SCHOOL YEAR 2024-25 & 2025-26

"La violette Toulousaine"

Bilingual Montessori School

WELCOME BOOKLET



Our dynamics



Our vision and the missions of our educational project



Our vision:

Schooling in a bilingual and cosmopolitan environment, based on Montessori philosophy and aimed for families from Toulouse as well as expatriate families. We also offer training courses for adults in order to create a local Montessori community, fully integrated into the international Montessori community.



Our mission

Our mission is to offer a range of environments adapted to each phase of a child development: 0/3 yo- 3/6 yo- 6/12 yo. We also want to support families and educational staff (from the French national education system) by offering training resources to improve the understanding of educational issues.

Montessori Pedagogy & Bilingual Teaching

What is Montessori?

"Montessori" is a teaching method developed by an Italian doctor and educationalist, Maria Montessori, at the beginning of the 20th century. Montessori is more than just the famous wooden teaching tools designed by Maria Montessori. It is first and foremost a philosophy, a way of observing children and seeing them as actors in their own development. The adult must respect the child's pace in order to enable him or her to develop his or her full potential. As a guide, the adult must adapt to the needs of every child.

Why French-English bilingual education?

For several years now, child development researchers have been demonstrating the many advantages of learning a second language from an early age. It has been shown that learning a second language improves children's ability to use their mother tongue. Moreover, children who have attended a bilingual school show an improvement in their ability to solve logical problems. It enhances their capacity for abstraction, thanks to a greater number of connections in their brains between concepts, words and symbols. Numerous studies conducted by neurologists have revealed the cognitive advantages of bilinguals over monolinguals in terms of memory and mental flexibility. There is also a considerable advantage for the child in mastering English for future projects.



Our dynamics

The characteristics of our educational action



Respect for the child:

We recognise each child as a unique individual with his or her own needs, interests and learning paces.

Autonomy:

Our pupils are encouraged to explore, experiment and learn at their own speed. Teachers act as guides and facilitators rather than governing authorities, allowing children to make decisions and direct their own learning.

Sensory learning:

We focus on using the senses to learn. Children are welcomed to manipulate, touch, smell and explore materials, making it easier for them to understand and retain concepts.

Community and collaboration:

We foster an environment of cooperation and mutual respect among students. Children of different ages often work together in the same classroom, encouraging collaboration and empathy.

Prepared environment:

Our classrooms are designed to allow independence and self-direction. They are equipped with teaching materials specially designed to encourage exploration and active learning.

Holistic development:



Our educational work aims to promote children's holistic development, including their intellectual, social, emotional and physical development. Activities and materials are designed to address all these aspects of development in an integrated way.

Educational project: Nursery & Primary

A school divided into 3 areas

Pre-Nursery: 2/3 year olds

The purpose of this class is to provide children an opportunity to socialize, for a better understanding of social rules, to encourage language development by extending their vocabulary, and to develop independence by emphasizing fine and overall motor skills, as well as toilet training. The children will be invited to make everyday tasks, such as putting on their shoes and using the water, so that they can be fully independent in the everyday activities of life. Preliminary Montessori exercises will have been introduced to the children, as well as practical life equipment, to ensure that they are perfectly integrated into the 3/6 year-old environment.







Environment 3/6 years old

In the 3-6 yo environment, Montessori materials are designed to help children develop by allowing them to explore the world and build their own personality. The activities are divided into four areas: practical life, sensory life, language and mathematics. The material allows children to check their mistakes in a visible and tangible way, enabling them to self-correct and become independent. By correcting themselves, they can repeat the activity at their own pace and develop their ability to concentrate. The teacher introduces the child to the material and guides him or her towards independence and research. Once the children have repeated the activity successfully, they no longer need the material: they have moved from the realm of experience to the sphere of thought.



