



Nurturing the Next Generation



BRISBANE  
MONTESSORI

FOR CHILDREN AGED 0-15 YEARS

# Guiding the Next Generation

## **Brisbane Montessori School embodies the very essence of what a school should be:**

- a vibrant community of students who are excited to learn
- natural green open spaces that are good for their souls
- bright classrooms full of practical tools
- innovative and proven teaching methodologies
- engaged, dedicated and encouraging teachers, and
- stimulating, challenging and student-centric curriculum.

The only Montessori school in Brisbane, our school aligns the timeless philosophy of Maria Montessori with a modern educational approach for students from infant to 15 years. Situated in a peaceful setting by the Brisbane River in Fig Tree Pocket, our school provides an exceptional educational foundation for children to develop knowledge and meaningful real-world skills to use throughout their life.

The first time you arrive at our school you will notice an absence of school uniforms and an expansive green outlook providing the freedom and space to play. Inside, our classrooms are distinctive because of the unique materials students use and our philosophy where teachers mentor rather than 'teach'. It is a positive and friendly environment that feels like an extended family.

What sets Montessori apart is our educational programme that is centred on the child and allows them to explore and discover in every sense of the word.

Our unique learning platform is based on separate areas for developmental stages, multi-age classrooms and an integrated curriculum. It gives each child the scope to learn at their own pace and pursue their own interests. Our Montessori teachers are highly trained in our philosophy and delivery method, ensuring that students are guided every step of their schooling journey.

At our school's heart, we nurture children to develop an awareness of themselves and the world they live in, to build a sense of inner peace and to tolerate differences. Academically our students thrive and place well in traditional curriculum assessment and readiness for senior schooling and life beyond their school years.

We invite you to consider Brisbane Montessori School for your child's education. It truly is a special place.



## Welcome to Brisbane Montessori School

It is a joy and a privilege for me to lead our inspirational team of Montessori educators and staff, to be involved in the lives of so many young and promising individuals, and to have the support of their dedicated families. This is the rare and special community of Brisbane Montessori.

This prospectus is designed to give you an introduction to our school and what makes a Montessori education so unique.

However, to truly understand our school and feel what makes it so special, I invite you to come and tour our classrooms and meet with our staff to see first-hand the Montessori philosophy in action. We also provide more in-depth seminars on a Montessori education as part of your induction into our Montessori education.

Our school facilities include a multi-purpose hall, library, playgrounds, sports court, kitchen gardens and ample green spaces. Our students also benefit from using specialist external facilities available to us as required. Our authentic Montessori curriculum has been quality assured and sits well alongside the Australian National Curriculum to provide students with a well-rounded and rigorous learning environment.

As a member of our Brisbane Montessori community you can be assured of more than just an education for your child; your family will enjoy connections and friendships and many school events. Parents can join our P&F and also help in our classrooms. Our school also operates a Before and After School Care service to cater for working parents.

If you want your child to foster a love of learning, to develop personal responsibility, social skills, critical thinking processes, and independence, then Brisbane Montessori School is the place to be.

Come visit us.

We look forward to meeting you and welcoming you and your child into our community.

**May Selkirk** B.A., H.Dip.Ed., F.D.E., Montessori Dip., 3-6, 6-9, Dip Children's Services  
Principal  
Brisbane Montessori School

