourbox.org

<https://thecolourbox.org/>

**The Colour Box Montessori Nursery
Earlsfield Baptist Church, Magdalen Rd, London SW18 3NZ**



Light and shadows exploration



Inspired by great artists



Pirate Number Hunt outdoors



Volcano STEM



Valentine's day STEM scitivity



Fresh grocery shopping role play

Terms and Conditions

1. Nursery Ethos and Approach

At The Colour Box Montessori Nursery, our practice is rooted in the principles of Maria Montessori. We support child-led learning within a carefully prepared environment that encourages independence, curiosity, and holistic development. Each child is valued as an individual, and we respect their unique pace and learning style. We strongly encourage parents to engage with our community and take time to understand the Montessori philosophy that underpins our daily practice.

2. Term-Time Operation

The nursery operates on a term-time only basis, typically following the local authority academic calendar across 38 weeks per year. We are closed on all public holidays, during school holidays, and on staff training (INSET) days, which are scheduled in advance.

3. Viewing and Application Process

To arrange a visit to the nursery, parents must complete our contact form available online or email us directly at info@thecolourbox.org. Once we receive your registration form, your child's name will be added to our admissions list. Places are offered on a first-come, first-served basis, although priority is given to siblings of currently enrolled children. Children are typically offered a place for the term in which they turn 18 months unless another start date is requested on the form. Written offers are generally sent during the half-term prior to the intended start date.

4. Attendance and Sessions

Once agreed, attendance sessions remain fixed for the duration of the term. Session times are as follows: morning sessions run from 8:50 am to 11:50 am, afternoon sessions from 11:50 am to 2:50 pm, and full-day sessions from 8:50 am to 2:50 pm. A minimum attendance of two morning or two full-day sessions per week is required.

Regular attendance plays an important role in supporting each child's development and helps the nursery meet its safeguarding responsibilities. Unexplained or prolonged absences may result in a follow-up and, in some cases, referral to the appropriate authorities in line with our Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy.

Parents wishing to increase their child's attendance must email the nursery with their request. Any increase is subject to availability. If parents wish to reduce their child's sessions, they must provide a full term's written notice.

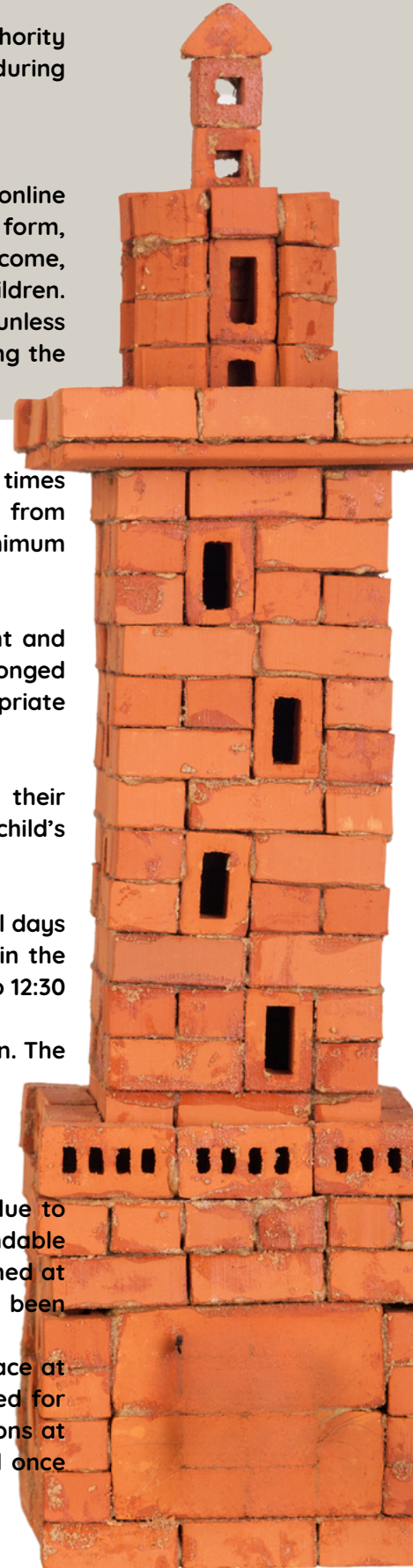
Children attending morning sessions are offered a healthy snack. Those attending full days are required to bring a nut-free packed lunch from home. Children attending only in the afternoon may also bring a lunch if they are joining the lunch group from 12:00 pm to 12:30 pm.

On the first and last day of each term, the nursery closes for all children at 12:00 noon. The nursery is also closed on all public and bank holidays.

5. Fees and Payments

Fees are payable termly in advance and are non-refundable in cases of absence due to illness, holidays, or other reasons. Upon enrolment, parents must pay a non-refundable registration fee of £100 and a refundable deposit of £700. The deposit will be returned at the end of the child's final term, provided that one full term's written notice has been given. If the place is not taken up, the deposit will not be refunded.

Late payments may result in additional charges and could jeopardize the child's place at the nursery. Fees are reviewed annually every September. No discounts are provided for public holidays, absences, illness, or INSET days. Parents may book additional sessions at the standard daily rate, depending on availability, but sessions cannot be swapped once agreed.



Terms and Conditions

6. Government Funding and Extras

The nursery offers 15 or 30 hours of government-funded childcare for eligible children aged 18 months to 4 years. We also accept Tax-Free Childcare and childcare vouchers. Funded hours cover the Montessori education provision. Additional charges may apply for meals and snacks, if not provided from home, and an £80 extracurricular fee applies to children who are fully funded and attend sports sessions.

Parents must provide a valid eligibility code when claiming funded hours. To use the full 15 hours of funding, children must attend either five morning sessions, five afternoon sessions, or two full days plus one morning session each week.

7. Notice Period

A full term's written notice is required for withdrawing a child from the nursery or reducing their agreed sessions. Failure to provide the appropriate notice will result in a charge equal to one full term's fees. The nursery also reserves the right to issue notice if necessary, including in cases of non-compliance with policies or safeguarding concerns.

8. Illness and Wellbeing

Children must not attend the nursery if they are unwell, including symptoms such as fever, vomiting, diarrhoea, or any contagious illness. The nursery will only administer medication with written consent from parents, in line with our medication policy. Children must remain at home for a minimum of 48 hours after the last episode of sickness or diarrhoea.

9. Safeguarding and Conduct

The nursery follows the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) Framework and adheres to Ofsted safeguarding standards. All staff members are DBS-checked and trained in child protection procedures. The environment promotes respect, kindness, and empathy, consistent with Montessori values. Parents are required to update the nursery with any changes to emergency contact details or authorised persons for child collection.

10. Collection and Late Charges

Children must be collected promptly at the end of their designated session. A late collection fee of £10 per 10 minutes may be applied to cover the additional staffing costs incurred.

11. Additional Policies

The nursery maintains a comprehensive set of policies that are available upon request. These include, but are not limited to, policies on Behaviour Management, Equal Opportunities, Inclusion, and Special Educational Needs.

12. Amendments to Terms

The nursery reserves the right to update or amend these Terms and Conditions with a minimum of one month's notice. Any changes will be communicated to parents via email or the nursery newsletter.

