

# Montessori education in Australian schools: charting a path

**Author:**

Eacott, Scott; Munoz Rivera, Felipe; Wainer, Chanah; Raad, Aline

**Publication Date:**

2022-01-17

**DOI:**

<https://doi.org/10.26190/unsworks/28143>

**License:**

<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>

Link to license to see what you are allowed to do with this resource.

Downloaded from [http://hdl.handle.net/1959.4/unsworks\\_78686](http://hdl.handle.net/1959.4/unsworks_78686) in <https://unsworks.unsw.edu.au> on 2024-05-02

## Schools

To establish a sample, we used three sources: the member lists of Montessori Australia (MA) and Montessori Schools and Centres Australia (MSCA), and the Australian Curriculum and Reporting Authority school profile and location data. In addition, we searched MySchool for 'Montessori' to identify any additional schools identifying as Montessori but not members of MA or MSCA (see Table 1).

For our statistical snapshot, we excluded other Independent, Catholic or Government schools who were members of MA or MSCA as it was impossible to separate Montessori streams or confirm their fidelity with Montessori education. A second Table does however list identified schools.

**Table 1.** Sample schools (n=36) for the Montessori Education in Australian Schools Report

School	Source			Notes
	MA	MSCA	ACARA	
Banksia Montessori School				
Barrenjoey Montessori				
Beechworth Montessori				
Beehive Montessori, The				
Blue Gum Montessori				
Brisbane Montessori				
Brunswick Montessori Children				Excluded, no ACARA data
Caboolture Montessori				
Cameragal Montessori				Three campuses
Canberra Montessori				
Casa Mia Montessori				
Castlecrag Montessori				Excluded, no ACARA data
Chrysalis Montessori				
Eastern Suburbs Montessori				Formerly Montessori East
Elonera Montessori				
Farmhouse Montessori				Two campuses
Forestville Montessori				
Gisborne Montessori				
Hills Montessori (NSW)				
Inner Sydney Montessori				Two campuses
Karuna Montessori				
Lindfield Montessori				Excluded, no ACARA data
Margaret River Montessori				
Melbourne Montessori				Two campuses
Montessori HomeSchool Collect				Excluded, no ACARA data
Montessori International Coll				
Montessori Noosa				
Northside Montessori				
Perth Individual				
North-Eastern Montessori				Formerly Plenty Valley
Riverlands Montessori				Now closed
Rockingham Montessori				Three campuses
Southern Montessori				
Southside Montessori				Two campuses
South West Montessori				Excluded, no ACARA data
Sydney Montessori				
The Central Coast Montessori				Primary school (Bateau Bay)
The Central Coast Montessori				
The Children's House Montesso				Excluded, no ACARA data
The Hills Montessori				Two campus
The Montessori School – Kings				
Thomas More Christian Montess				
Treetops Montessori				
Whitsunday Montessori				Excluded, no ACARA data

Table 2 below displays the list of government and independent schools that actively identify with Montessori education, primarily through membership of MA and/or MSCA. They were excluded from the statistical analysis in the Report but listed here as they will feature in ongoing research partnerships focused on Montessori education in Australian schools.

**Table 2.** Government schools that are members of MA and/or MSCA

School	Source			Notes
	MA	MSCA	ACARA	
Beechworth Secondary College				
Born Tutoring				
Capalaba State College				
Grovely State School				
Karingal Primary				
Lower Plenty Primary				
Mitcham Primary				
Mitchelton State High School				
Para Hills West Primary				
St Pius X Primary (Vic)				
Tagai State College				
Templestowe College				

## Staff and Students

The number and proportion of staff and students working in the identified schools was calculated using the 2020 ACARA School Profile data set.

The data set identifies 9,620 total schools in Australia, 1,170 of which are classified as ‘independent’ and we identified a total of 46 Montessori school education sites. This means that Montessori schools, as we have identified them, constitute 0.48 per cent of all schools and 3.93 per cent of independent schools in Australia.

ACARA data has 4,020,736 FTE students enrolled in Australian schools in the year 2020. Of those, 643,046 are enrolled in independent schools and 3,867 in Montessori identified schools. Students in Montessori schools constitute 0.10 per cent of all students and 0.60 per cent of students in independent schools.

From a staff perspective, ACARA data has 329,201 FTE teachers and 184,538 non-teaching staff in Australian schools. Independent schools make up 62,159 teachers and 43,297 non-teaching staff with the identified Montessori contributing 369.4 teachers and 325.2 non-teaching. This makes Montessori schools contribution 0.12 per cent of teachers nationally (0.68 of independent schools) and 0.25 per cent of non-teaching staff nationally (1.04 per cent of independent schools). In total, staff (both teaching and non-teaching) in Montessori identified schools represent 0.16 per cent of all Australian school-based staff and 0.81 per cent of all independent school-based staff.