Modern Montessori International (LONDON)
A LEADER in Montessori Pre-school Education
Modern Montessori International Group



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Modern Montessori International Corporate Newsletter

Digital Newsletter



COUNTRY UPDATE

MMI London

Marianne Bourke's Reflections on the Montessori Europe Congress 2026 in Riga

The Montessori Europe Congress 2026 in **Riga, Latvia** was an inspiring opportunity to connect with Montessori educators from across Europe and to reflect on the congress theme, "The Courage to Trust: Nurturing Peace and Resilience through Montessori Education.“Throughout the congress, I was reminded of the importance of trust in children's development, in our educational environments, and within the wider communities we create.



One of the highlights of the congress was the keynote presentation by Dr Cathy Rogers, The Courage to Trust: How Children's Brains Really Learn. Dr Rogers shared research from neuroscience that demonstrated how children learn most effectively when they feel safe, connected, and emotionally secure. Her presentation reinforced a core Montessori principle: children possess an innate drive to learn and flourish when adults trust their developmental process.



Dr Rogers explained that learning is not driven by pressure or control but by meaningful engagement, curiosity, movement, and positive relationships. Her research provided scientific evidence for what Montessori educators have observed for generations—that trust is fundamental to both learning and healthy development.

This message was further explored in the workshop Designing Prepared Environments. The workshop highlighted how thoughtfully prepared environments encourage independence, concentration, and self-confidence. I reflected on how the physical environment communicates trust to the child. When children have access to purposeful materials, freedom of movement, and opportunities to make choices, they develop a sense of responsibility and ownership of their learning. The prepared environment becomes a practical expression of our trust in children's capabilities.

COUNTRY UPDATE

MMI London





Another particularly meaningful session was “Resilient Communities: Montessori as a Model for a Peaceful Society.” The workshop explored how Montessori education contributes not only to individual development but also to the creation of peaceful and resilient communities. Through collaboration, respect, responsibility, and meaningful participation, children learn the skills needed to live and work together harmoniously. The discussion highlighted Maria Montessori's vision of education as a pathway to peace and social transformation.

Together, these experiences helped me see how trust operates at different levels within Montessori education. Dr Rogers focused on trust in the child's natural development, the prepared environment demonstrates trust in children's ability to act independently, and resilient communities are built through trust, cooperation, and mutual respect.



Beyond the presentations and workshops, the congress provided valuable opportunities to exchange ideas with educators from different countries and educational backgrounds. The atmosphere of openness and collaboration reflected the congress theme and demonstrated the strength of the international Montessori community.

I left Riga feeling inspired, motivated, and reassured that Montessori education remains highly relevant in today's world. The congress reinforced my belief that by trusting children, carefully preparing environments, and nurturing strong communities, we can support not only academic learning but also the development of compassionate, responsible, and resilient human beings.

montessorieurope
training centre member 2026

MMI Modern® Montessori International (LONDON)
A LEADER in Montessori Pre-school Education
Modern Montessori International Group

The Power of Hands-On Learning

Young children are naturally curious about the world around them. They learn by touching, exploring, moving, and interacting with their environment. Long before children can fully understand abstract ideas, they develop knowledge through concrete experiences using their senses and movement. Dr. Maria Montessori recognised this fundamental truth about childhood development. Through years of careful observation, she discovered that children learn best when they are actively engaged in meaningful activities.



She famously stated that “the hands are the instruments of man’s intelligence.” When children work with their hands, they are not merely playing, they are building the foundation for thinking, understanding, and learning.
This insight lies at the heart of Montessori education.

In Montessori classrooms, children learn through specially designed materials that allow them to explore concepts independently and transform sensory experiences into lasting knowledge.

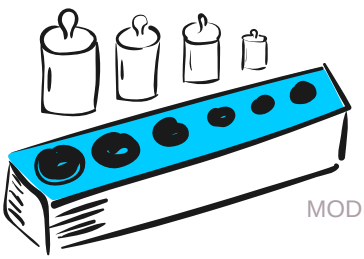
Understanding Montessori Materials



Montessori materials are carefully designed learning tools created to support children’s natural development. Each material has a specific purpose and isolates a particular concept or skill so that children can focus and master it step by step.

