



Where the Heart Learns

We gently guide each child to discover their fullest, most joyful self through a nurturing, holistic approach.



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It All Began with a Shared Dream



House on the Hill Montessori Preschool began as a heartfelt vision of what early childhood education should be: genuine, holistic, and deeply respectful of each child's unique journey.



Founded in 2012 by husband-and-wife team Wu Jing and Oliver Bettin, together with founding principal Marilyn Ow, House on the Hill was created to bring high-quality education grounded in authentic Montessori values to families in Singapore.

United by a belief that children deserved more than academics, the trio imagined a school where every child's potential could flourish. With aligned values and complementary strengths, they transformed a humble heritage house on Mount Sophia into a thoughtfully prepared Montessori environment.

Through unwavering dedication, House on the Hill grew from those early days into a thriving, close-knit community of passionate Montessori staff, supportive parents, and joyful children.

Today, they lead a team across four campuses in Singapore—each one staying true to the Montessori values that first inspired them.



From left to right:
Marilyn Ow (Founding Principal),
Oliver Bettin (Co-founder),
Wu Jing (Co-founder and CEO)

The Heart of How We Teach



Developed by Dr. Maria Montessori in 1929, the Montessori method is a time-tested approach that allows children to learn at their own pace through hands-on experiences in a calm, purposeful environment.



Learning Through Purposeful Work and Play

Our approach is rooted in a hands-on model that encourages independent learning and self-motivation. Children engage in extended, uninterrupted 3-hour work cycles for subjects such as English and Mandarin—building focus, resilience, and deep understanding through meaningful repetition.

"The goal of early childhood education should be to activate the child's own natural desire to learn."

Dr. Maria Montessori



2

Mixed-Age Classrooms that Foster Social Harmony

In true Montessori tradition, children learn in mixed-age groups. This encourages peer learning, leadership, empathy and cooperation—building a sense of community in every classroom.



3

A Prepared Environment that Inspires Discovery

Each space is purposefully designed to invite exploration and independence, with every material carefully selected to support each child's developmental stage.

Whether indoors or out, children move freely and safely through learning areas that engage all their senses—guided by a low staff-to-child ratio that allows for close, individual attention.

4

Guided by Materials that Make Learning Visible

We use Nienhuis educational materials, developed by Dr. Maria Montessori and Albert Nienhuis, and officially endorsed by the Association Montessori Internationale (AMI).

These beautifully crafted, scientifically designed tools help children make abstract concepts tangible and accessible.

Building a Foundation for Life



We believe that every child deserves a joyful beginning—one that nurtures their natural curiosity, celebrates their individuality, and sets the stage for lifelong learning.

As an award-winning Montessori preschool, we welcome children from 2 months to 6 years old into a warm, thoughtfully prepared environment where they can flourish at their own pace. Every child’s learning journey is personalised to support their academic, social, and emotional development.

Your child will be gently guided by our passionate team, who have supported hundreds of children in their transition to Primary 1 with care, expertise, and unwavering dedication.



Our child-centred approach, grounded in the Montessori method, empowers each child to become an active participant in their own growth. Through hands-on exploration, purposeful play, and guided discovery, children develop independence, creativity, and confidence.

By encouraging deep focus, self-motivation, and respect for others from the earliest years, we nurture not only social and emotional resilience but also a lasting love of learning. These qualities grow with your child, preparing them not just for school, but for a meaningful life.

How do we prepare children for life beyond preschool?

- Family-run with heart
- Small classes guided with care, passion, and professionalism
- Purposefully mixed-age classrooms
- Strong parent partnership
- Authentic Montessori education
- Immersive Mandarin learning environment
- Rooted in nature, creativity, and community
- Confidence and readiness for life's milestones

**"Free the child's potential,
and you will transform
him into the world."**

Dr. Maria Montessori



A Gentle Beginning for Infants



Nido Programme (2 – 17 months)

From the moment they're born, children are ready to learn. Every sight, sound, and touch builds connections in the brain, shaping how they grow, feel, and relate to the world.