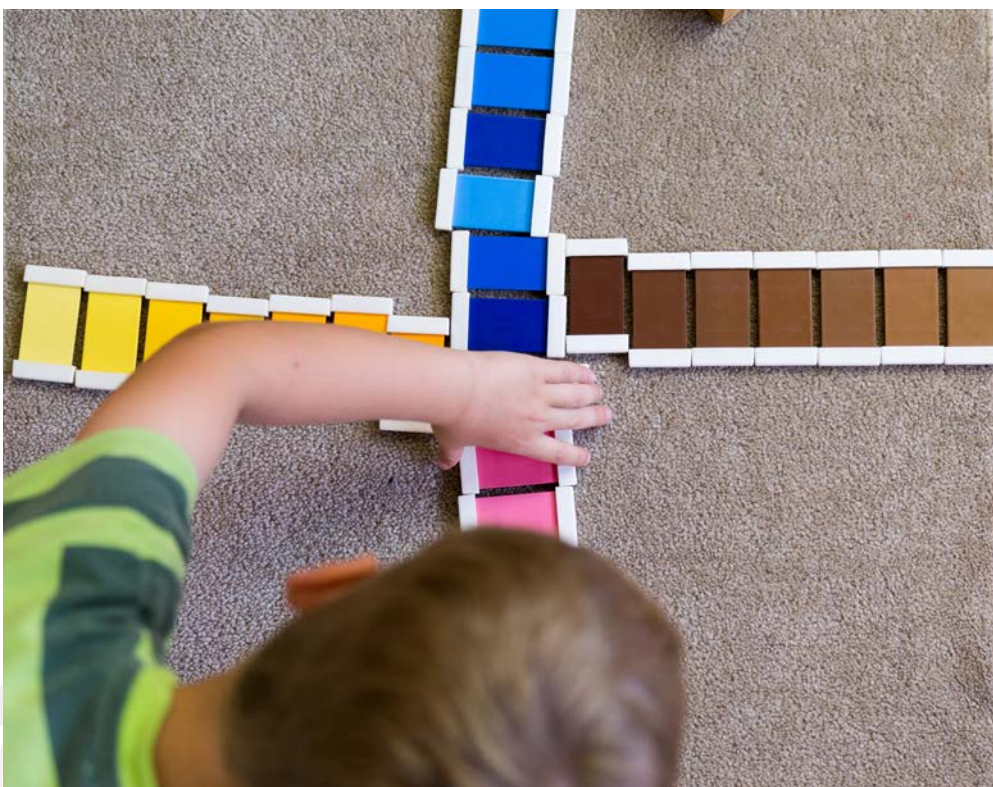


# The Montessori Approach

Montessori education is an educational approach developed by Italian physician and educator, Maria Montessori. In 1907 Maria Montessori opened her first classroom, the Casa dei Bambini or Children's House, in Rome. From the beginning, Montessori based her work on her observations of children and experimentation with the environment, materials, and lessons. She observed that children under six absorb limitlessly and effortlessly from the world around them and in doing so lay down all the foundations for later in life.

Montessori education is characterised by an emphasis on independence, freedom within limits, and respect for a child's natural psychological development. Essential elements include:

- mixed-age classrooms allowing a child to develop socially, intellectually and emotionally
- student choice of activity within a prescribed range of options
- uninterrupted blocks of work time
- a constructivism or 'discovery' model, where students learn concepts from working with materials rather than by direct instruction. They are guided by a trained adult who is there to support them.
- specialised education materials that are carefully designed and scientifically researched to fit the developmental needs of children.





Montessori education is practised in an estimated 20,000 schools worldwide, serving children from birth to 18 years old. It seeks to promote:

- self-confidence and self-esteem
- a sense of achievement and self-worth
- a sense of responsibility for themselves and their actions
- independence and adaptability
- cooperation with others and a sense of community
- respect for the rights and needs of others
- initiative and self-motivation
- concentration and persistence in completing a task.

There are three key components for the optimal Montessori working environment: the prepared environment, the children and the adults. You can read more about this on our website.

Observation is a major part of assessment in a Montessori classroom. This provides the platform to engage and prepare both formative and summative assessments. Children are continuously assessed through formal and informal test environments, and precise records are kept for each individual's educational programme.





# Our Curriculum

Our school delivers the approved Montessori National Curriculum. The Montessori Curriculum has been mapped against the Australian National Curriculum so that parents can be assured that children attending Brisbane Montessori School are covering approved content.

The Montessori curriculum is much broader than many other programmes as it helps a child to become a competent and confident learner, which in turn develops the child's capacities. The Montessori curriculum also helps children develop strong foundations in language and maths, and an in-depth knowledge of physical and cultural geography, zoology, botany, physical science, history, art, physical education, practical life and grace and courtesy.

A music programme is offered in Children's House (3-6 year olds). All children in Primary and Middle School can access our specialist teachers for French, Music and Physical Education.



# Application for Enrolment



## Indicate programme for entry

Infant & Toddler 0-3 with parents	<input type="checkbox"/>	Toddler 15m-3y without parents	<input type="checkbox"/>	Children's House 3-6 years	<input type="checkbox"/>	Lower Primary 6-9 years	<input type="checkbox"/>	Upper Primary 9-12 years	<input type="checkbox"/>	Adolescent 12-15 years	<input type="checkbox"/>
Desired Start Date OR Term of Enrolment											

OFFICE USE ONLY				Family code:	Student Code:
Rec. No.:	Amt:	Date:			