One of the unique features of Montessori materials is that they move from concrete to abstract learning. Young children first experience ideas physically before they are introduced to symbolic representations such as numbers or written words. This process helps children build strong and meaningful understanding rather than simply memorising information.

Many Montessori materials also include what is known as a control of error. This means the material itself allows the child to recognise and correct mistakes independently. Instead of relying on constant correction from adults, children learn to reflect on their work, make adjustments, and try again. This process builds confidence, independence, and a positive attitude toward learning.
For example, the well-known Pink Tower consists of ten wooden cubes that gradually increase in size. As children stack the cubes to form a tower, they naturally explore concepts such as size, dimension, and visual discrimination. While it may appear simple, this activity helps develop observation skills and prepares the child for later mathematical understanding.





Why Hands-On Learning Matters

Young children learn most effectively through active exploration rather than passive instruction. When children manipulate objects, move materials, and engage their senses, their brains actively process information in multiple ways.

Hands-on learning supports the development of several important abilities. It strengthens concentration as children focus on completing a task. It develops coordination as children refine their control of movement. It also nurtures independence because children learn to accomplish tasks on their own.

Research in child development also shows that movement and cognition are closely connected. When children engage their hands and bodies in learning activities, they create stronger neural connections in the brain. These multisensory experiences help children understand ideas more deeply and retain knowledge more effectively.

A clear example of this can be seen in how Montessori children learn mathematics. Instead of memorising numbers from worksheets, they often begin by working with Golden Bead Materials. These beads represent units, tens, hundreds, and thousands, allowing children to physically see and feel quantities. By counting, grouping, and arranging the beads, children gain a concrete understanding of numbers before moving on to abstract calculations.



Building Independence Through Materials



Montessori materials are designed not only to teach academic concepts but also to foster essential life skills. Through their work with materials, children gradually develop independence, perseverance, and self-confidence.



Because the materials are self-correcting, children are able to work at their own pace. They repeat activities until they feel satisfied with their work, learning through trial, reflection, and improvement. This process encourages persistence and resilience—qualities that are essential for lifelong learning.



Another important element of the Montessori environment is the role of the teacher. Rather than directing every activity, the Montessori teacher acts as a guide and observer. The teacher carefully introduces materials and then allows the child the freedom to explore and practise independently. This approach respects the child's natural desire to learn and supports the development of self-motivation.

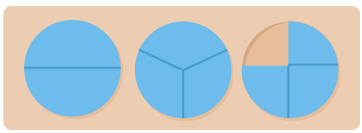
Practical Life activities offer a simple yet powerful example. When a child practises pouring water from one jug to another, the activity may appear ordinary. However, through this exercise the child develops hand-eye coordination, control of movement, concentration, and independence. These foundational skills support both academic learning and everyday life.

Where Little Hands Build Great Minds

Montessori materials are far more than classroom tools. They are carefully designed instruments that support the child's intellectual, physical, and emotional development. By encouraging children to explore concepts through hands-on experiences, Montessori education transforms learning into an active and meaningful process.



Children do not simply memorise information—they discover it. Through touching, building, sorting, pouring, and experimenting, they develop deeper understanding and confidence in their abilities. In Montessori education, the hands become a powerful pathway to the mind. Through purposeful activity, children build the knowledge, independence, and curiosity that will guide them throughout their lives.













MMI Day Nursery and Preschool - East Croydon

Apprentice roles at MMI Croydon



MMI Croydon is proud to be part of the apprenticeship programme, helping young people work toward their dreams of becoming early years practitioners and admin support professionals. Our team, together with our dedicated assessors, is committed to giving every learner the confidence, skills, and hands-on experience they need to grow.

We see our apprentices developing new strengths every day, whether they're working directly with children or building strong admin abilities, and we're excited to support them as they take these important steps toward their future careers.

We are proud to have achieved a 9.9 rating on Day Nurseries, reflecting the high-quality care, learning, and support we provide for children and families every day.







Gardening Project



Our gardening project has been a wonderful success, with the children enjoying spending time outdoors planting, watering, and caring for our garden area.

The project has given the children opportunities to learn about nature, teamwork, and responsibility while having lots of fun exploring and getting hands-on. We are excited to continue watching our garden grow over the coming weeks.