The first 3 years are a time of extraordinary development. At House on the Hill, we honour this period with our Nido Programme—named after the Italian word for “nest”—a warm, secure space lovingly prepared for infants.

Designed to offer more than care, Nido nurtures curiosity, and fills every moment with gentle, intentional learning.



We support your child's earliest steps with:

- Meaningful, responsive interactions that build communication and trust
- A calm and enriching environment that encourages safe exploration
- Opportunities for sensory discovery and independent movement
- Consistent routines and expert care that honour each stage of development
- Individualised attention that respects every child's unique pace
- Loving mentors who form secure, respectful bonds with each infant

A Seamless Path Through Early Childhood



Playgroup (1.5 – 2.5 years)

Playgroup is often a child’s first school experience—and we make it a joyful one. From 18 months, children engage in Practical Life and Sensorial activities, building independence and awareness of the world around them.



Pre-Nursery (2.5 – 3 years)

At this stage, children are introduced to more Montessori areas, including Language and Mathematics, and enjoy longer, focused work periods.

We also place a strong emphasis on social and emotional readiness, supporting children as they grow.



Nursery – Kindergarten (3 – 6 years)

A hallmark of Montessori is the mixed-age classroom, where children at different stages learn and grow together.

Each child follows an individualised curriculum in Language, Mathematics, Sensorial, Practical Life, and Culture—gaining purpose, confidence, and a sense of community as they learn alongside others.

A Curriculum that Nurtures the Whole Child



Sensorial

Using beautifully crafted materials designed to refine the senses, children explore shapes, textures, sounds, and more. These experiences support their ability to observe, compare, and classify—essential skills for deeper cognitive development.

Mathematics

We bring maths to life through tactile, purposeful materials. Children are introduced to concepts like numeration, place value, and the four basic operations—giving them a clear, joyful understanding of numbers and patterns at their own pace.



Practical Life

Children learn to care for themselves and the world around them. From pouring water to buttoning a shirt, these purposeful tasks help build independence, confidence and everyday life skills that lay the foundation for learning and self-esteem.

Language

Through a hands-on phonics approach, children begin to understand the structure of language, learning how sounds form words and how words form meaning. This process supports reading, writing, and confident self-expression.



“We nurture children who are not only ready for Primary 1—but ready to take on the world.”



Creative Expression

Through art, music, movement and imaginative play, children are encouraged to express themselves freely and confidently—developing not just creativity, but a sense of identity and emotional awareness.

Culture & Geography

Children learn about the world they live in through subjects like science, zoology, geography, history, and art. These explorations deepen their understanding of diversity, nature, and the connections between people and place.



Social Awareness

In every interaction, children learn how to relate to others with kindness, empathy, and respect. These early social experiences help them build emotional intelligence and a strong sense of community.



Outdoor Learning

From gardening to nature walks and free play, our outdoor environments are designed to inspire curiosity and movement. Children develop resilience, sensory awareness and a deep connection with the natural world.

Our Mandarin Immersion Programme



Mandarin Programme (>2 months)

We gently immerse children in a rich, engaging environment where Mandarin comes alive joyfully—through daily classes designed for every age group, starting from 2 months old.

1 Immersive, Real-World Mandarin Use

Children are surrounded by Mandarin in their daily routines. It is woven into simple, meaningful conversations—helping children absorb it just like their first language.

3 Thematic, Playful Learning

Through stories, cultural activities, and Montessori materials, children explore Mandarin in a natural, playful way—learning by discovery, not memorisation.

2 Culturally Rich, Hands-On Experiences

From festive celebrations to making traditional snacks and practicing tea ceremonies, children connect with Mandarin through joyful, hands-on activities that bring language and culture to life.

4 Celebrating Multiculturalism

While immersed in Mandarin, children also learn to appreciate the diversity around them—developing empathy, adaptability, and an open-hearted worldview.

Our elective Tian Tian Xiang Shang programme offers a fun, immersive Mandarin afternoon filled with culture, conversation, and confident language use.