## Section 1: Student Details

First Name			
Middle Name/s:			
Preferred Name			
Last Name			
Date of Birth			
Gender	Male <input type="checkbox"/>	Female <input type="checkbox"/>	
Country of Birth			
Nationality			
Religious Affiliation (optional)			
Please note any customs/dietary requirements the school should be aware of:			
Home Address:	Street Number & Name		
	Suburb		Postcode
Billing/Postal Address: <input type="checkbox"/> same as above	Street Number & Name		
	Suburb		Postcode

## Other family members currently or previously enrolled at Brisbane Montessori School

Name	Relationship	Years attended

Current school/child care	
Years attended (ie. P-2)	
Reason for transfer	

**Parent/Guardian 1**

Title (Circle One)	Miss   Ms   Mrs   Mr   Other:_____
First Name	
Last Name	
Nationality	
Home Telephone	
Mobile	
Email	
Occupation	
Employer/Company	
Work Telephone	

**Parent/Guardian 2**

Title (Circle One)	Miss   Ms   Mrs   Mr   Other:_____
First Name	
Last Name	
Nationality	
Home Telephone	
Mobile	
Email	
Occupation	
Employer/Company	
Work Telephone	

**Custody Orders**

Are there any Custody Orders in Place? <i>Please attach copy of Custody Orders if applicable</i>	Yes / No
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**Residential Status**

Are the Student and Parents/Guardians either Australian Citizens or Immigration Approved Residents of Australia?
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<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Yes</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>No</b>	<b>Details of Visa:</b>
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Does the student, mother/guardian or father/guardian speak a language other than English at home?		Yes / No	If 'Yes', please specify language
	Student		
	Mother / Guardian 1		
	Father / Guardian 2		



## Section 2: Educational Expectations

1. Please indicate all programmes you intend to enrol child in? (This is for planning purposes only; written notice is required to terminate enrolment)

Infant & Toddler  
0-3 with parents

Toddler 15m-3y  
without parents

Children's House  
3-6 years

Lower Primary  
6-9 years

Upper Primary  
9-12 years

Adolescent  
12-15 years

2. What do you know about Montessori education?


3. What in particular has brought you to this method of education?


4. What are your expectations of this system of education?


5. Have you any reservations about the Montessori philosophy or approach to education?


6. At what age/stage do you consider that your child might transition to a mainstream or other education system?


### Section 3: Educational History / Student Needs Profile

1. Previous schools (please highlight any Montessori schools)?


2. Please indicate if your child has any condition (historic or current) that may impact on full participation in the programme, or require special medical attention or support. Attach additional information if space is insufficient.

	Yes/No	If 'Yes', provide details & attach specialist reports
Learning difficulties		
Allergies & Action Plans		
Physical disability		
Gifted and talented		
Medical condition		
Regular medication		
Social difficulties		
ESL support		
Other		

**Note: non-disclosure of any special needs may lead to a review of the enrolment**

3. Has your child ever been suspended, excluded or expelled from school?

Yes / No

4. Do you have any behavioural concerns for your child?

Yes / No

5. If 'Yes' to either 3 or 4, please provide details below:


### Section 4: Parent signature and agreement

I understand that this application places the abovementioned child on a WAITING LIST on receipt of an REGISTRATION FEE OF \$50 for Infant and Toddler Community 0-3 (with parents) or an APPLICATION FEE OF \$150 for all other programmes. I accept that this fee will not be refunded, whether a place is offered or not. This application does not constitute an offer of a place. Upon the offer of a place in a programme other than the Infant and Toddler Community, a BOND and an ENROLMENT FEE is payable to confirm acceptance of that offer.

Signature	Relationship to Student	Date

# Learning for Life

## **Our Four Programme Areas (0-15 years)**

### **We currently have the following Montessori programmes:**

- Infants and Toddlers (0-3 years)
- Children's House (3-6 years)
- Primary School (6-12 years)
- Middle School (12-15 years)

### **Infants and Toddlers**

The first six years of a child's life is by far the most important, with the first three years being the key time for orientation. The Infant & Toddler Community (referred to as Nido, 'nest' in Italian) caters for groups of 8 to 12 children, attending with a parent. This unique approach is extremely beneficial to the child and parents within the Montessori setting and at home. The children participate in an environment that is based on respect, grace, courtesy and responsibility.

Lotus - our Montessori Independent Toddler Community - caters for children between 15 months and three years of age, with children attending without parents. The environment is prepared to complement the home and offers the toddler a place where they can achieve self-esteem, self-mastery and self-awareness through practice and repetition at their own pace.

