



The Teresian Pre-School



A Unique Educational Experience



Education Policy

The Teresian Pre-School provides a unique educational experience for boys and girls from two years of age. A high standard of care and education takes place in a safe, happy and child-centered setting where the children experience the joy of learning and growing. Our students are encouraged to learn through interactions in a warm stimulating environment, guided by experienced and well-trained teachers convinced that children learn when they are loved, respected and allowed to choose.

Our education encompasses the spiritual, social, emotional, physical, intellectual and linguistic development of every child in our care.

We follow the Montessori method which blends very well with Síolta and Áistear, the Irish programmes

for children between birth and six years. The Áistear (Journey) programme allows children to develop as competent and confident learners using four themes which are developed through cross-curricular exploration:

- Well-being
- Identity and Belonging
- Communicating
- Exploring and Thinking

Through these themes Áistear focuses on developing children's skills and building knowledge and understanding of their world. This is made possible through focusing on the following guidelines:

- Enriching learning through interactions
- Learning through play
- Assessment to support learning
- Working with parents

"We want your child to feel happy and safe with us. Our staff place equal importance on care and education in the experience which we offer children."

Lynda McHale, Pre-School & Junior School Principal

Pre-School 1

Pre-School 1 is open to boys and girls from two to three years of age. It offers the child a flexible play and learning environment, catering for his/her individual needs.

Language development is very important at this stage, and with increasing vocabulary the child begins to use sentences rather than single words.

Awareness of others becomes noticeable at this stage. The teachers take every opportunity to educate for good relationships and behaviour, in a happy and relaxed atmosphere. We build up the child's confidence in a positive manner, promoting self-esteem and encouraging him/her to talk freely in an atmosphere of trust and care. Our goal is to support the children on their journey of life-long learning.





Pre-School 2

Our focus in Pre-School 2 is to enrich language and number, and to approach the cultural subjects of the Montessori programme using the various graded pieces of Montessori material.

Pre-School 2 is a more structured environment where the child learns to concentrate through working on

more individualised material. This material is designed to encourage independence and co-ordination. The task of socialisation continues and the child learns to give and take, to respect others and to respect property.

Pre-School 3

The aim of Pre-School 3 is to prepare the child for the exciting next step of entry to Junior School. The *Áistear* programme is integrated with the Montessori programme, and the child is introduced to the more advanced pieces of number, pre-reading and pre-writing equipment. The child grows more aware of her/his abilities and enjoys making choices and

achieving success in tasks.

All class activities are geared towards increasing self-esteem and self-confidence, both in personalised work and communication with others. The children are encouraged to listen to others and to express themselves clearly and articulately when it is their turn to speak.



Activities

Pre-School students are given many opportunities to express themselves, be creative and experiment. Their interest in the written word increases as they begin to link it with what is read to them. They discover a new world when they begin to read their first words.

Abundant material to aid discovery of number and the written word is made available to them. The monthly theme gives many opportunities for holistic learning. Pre-School students enjoy an array of activities intended to promote oral language development, gross and fine motor skill development and confidence.

These activities include: playball, arts & crafts, singing and drama, ballet, circle time, painting, colouring, cutting, sticking and making, music & movement, imaginative play, dress-up, jigsaws, building bricks, Montessori practical life and sensorial exercises, physical education, storytelling, rhymes, pictures, playdoh, quiet time with books.



Timetable

The Pre-School is open from 8am to 6pm. Teaching instruction is from 9am until 3pm.

Pre-School is closed for a week at Christmas, a week at Easter and the month of August.

Dress Code

Pre-School students should wear an art smock over comfortable clothes. Smocks can be purchased from Uniformity: www.uniformity.ie

Fees

9am - 3pm = €202 per week

9am - 6pm = €237 per week

The Teresian Pre-School participates in the ECCE Scheme.



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