Pre-Primary: Environment 6/12 years old

The 6-12 years environment is the logical continuation of the 3-6 years environment. As in the 3-6 years environment, the activities are divided into several fields: language, mathematics, geometry, geography, history, science and art. These fields are similar to those covered by the French national educational system. The educator will present the material to the children to give them a concrete dimension to the learning and concepts being worked on. When children are ready, they can practice writing using the teaching aids approved by the French Ministry of Education. Moreover, age, maturity and expertise diversities mean that there is a wide range of links and ways of helping each other. The youngest children arrive in a place already occupied by older children. The older children are very receptive to the younger ones, and spontaneously want to help them. Thanks to their experience, the older children set an example for the younger ones to follow, and the younger ones learn from their skills.





Prices





Our 3 solutions



Option 1 - Unit pricing

	2/3 years old	3/6 years old	6/9 years old	9/12 years old
Registration fees & School equipment	300 €	300 €	300 €	300 €
Monthly tuition fees (10 months) + €150 in July	Child 1 : 510 € Child 2 : 460 € Child 3 : 410 €	Child 1 : 520 € Child 2 : 460 € Child 3 : 410 €	Child 1 : 530 € Child 2 : 460 € Child 3 : 410 €	Child 1 : 540 € Child 2 : 460 € Child 3 : 410 €
Single meals	4,70 €	4,70 €	4,80 €	4,80 €
Morning garderie	2,50 €	2,50 €	2,50 €	2,50 €
Evening garderie	5,50 €	5,50 €	5,50 €	5,50 €
Wednesday garderie (with meal)		30 €	30 €	30 €

^{*}Tuition fees are paid monthly from September to June (+ €150 for the week in July).

Option 2 - Hybrid pricing

	2/3 years old	3/6 years old	6/9 years old	9/12 years old
Registration fees & School equipment	Offert	Offert	Offert	Offert
Tuition fees Annual (Payment in August)	5250 €	5350 €	5450 €	5500 €

Annual tuition fees are paid in August. Meals and childcare are paid for individually, as in option 1.

Option 3 - "Free mind" - 5-week English Camp offered

	2/3 years old	3/6 years old	6/9 years old	9/12 years old
Without discount	7 566 €	8.746.€	8 864 €	8 964 €
With discount	7 130 €	8 203 €	8 303 €	8 403 €

You pay for all our services in August. You receive a single invoice. All school outings are free, as are our 5-week English Camp.





I - Organisation of our school

1 - SCHOOL CALENDAR

The school follows the national education calendar (C Zone):

- Start of the school year: Monday, 02nd September
- All Saints' holiday: Friday, 19th October to Sunday, 3rd November
- Christmas holidays: from Friday, 20th December to Sunday, 5th January
- Winter holidays: from Friday, 14th February to Sunday, 02nd March
- Spring holidays: from Friday 11 April to Sunday 27 April
- Ascension Day: from Wednesday, 28th May 2025 to Sunday, 01st June
- End of the school year: Friday, 5th July

Every Friday before the holidays, the school organises a non-compulsory after-school care service from 9am to 12pm. We are closed in the afternoon for pedagogical meetings.

2 - OPENING HOURS AND DAYS

A - 2/3 years olds (pre-kindergarten)

The school welcomes pre-school children on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays (no school or extra-curricular activities on Wednesdays).

Morning daycare: 8:00-8:45

Pupils welcome: 8:45 Doors close: 9:00 Dismissal: 16:30

Evening daycare: 16:45 - 18:15

B - The 3/6, 6/9 and 9/12 age groups

The school welcomes nursery and primary school children:

<u>Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday:</u> <u>Wednesday</u>:

Morning daycare: 8:00-8:45

Reception of pupils: 8:45

Reception of pupils: 8:45

Reception of pupils: 8:45

Doors close: 9:00

Reception of pupils: 8:45

Doors close: 9:00 9:00

Dismissal: 16:30 Dismissal: 12:00

Evening daycare: 16:45 - 18:15 **Evening daycare:** 12:15–18:00

3 - PUNCTUALITY AND LATENESS POLICY

Punctuality and regular attendance are essential to ensure the good proceedings of school activities. Pupils must be present in class before 9:00 a.m., except in exceptional circumstances duly notified to the school via the "Éducartable" system. Any delay noted at the close of school will be subject to a penalty charge. If the child is 15 minutes late and the person designated to collect the child has not been notified, police will be contacted.