### **Children's House**

Children are accepted into Children's House from three years of age. At three and four years of age they can attend a morning class five days a week or a full day, five days a week. At around 4.5 years, or when they are ready, all children will move to an extended day.

### **Primary School**

Primary School is divided into two stages: Lower Primary (6-9 year olds) and Upper Primary (9-12 year olds). Each classroom environment is made up of children who are at different levels of physical, emotional, social and academic development so that no student ever feels left behind. The ingenuity of Montessori materials ensures that students who are ready for academic extension but not yet for the next stage can always be supported and challenged.

### **Middle School**

Middle School practices include mixed-age classes, individualised education options with individual and small group instruction, hands-on learning experiences and an integration of all curriculum subjects within a flexible timeframe. The Montessori Middle School environment is designed to build an adolescent community in which young people gain social experiences that prepare them for adulthood. The right environment for adolescents, according to Dr Montessori, is one in which they can have 'effective, practical experience of every aspect of social life'.



# 2019 FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITIES



<b>School Programmes (3 – 15 years) and Montessori Independent Toddler Community (15 months – 3 years)</b>		
Application Fee (per child)	A non-refundable fee to accompany the Application for Enrolment.	\$150
Enrolment Fee (per child)	A non-refundable fee to accompany acceptance of placement offer.	\$300
Enrolment Bond (per child)	A refundable bond to accompany acceptance of placement offer.	\$2,496
<b>Infant and Toddler Community (0 – 3 years)</b>		
Registration Fee (per child)	A non-refundable fee to accompany the Application for Registration.	\$50
<b>Programmes</b>	<b>Offerings</b>	<b>Amount / Unit</b>
<b>Infant and Toddler Community (Nido)</b>	10 Sessions per term (1 session per week)	\$280 / term
	20 Sessions per term (2 sessions per week)	\$500 / term
<b>Montessori Independent Toddler Community (Lotus)</b>	Day Session (9am–3pm) charged fortnightly *	\$100 / day
	Extended Day Session (8am–4pm) charged fortnightly *	\$125 / day
<b>Children's House</b>	Day Session (9am–3pm) charged fortnightly *	\$60 / day
	Prep aged (9am–3pm) invoiced termly	\$2,496 / term
	Before School Care (7:30–9am) charged fortnightly *	\$15 / session
	After School Care Short (3–4pm) charged fortnightly *	\$10 / session
	After School Care (3–6pm) charged fortnightly *	\$25 / session
<b>Primary &amp; Middle School</b>	6 – 15 year old (8:45am–3pm) invoiced termly	\$2,496 / term
	After School Care Short (3–4pm) charged fortnightly *	\$10 / session
	After School Care Long (3–6pm) charged fortnightly *	\$25 / session
	Vacation Care (7:30am–6pm) charged fortnightly *	\$55 / day
<b>Additional Family Contributions</b>		
<b>Excursion &amp; Incursion Levy</b>	Includes camps, visits to points of interest or performances	Cost Basis
<b>Focus Magazine</b>	Annual book that is a reflection of the school year	Cost Basis
<b>Company Membership (optional)</b>	First family member Second family member	\$10 / year \$5 / year
<b>Voluntary Building Fund</b>	Building Fund donations are tax deductible under section 78, <i>Income Tax Assessment Act 1936</i> . These contributions are essential for the future developments of the school.	\$250 / term \$1,000 / year
<b>Concessions</b>		
<b>Sibling Discount</b>	\$125 discount for each additional child attending the Children's House, Primary/Middle School or the Montessori Independent Toddler Community at the same time.	\$125 / child per term

\* Indicates fees eligible for CCSS

Updated on 18 September 2018

## Payments via Direct Deposit

Account Name: Brisbane Montessori School  
ANZ Kenmore BSB: 014 272

Account Number: 1988 00838  
EFT Reference: Family Surname

## Brisbane Montessori School

Mactier Street (Cnr Fig Tree Pocket Road), Fig Tree Pocket Qld 4069  
T: 61 7 3327 0600 F: 61 7 3878 3953 E: [enrolments@bms.qld.edu.au](mailto:enrolments@bms.qld.edu.au) W: [www.bms.qld.edu.au](http://www.bms.qld.edu.au)

## **PAYMENT ARRANGEMENTS**

### **School Tuition**

School Tuition applies to children in the Primary and Middle Schools and also children in Children's House who are prep aged or older. If your child was born between July 1, 2013 and June 30, 2014 they will be considered prep aged in 2019.