MMI Day Nursery and Preschool - East Croydon



Friendship Week





During Friendship Week, the children focused on building positive relationships and learning how to be kind to their peers through a range of fun activities. The children each received half of a picture and worked together to find their matching partner before making friendship bracelets for one another. They also enjoyed completing friendship bingo cards, which encouraged positive behaviours such as sharing, helping others, and using kind words.

Healthy Eating







This week, the children focused on healthy eating and explored a variety of different foods. The children enjoyed trying and tasting vegetables they had not eaten before and talked about healthy food choices. In the toddler room, the children took part in a Hungry Caterpillar tuff tray activity where they named different foods, scooped green rice, and fed the caterpillar's head.

Little Wandle



As part of our ongoing Little Wandle journey, our Nursery Manager recently met with the Headteacher from Paxton Academy and the Early Reading Lead from Purley Nursery School.
Together, they discussed how the programme is progressing within our nursery, shared ideas and best practices, and explored ways to continue developing and improving early language and literacy opportunities for the children.
We are excited to continue building on this journey and supporting the children's love of reading and communication.



MMI Nursery and Preschool - Raynes Park





A Busy and Inspiring Start to the Summer Term

The summer term has begun with energy, curiosity, and plenty of exciting learning opportunities at MMI Preschool.
Our expanded cookery programme has been a wonderful success, giving children the chance to explore a wide variety of fruits and vegetables while developing valuable practical life skills. From baking delicious treats to preparing homemade soups, each activity has encouraged independence, creativity, and confidence. Along the way, children have also strengthened their language and early mathematical skills by measuring, counting, sorting, and discussing the ingredients they used.

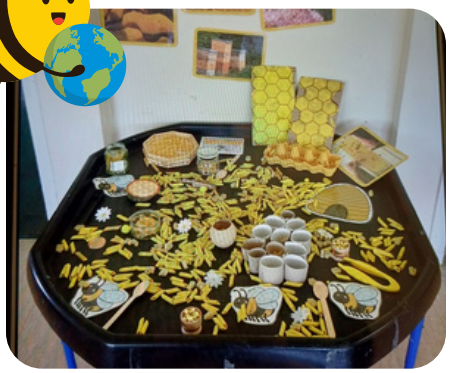






We were also delighted to celebrate World Bee Day, with children learning about the vital role bees play in our environment. Through engaging activities, they explored how bees make honey, the importance of pollination, and ways we can help protect these essential pollinators.





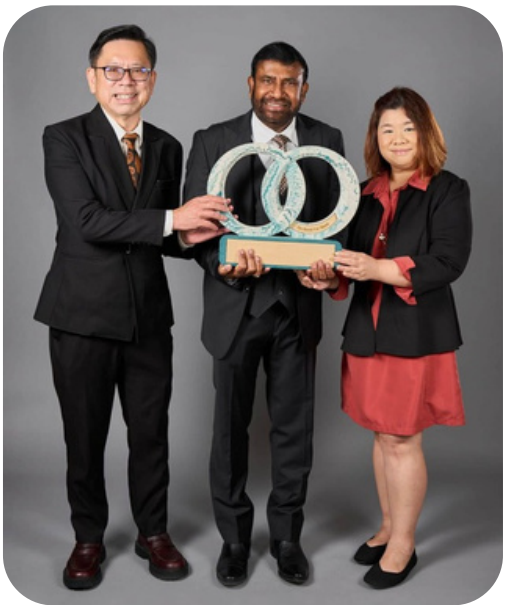




As the weather has become warmer, children have been making the most of our beautiful outdoor environment within Cottenham Park. The picturesque garden has provided a wonderful setting for exploration, physical activity, nature-based learning, and social development, allowing children to connect with the natural world while enjoying the sunshine.

A MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAIRMAN & CEO, DR T. CHANDROO

A Proud Triumph: MMI Clinches Education for Good (Champion) at Brands for Good Awards 2026



BRANDS for GOOD®



Dear MMI Family

It was an evening of great pride and celebration as **Modern Montessori International (MMI)** was honoured with the **Education for Good (Champion)** at the **Brands for Good Awards 2026**, held at The D'Marquee, Pasir Ris, on 22 July 2026. We were privileged to have the Senior Minister of State, Mr Desmond Tan, grace the occasion as the Guest of Honour.