4 - CLASS ENTRANCES AND EXITS

Parents are responsible for their children until they enter school. When a pupil leaves school, only a person previously registered on the document entitled "Authorized persons to pick up your child" will be able to pick up the pupil concerned. This person must also sign the departure register. Once signed, the child is placed under the responsibility of the designated person, including inside our offices. In unforeseen and exceptional circumstances, the legal guardians may designate, via the Éducartable system, a person authorized to pick up the child. Identification may be required.

5 - COMMUNICATION

Trust is the ground of the relationship between parents and members of our team. This trust is based on mutual respect and non-violent communication. We encourage you to use the Éducartable platform exclusively to communicate with the school. In this way, all members of our team will have access to your messages, and the person best qualified to answer will do so. This ensures that information is transmitted accurately and flows smoothly.

6 - PEDAGOGICAL MEETING

We invite you to a meeting at the beginning of the school year to present the main aspects of the Montessori pedagogy and our pedagogical project. During the course of the year, one or two pedagogical meetings will be scheduled. You can also request a one-off meeting with one of our team members to discuss a specific situation. The teaching team remains available to answer your questions via the Éducartable platform.

7 - MEALS, FOOD AND DIET

Meals are provided by our partner "API Restauration" and reheated by us. It is possible to cancel meals up to 72 hours before delivery. All cancellations made within 72 hours of delivery will be billed. Three types of menu are available: Standard, Pork-free and Vegetarian (including eggs and fish). In line with our Montessori approach to teaching, children are encouraged to set and clear the table, with the aim of encouraging their independence. It is imperative that you inform us of any food that could cause an allergic reaction to your child. Lunchboxes are strictly forbidden, except in the case of an Individualised Welcome Plan (PAI) drawn up by a doctor.

8 - AFTER-SCHOOL & SCHOOL OUTINGS

During extracurricular time, we offer a variety of activities. Outside contributors can offer specific activities such as yoga, theater, sports, etc., throughout the year. These activities are subject to registration and may incur additional costs.

We also organize various school trips throughout the year, funded by the school. However, the costs associated with the major end-of-year outing will be borne by the families. On this occasion, the school will be closed for an administrative day.





II - School rules and operations

1 - HYGIENE

In order to prevent the spread of viruses and diseases, we apply strict hygiene rules within our community. Children are regularly encouraged to wash their hands. Toilet training is integrated into our program for children aged 2 to 3 yo, in a small group environment. Families are asked to provide nappies and wipes, and we ensure that nappies are checked and changed regularly. Potty-trained children are not allowed to join the 3 to 6 years old environment.

2 - AUTONOMY AND SELF-DISCIPLINE

Freedom within a Montessori environment allows children to explore their own learning path, selecting activities according to their interests and individual pace. Self-discipline emerges naturally when children are empowered to make choices and encouraged to take responsibility for their actions and interactions. This approach promotes the balanced development of autonomy and self-confidence.

3 - SOCIAL ENVIRONMENT AND THE CHILD'S ATTITUDE

In the context of learning the rules of life in society at school, it is understandable that certain incidents such as hitting, biting or insults may occur during this period of socialisation. Such behaviour is not tolerated and the teaching staff immediately deal with it, in accordance with the principles of good discipline and peaceful conflict resolution.

If a child repeatedly displays inappropriate behaviour, we see this as an opportunity for intervention and individual support. In such cases, we invite the legal guardians to take part in a meeting so that we can understand the underlying factors together and work together to find appropriate solutions.

As a last resort, the management reserves the right to take the difficult decision to put an end to a child's education at our school. This measure is taken in the interests of the well-being and safety of the other children, as well as to maintain an environment conducive to learning and the harmonious development of each child.

4 - SCHOOL LEVEL

A child's move up to the next class is subject to validation of the Common Base of Knowledge and Skills. This decision is taken by the members of the teaching team, who are the only ones empowered to assign children to the class requested by the parents, even if this does not strictly correspond to the child's age. To ensure a smooth transition, adjustments may be made at the end of the school year to facilitate the integration of pupils into their new class.