- All fees and charges are billed on account at least one week prior to the commencement of each term.
- School fees are due and payable on the Thursday of the first week of each term unless a payment authority is in place.
- If a payment authority is in place, fees may be paid termly, monthly or fortnightly as per the School Tuition 2019 Payment Schedule via Direct Debit, MasterCard or Visa.

### **Long Day Care Fees**

Children in the Montessori Independent Toddler Community and children under prep age in Children's House are considered to be attending Long Day Care.

- All Long Day Care Charges are invoiced fortnightly in arrears.
- If no payment authority is in place, fees are due within seven days of invoice.
- If a payment authority is in place, fees will be charged fortnightly as per the Long Day Care & OSHC 2019 Payment Schedule.

### **Out of School Hours Care (OSHC)**

- All OSHC charges are invoiced fortnightly in arrears.
- If no payment authority is in place, fees are due within seven days of invoice.
- If a payment authority is in place, fees will be charged fortnightly as per the Long Day Care & OSHC 2019 Payment Schedule.

### **Infant & Toddler Community**

- 10 or 20 sessions cards to be purchased from the school office prior to attending first paid session.
- An enrolment form must be completed and a registration fee of \$50 paid prior to the purchase of a card.
- Pro-rata cards may be purchased if commencing mid-term.
- Sessions must be used within the term.

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# 2019 ENROLMENT PROCEDURE

The following are requirements for enrolment. Your participation in this process will enhance your understanding of a Montessori education.

## Stage One

### Requirements for the Enrolment Process

**Tour of the School and Observation** in a class that matches the age of your child Tuesdays at 9:00. Please contact the office to book.

Booked for \_\_\_\_\_

**Application for Enrolment** is lodged and the \$150 Application Fee (non-refundable) is paid. You may choose to lodge your application after you have attended the introductory seminar. Enrolment will be processed after application and fee have been received.

### Introduction to Montessori Seminar: Montessori Explained

Attendance at a 'Montessori Explained' seminar is a requirement for all families. We encourage both parents to attend.

The seminars are offered on the following dates:

**Term 1, 2019**

Wednesday 13 March, 9:15am

**Term 3, 2019**

Tuesday, 10 September, 6:30pm

**Term 2, 2019**

Tuesday 4 June, 6:30pm

**Term 4, 2019**

Tuesday 3 December, 9:15am

### Journey Programmes

Attending one of the Journey Programmes is also a requirement for parents. The programmes provide you hands-on experience with Montessori materials and a better understanding of a Montessori education. You will gather valuable insights into the curriculum and its delivery. You are invited to attend a Journey Programme every year.

**a. Journey & Discovery**

Saturday 1 June 2019 (8am – 12:30pm)

OR

**b. Journey through the Curriculum** (each year a different subject will be discussed)

Wednesday, 23 October 2019 (6:30pm)

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*Last updated: 8 November 2018*



## Stage Two

### Interview with the Principal

During the 30-minute meeting with your family we will specifically discuss your child's development and suitability for a place at Brisbane Montessori. You will be notified of acceptance or otherwise at the conclusion of the interview. The following are required to be in place for the interview:

1. Your child needs to be in attendance and, if possible, both parents.
2. Any pertinent reports relating to your child's developmental needs.
3. All children starting in the Children's House (3 to 6 years) must be toilet trained.
4. All children starting in the Montessori Independent Toddler Community must be walking confidently.
5. Prior to final enrolment acceptance, a primary student will be required to have a class work period visit.

## Stage Three

### Offer Documentation and Class Allocation

You will receive the offer documentation including:

1. **Your child's class allocation**, which is solely at the Principal's discretion. The Principal will take into account maintaining a balanced gender and age distribution in each class. The class allocation is set in the context of all children entering the school.
2. **List of requirements to secure your offer**, which includes completion of paperwork and payment of entry fees by the due date. Please ensure that both parents have signed the enrolment contract and those signatures have been witnessed.
3. **Your scheduled time for a class director interview**, in which you will discuss your child and their week of commencement. Please be aware that we do not start all the children at the same time in the Children's House. We have a staggered intake throughout the term to ensure that each new child receives sufficient attention from the class directors to allow a smooth transition.

