

MONTESSORI ASSISTANTS CERTIFICATE COURSE AMI

Programme of Work

This Course is intended to help adults become able Assistants in a Montessori environment. It includes the philosophy needed to work effectively in this position and some basic practical skills useful in the classroom.

The Course is also of help and interest to: ECE teachers working in Montessori school, to parents and childcare professionals from other fields.

Focus of the Assistant's Work:

- To observe
- To learn when & how to intervene to support children's learning and development
- To acquire the ability to allow children to become more independent; "any unnecessary help is a hindrance to development".
- To gain knowledge of Montessori's understanding of Freedom and Discipline
- To learn how to develop respect for, and with, children.

Duration of the Course:

7 days – to include 60 contact hours and 8 additional hours of observation.

Obligatory Reading:

Selected reading from the four books listed below:

- The Secret of Childhood;
- The Child in the Family;
- Education for a New World;
- The Absorbent Mind.

The Course Programme:

- I. Introduction to Montessori education.
- II. The Role of the Teacher.
- III. The Role of the Assistant.
- IV. Overview of the Planes of Development (0-6, 6-12 and 12-18 years and 18-24 years with emphasis on the first 6 years)
- V. The Child's Mind from 0-6 years.
- VI. Order:
The importance of Order and Precision, with emphasis on the part Order plays in the development of the personality.
- VII. Movement 0-6:
Development of Movement and its significance for the child.

- VIII. The development of Oral Language:
To include the following elements:

- Preparation of the adult;
- Use of Language in general;
- Use of Vocabulary : correct, precise, rich, exact;
- How to listen to children;
- Communication Skills.

- IX. Independence:
Development of Independence, also taking into account different levels of Independence.

- X. Prepared Environment:

- In the Home
- In the Children's House / school environment

- XI. Freedom and Discipline:
Understanding the concept of Freedom from the Montessori point of view and the growth of Discipline as an inner development.

- XII. Social Development:
Focusing on the process of socialisation in young children.

- XIII. Observation and its relevance (technique & recording)

- XIV. Music & Art

- XV. Maintaining the Environment (indoors & outdoors)

Further Requirements:

- Submission of papers on 3 topics (1 mandatory and 2 chosen by the individual from among those given on the course, of 500 words each).
- Observation report.
- Poetry Anthology made by hand.
- Making Classified Cards for Language Development.

In order to obtain an AMI Certificate 90% attendance is required. Students with attendance below 90% will not be eligible for an AMI certificate.

Course Application

The Assistants Certificate Course is ideal also for anyone considering taking the AMI 3-6 course in the future.

The Montessori Assistants Course is run in accordance with the standards set by AMI at Maria Montessori Education Foundation.

Cheryl Ferreira AMI 3-6 Trainer

Cheryl Ferreira was born in Mumbai, India. She has worked with children from the age of 17, becoming interested in the Montessori approach while assisting in a Montessori school. Cheryl graduated with a BA Hons. and then received an MA in history from the University of Bombay. She undertook her Montessori training at the AMI Montessori training centre in Hyderabad, India. She then worked in Montessori schools and on AMI courses in different parts of India. In 1998, she came to the Maria Montessori Training Organisation in London (MMTO) as part of AMI's Training of Trainers programme, and in 2000 she became an authorised AMI Trainer. Cheryl is currently a senior member of staff at MMTO and will be Director of Training for the Auckland 2009 AMI 3-6 Diploma Course.



Assistants Certificate Course AMI Venues

Auckland

Saturday, 5th – Friday 11th July 2008

8-30am – 5.30pm

Titoki Montessori School
70a Stredwick Drive
Torbay, Auckland

Dunedin

Saturday 12th – Friday 18th July 2008

8-30am – 6.30pm (early finish on Friday)

Montessori at the Gardens
7 Chambers Street
North East Valley, Dunedin

Early Bird Registration **\$825**

After April 25th **\$945**

Includes morning and afternoon tea • BYO communal lunch daily.

Your AMI Assistants Certificate will be sent to you following completion of the course and submission of your Observation Report.

Enquiries: 09-422 9981 or mmef@ihug.co.nz

Registration Form

Tax invoice - GST registered No. 93-103-831. The fee is inclusive of GST.
This registration form is your official tax invoice/statement.

Name _____

School _____

Address _____

Phone: daytime _____ evening _____

Email _____

Early Bird Registration \$825 (to be eligible for Early Bird Registration, registration and payments must be received by Friday April 25th).

Late Registration (after April 25th). **\$945**

There will be no refunds after June 1st, 2008

Payment Options:

cheque – please make payable to **MMEF**

internet banking – to MMEF, ASB Bank 123048 0417212 00.

Please include as reference: your name, school and 'Assistants Certificate'

PLACES ARE LIMITED SO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT – BOOK EARLY!

Please return your completed form with cheque payment or marked 'internet payment' and the date of to:

MMEF, PO Box 108054, Symonds Street, Auckland.

Enquiries to 09 422 9981 or mmef@ihug.co.nz

Accommodation

Accommodation suggestions for you to arrange if required:

Auckland: Near to the venue is Channel View studios and apartments www.channelview.co.nz. Tel: 09 478 1336.
Close to CBD is Lantana Lodge (Parnell) - International Backpackers www.lantanalodge.co.nz. Tel: 09 373 4546.

Dunedin - There are many motels in the area and several backpackers in the city. The school is on the bus route direct from the city and takes 10mins by bus.