5 - WATER BOTTLES, SNACKS AND OUTSIDE FOOD

All children are asked to bring a water bottle at school, marked with their first and last names, so that it can be easily identified. These bottles are freely accessible in the classroom to allow children to hydrate themselves at any time.

Children attending the after-school daycare service are asked to bring a snack in a snack box, also labelled with the child's first and last name. In accordance with current regulations, it is not possible to store these snacks in a refrigerator. We therefore ask you not to provide products that require refrigeration. Children who do not attend the daycare are not allowed to bring snacks to school.

6 - CLOTHING AND PERSONAL ITEMS

It is essential that all your child's clothing and personal items are clearly identified with their first and last names. This helps us to ensure that each child can easily find their belongings and reduces the risk of loss. To maintain an environment conducive to learning, we insist that jewellery and personal toys are not allowed in school, except on specific occasions authorized in advance by the educational team.

A cuddly blanket or toy is the only personal object allowed during the nap, as we understand its importance for the child's emotional comfort. However, once the nap is over, the cuddly blanket or toy will be carefully returned to your child's bag, unless he or she is particularly upset.

Unmarked and unclaimed clothing will be generously donated to charity at each holiday period. We believe it is important to share and help those in need, while encouraging responsible management of personal belongings.

As part of our forward-looking approach, we ask every child to have a complete set of rainwear in their cloakroom, including boots, a K-way and waterproof trousers, all stored in a bag marked with their name. This clothing must be washed regularly to ensure that it is clean and effective on rainy days.

Slippers are compulsory and must be worn in class by nursery pupils for reasons of safety and comfort. Finally, by dressing your child in practical, weather-appropriate clothing, you are helping them to become more independent, enabling them to dress and move around comfortably throughout the day.

7 - REGULAR FESTIVITIES AND BIRTHDAYS

To ensure the well-being of all children and to take into account the recurrence of birthdays, we have implemented a policy prohibiting cakes and sweets at these events. Instead, we organise the Montessori birthday ritual within the atmosphere, providing a meaningful and inclusive experience for every child.

However, some special events, such as Halloween, Christmas and the school fair, will provide an opportunity for collective celebrations. At these times, a buffet with cakes and sweets will be offered to add a festive touch to the day. We make sure to balance the food choices and encourage responsible consumption of sweets, taking into account the children's food preferences and any allergies they may have.



III - Health regulations

1 - HEALTH CHECK-UPS

It is the families' responsibility to ensure that the compulsory health check-ups are carried out for each child, in particular at the age of 3, 6 and 9. As part of this requirement, a medical certificate will be required by the school.

We are committed to the overall well-being of every child, which includes their health. As a partner in your child's education, the teaching team is here to support you in all aspects of health that have an impact on schooling. We are available to give you guidance and advice, and we will suggest diagnoses by health professionals if we feel that this is necessary for your child's well-being. Our aim is to ensure a safe and healthy school environment for all our pupils.

2 - SICKNESS ABSENCE

The health and well-being of each child is an absolute priority for us. Consequently, any child whose state of health is incompatible with life in a group will not be accepted at school. If your child is suffering from a contagious disease, we urge you to withdraw him/her from school immediately and to inform us without delay so that we can take the appropriate measures. When your child returns to school, you may be asked to provide a medical certificate confirming that he or she is not contagious, for safety reasons.

We would like to emphasize the importance of reporting any infectious illness affecting a family member, as well as any accident occurring outside school and involving your child. This is crucial to prevent the spread of disease within our school community and to ensure the safety of all children.

In order to maintain a safe and healthy environment, the school cannot accept a child who is ill, feverish (with a body temperature above 38°C) or carrying a contagious disease. If your child shows symptoms such as fever, diarrhea, vomiting or any other sign of discomfort, we will contact you immediately and ask you to pick them up as soon as possible.