## Stage Four

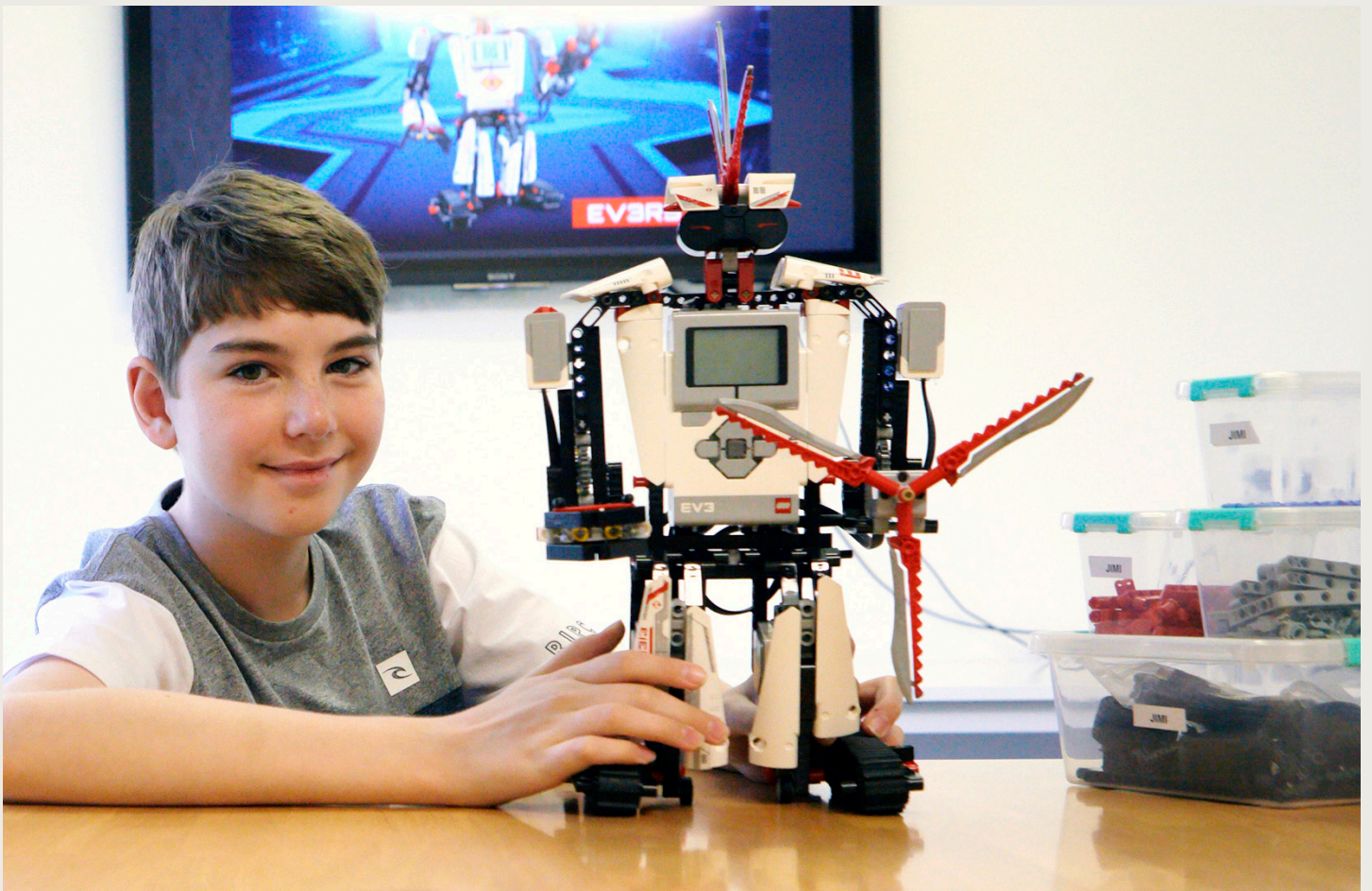
### Your Child is Enrolled

Please keep in contact with your class director on how your child is settling into the class. Invoicing commences from the week your child starts attending the programme.

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*Last updated: 8 November 2018*



**Situated beside the Brisbane River on a beautiful pocket of land, Brisbane Montessori School offers a unique educational programme for infants to adolescents.**

The Brisbane Montessori School community empowers individuals to be independent, realise their potential, value life-long learning and build a culture of peace.

We are Brisbane's only Montessori school for children aged 0-15 years.



**Nurturing the Next Generation**

Brisbane Montessori School – 0 to 15 year olds. Mactier Street, Fig Tree Pocket.

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