Where Well-being Is Part of Every Day



Nutritious Meals that Fuel Growing Minds

At House on the Hill, we believe good nutrition fuels active minds and growing bodies. Our daily meals are crafted with high-quality ingredients—free from added salt and sugar—and designed to support focus, energy, and healthy development.

Developed in collaboration with Ian Marber, an internationally respected nutritionist known as The Food Doctor, our meals are tasty, varied and nutritionally balanced. We’re also a proud member of Singapore’s Health Promotion Board’s Healthy Preschool (HPS) and Healthy Meals in Preschools Programme (HMPP).



Prioritising Health and Safety at Every Step

Your child’s well-being is our top priority. We conduct daily health screenings, temperature checks, and follow strict hygiene, food safety, and first aid protocols in line with Early Childhood Development Agency (ECDA) guidelines.

From classroom to kitchen, our team works closely to maintain a safe, healthy environment—so you can entrust your child to our care with complete peace of mind.

Where Parents and School Work as One



◆ We believe that a child’s development flourishes when school and home life work together in harmony.

We offer parents a range of supportive tools and resources designed to keep you connected, informed, and confident in your child’s journey. Together, we create a strong foundation where every child can thrive both at school and home.

Parent Support Group (PSG) ♥

The heartbeat of our school community, PSG offers parents opportunities to organise social events, participate in school activities, and provide valuable feedback. It’s a welcoming space for families to connect, share experiences, and feel part of a supportive community.

Workshops for Parents and Caregivers ☺

We regularly host workshops that offer a deeper understanding of our methods and how to apply them at home. These sessions offer practical tips, hands-on demonstrations, and insights into child development, empowering parents to support their child’s growth with confidence.

Communication Channels ☞

Every class has its own WhatsApp chat group, offering parents an easy, instant way to stay updated on how their child is doing, ask questions, and build connections with fellow parents. It’s a convenient way to stay engaged, fostering a sense of community.

We also have a mobile app to keep parents informed with timely updates on school-wide news, upcoming events, and important reminders, ensuring you’re always up to date on what’s happening across our campuses.

What Our Parents Say



“House on the Hill has fostered our child’s confidence and independence. It is already a natural habit for our daughter to help others as well as to clean and tidy up after herself.

We’re also grateful for the weekly Japanese lessons.”

Rauf and Takako,
parents of Hana and Rio

“I love the diversity and inclusivity at House on the Hill. My child has grown more globally aware and overcame separation anxiety in those early days, thanks to the school’s supportive environment.

The curriculum is rich, age-appropriate, and keeps learning joyful for the children.”

Xie Xia, parent of Yiyi





“Kara started at 18 months and stayed through to 6 years old. She loved the hands-on activities, cookery classes, and Mandarin immersion.

What touched us most was the sense of community—children cheering one another on, and teachers who knew every child by name.”

Jing Hong and Christine, parents of Kara

“We couldn’t be more grateful to have found this little haven. Our son experienced early learning delays in speech and fine motor skills, but with the care, attention, and patience of his teachers, he thrived.

Their dedication has been nothing short of life-changing for him and for us.”

Andrea and Davide, parents of Desi and Fabio



Four Campuses, One Philosophy

Each of our campuses offers the same authentic Montessori experience, lovingly adapted to its unique setting.

Balmoral



Nestled in a peaceful neighbourhood, Balmoral offers spacious classrooms and outdoor areas, providing an ideal setting for exploration and growth. It is also home to our exclusive Nido Programme for infants.



Mount Sophia



Housed in a beautiful conservation building, our flagship Mount Sophia campus spans three levels, offering spacious classrooms and a calm environment that embodies the Montessori spirit of peaceful, purposeful learning.



Pasir Panjang



Designed for exploration, this campus features a large playground and open-air spaces where children can interact with nature—fulfilling Montessori’s belief in learning through the environment and movement.



Hollandse Club



Set within Hollandse Club and surrounded by rainforest, this campus blends learning and lifestyle. Purpose-built classrooms open up to nature, and students can participate in extra-curricular activities like swimming, tennis, and dance.





Let's Begin Your Child's Learning Journey Together

We invite you to experience our Montessori environment in person.

Mount Sophia Campus

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