Each absence is carefully recorded in a special register kept by the teacher, with a precise mention of the half-day concerned. We also remind you that all absences must be reported to the school that morning and justified in writing by the parents as soon as the child returns to school. Our aim is to maintain a safe learning environment conducive to the well-being of all children, working closely with families to ensure their health and safety.

3 - MEDICATION

For the sake of safety and compliance with current regulations, the school maintains a strict policy prohibiting the bringing of medication onto its premises, unless prescribed by a doctor. In this case, it is imperative that the legal guardian personally hands over the medication to a member of school staff. This must be accompanied by a photocopy of the doctor's prescription and a duly completed consent form. All these documents must be placed in a closed box to ensure their security and traceability. This is to ensure the safety and well-being of all children at our school.







4 - ALLERGY

Each child's medical file must be carefully compiled and include a detailed list of items likely to trigger an allergic reaction in the child. This list is essential to enable us to take the necessary precautions and act quickly if necessary.

If allergic symptoms are observed in a child, parents will be informed immediately so that they can take care of their child and bring him or her to a doctor if necessary. The health and well-being of every child is our absolute priority, and we take any indication or symptom of allergy very seriously. Our priority is to provide a safe and secure environment for all children, working closely with parents and health professionals.

5 - VACCINATIONS

It is essential that all children attending the school are up to date with their compulsory vaccinations. In order to ensure the safety and health of all children, we ask that parents provide a copy of their child's vaccination record each year. This helps us to ensure that all children are protected against vaccine-preventable diseases and helps to maintain a healthy environment within our school.

6 - HEALTH ALERTS

We use the Éducartable platform to communicate important health alerts, such as head lice, chicken pox, measles, whooping cough, rubella, mumps, bronchiolitis, scarlet fever and others. We urge you to check that your child is symptom-free before returning to school. If you have any doubts or concerns, don't hesitate to consult a doctor or pediatrician for appropriate advice.



IV - Administration

1 - ENROLMENT

Your child's registration will be confirmed on receipt of a complete registration file, including all the required documents, such as the school rules, image rights, medical file, list of authorized persons to pick up the child, permissions to leave the school, the registration form, as well as other specific documents. Each of these documents must be carefully completed, signed and dated by all those legally responsible for the child.

In addition, payment of the registration fee is required to finalize and confirm your child's registration. This fee, which must be paid by cheque, is an essential part of the registration process and contributes to the general running of the school.

If the number of applications exceeds the number of places available, a waiting list will be drawn up. However, priority is given to children already registered at our school and their siblings. It is important to note that the teaching staff and management reserve the exclusive right to make reservations or not to finalize a registration, depending on the criteria and needs of the school. Registration fees are non-refundable.

We thank you for your understanding and cooperation in this registration process, which aims to ensure the smooth running and quality of teaching at our school.

2 - BREACH OF CONTRACT

Payment for the school year is considered to be due from the date of signature of the contract. By signing this contract, you agree to register your child in our school for the duration of the current school year. In the event of your child leaving early during the school year, a 3 months' notice will be required, subject to mutual agreement with the school management.

However, in case of force majeure or dismissal of one of the child's legal guardians, no notice will be required. We understand that unforeseen circumstances may arise and we are prepared to be flexible in such situations.

3 - UNFORESEEABLE EVENTS

In the event of temporary closure of the school due to events beyond our control such as an epidemic, pandemic or administrative closure, school fees will not be reduced. However, our teaching teams will put in place a pedagogical follow-up to ensure the continuity of the pupils' learning.



4 - INVOICING

When you register, you choose one of the three packages. For the "Esprit libre" package, you will receive a single invoice in August and you will not be asked to pay any additional fees (gold degradation). For the other packages, you will receive a monthly invoice including the following month's tuition fees and the previous month's extras (meals, childcare, etc). Payment must be made between 1st and the 5th of the following month. Late payments will incur penalties. You can opt for direct debit to make the process easier. Annual fees paid in advance receive a 3% discount, but are non-refundable. Additional fees may also be charged from time to time (except for the "Esprit libre" package), for example for school outings, transport or extra-curricular activities. However, these charges will only be invoiced and deducted after obtaining the written agreement of the child's legal guardians. We ensure that all expenses are clearly communicated to and approved by families prior to processing.

5 - IMAGE RIGHTS

By accepting our internal rules, you give your consent for photos of your child to be published on the Éducartable platform, which is accessible only to legal guardians and our educational team. You also authorize the publication of photos of your child on our website and social networks. However, for any external publication (Instagram, Facebook, Google+, website, etc.), no visual identification of the face will be possible (photo from the back, blurring of the face or use of emoji to hide it). We attach great importance to respecting your child's visual integrity.

VI - Collective security and responsibility

1 - SECURITY

As part of our commitment to maintain a safe environment for every child, it is imperative to respect some strict rules. Thus, in accordance with the security standards applicable in all public establishments, the introduction of potentially dangerous objects is strictly prohibited in our school. This includes any object that is pointed, sharp, flammable or is a risk to the safety of children.

Moreover, authorized persons only are admitted in the school premises. It includes parents, legal guides, school staff members. No adults, except those previously mentioned, are allowed to access the school. The same goes for children who are not schooled in our institution. These policies are in the interest of children and guarantee a safe teaching environment, conducive to their harmonious development. We count on everyone's collaboration to respect those rules et contribute to maintain a safe and welcoming environment for all the members of our educational community.



2 - FIRE & SAFETY DRILLS

In order to ensure the safety of all occupants of our school and to prevent any potential risk of fire or intrusion, evacuation drills will be organised on a regular basis. These drills are essential to ensure an effective response in the event of an emergency and to familiarise pupils, staff, and anyone else present in the school with evacuation procedures.

During these drills, students, and staff will be guided through designated evacuation routes, and instructed on the actions to take in the event of fire or intrusion. The drills also provide an opportunity to check the functionality of safety equipment, such as fire alarms and emergency exits, and to identify any need for improvement.

3 - THEFT & DAMAGE

Any damaged equipment will automatically be billed to the legal guardians to cover the cost of repair or replacement. This measure aims to make everyone responsible for preserving the school's equipment and infrastructure, thereby helping to maintain an optimal learning environment for all children.

We would also like to point out that the school management accepts no responsibility for any theft that may occur on school premises. One of the reasons for this is that it is strictly forbidden to bring personal items from home to school. We therefore encourage everyone to respect this rule in order to reduce the risk of theft and to preserve the safety and integrity of everyone's property.

4 - VIOLENCE AND DISRESPECT

At our school, we attach great importance to mutual respect and caring communication between all members of the educational community, including parents. We therefore expect parents enrolling their children in our school to adopt this respectful approach.

We would like to stress that any form of verbal or physical violence towards school staff will not be tolerated. Any such behaviour will be treated with the utmost severity. In the event of verbal or physical abuse by a parent towards a member of school staff, strict measures will be taken immediately, including

- Filing a complaint with the appropriate authorities.
- Permanently withdrawing the child from the school.
- Immediate payment of the remainder of the school fees.

These measures are being taken to protect the safety and well-being of our staff and to maintain a safe and healthy learning environment for all children. We rely on the cooperation of all parents to ensure that these fundamental principles are respected and that our school runs smoothly.





Resources/Equipment

Administrative documents

- 1 photocopy of the child's vaccination record in the health booklet
- 1 photocopy of the child's family record book or identity card
- 1 certificate of civil insurance (school & extra-curricular)
- The completed and signed medical file
- The completed and signed authorisations:
 - group outings
 - image rights
 - acceptance of the school rules
- means of payment (SEPA direct debit if applicable)

Clothing and equipment (name + first name)

Ambiance 2/3 years - 3/6 years - 9/12 years

- A snack box (if nursery)
- A water bottle
- A pair of slippers
- Rain jacket, rain trousers and rain boots
- Nap: pillow and blanket (2/3 & 3/6 years only if necessary)
- Nappies and wipes (2/3 years only)
- A complete change of clothes (2/3 & 3/6 years only)

School equipment

We buy all the school equipment. You don't need to provide anything extra (apart from an empty pencil case for 6/12 year olds).