For over a decade, Brands for Good has been recognising organisations that go beyond commercial success to create a meaningful and lasting impact on society. It celebrates businesses that lead with purpose, responsible leadership, innovation, and a genuine commitment to making a positive difference in the communities they serve. The awards have become a respected platform that showcases enterprises believing that doing good and doing well can go hand in hand.

Receiving this award is a tremendous honour for MMI. Since our establishment in 1989, our mission has always been to empower children through quality Montessori education while nurturing educators who inspire future generations. Today, with a presence in 14 countries, this recognition belongs to every member of the MMI family, our dedicated principals, teachers, staff, franchise partners, graduates, parents, and students who have believed in our vision and journey.

This award is more than a recognition of our past achievements; it is a reaffirmation of our commitment to continue shaping young minds, empowering educators, and making quality early childhood education accessible across the world.

I offer my heartfelt appreciation to the organisers of Brands for Good, the distinguished panel of judges, and everyone who has been part of MMI's remarkable journey. We are deeply honoured and inspired to continue making a meaningful difference in education, one child at a time.

COUNTRY UPDATE

MMI Singapore

Chinese New Year 2026

Our Chinese New Year celebration was filled with joy, creativity, and meaningful family bonding. Parents and children came together to make traditional dumplings (饺子), create festive CNY crafts, and enjoy an exciting lion dance performance led by our enthusiastic dads. The celebration provided a wonderful opportunity for families to experience the rich traditions of Chinese culture while creating precious memories together.









COUNTRY UPDATE

MMI Singapore





HAPPY
Mother's Day

Our Mother's Day celebration was a heartwarming occasion filled with love, laughter, and special bonding moments. Mummies and their children enjoyed creative flower and leaf pressing activities, while participating together in fun movement challenges such as walking along a zig-zag line and crawling through tunnels. The celebration created joyful memories and strengthened the precious connection between mothers and their children through meaningful shared experiences.









Total Defence Day

Our Total Defence Day celebration was an exciting and meaningful event where children proudly came dressed in various costumes representing different community roles and professions. Through the fun photo-taking session, the children gained a deeper appreciation of the importance of unity, resilience, and the contributions of everyday heroes in keeping our community safe and strong.



MMI Sri Lanka

Happy Vesak Day







At **ANC MMI, Sri Lanka**, we believe that early childhood education extends beyond academics to nurturing values such as kindness, respect, cultural awareness, and community spirit.

As part of our **Vesak celebrations**, our children arrived dressed in white, embracing the traditions of this important cultural festival. While the children enthusiastically created Vesak lanterns, our teachers sang Vesak devotional songs, filling the environment with a sense of peace and reflection.

Through these activities, the children were introduced to the significance of Vesak in an age-appropriate and engaging manner. In keeping with the spirit of Vesak, the children participated in sharing food and drinks with members of the school community.

This experience helped them understand the importance of generosity, gratitude, and caring for others.







COUNTRY UPDATE

MMI Sri Lanka

Happy Vesak Day











Celebrating cultural events in a preschool setting allows children to learn through meaningful, hands-on experiences while developing respect for traditions and an appreciation for diversity. Through activities such as singing, creating, and sharing, our young learners gain valuable life lessons that support their social and emotional development.

ANC MMI, Sri Lanka 🇱🇰

COUNTRY UPDATE

MMI Indonesia

PRESCHOOL













Roaring into the Future: Our Jungle Book Year-End Finale!

What a spectacular way to wrap up the academic year at MMI West Jakarta! Our little adventurers took center stage for a magical performance of The Jungle Book, showcasing not just their wonderful acting skills, but the incredible confidence and growth they've developed all year.

From vibrant costumes to bright smiles, it was a heartwarming celebration of our students' milestones. We are immensely grateful to our dedicated teachers and supportive parents who joined us to make this year-end event an unforgettable success.

COUNTRY UPDATE

MMI Indonesia





DIPLOMA COURSE

Empowering Educators: The Continuous Growth of MMI Indonesia's Teacher Training Centre

At MMI Indonesia, we believe that exceptional education begins with well-equipped educators. Our growing Teacher Training Centre continues to thrive, welcoming passionate individuals into our comprehensive Diploma Montessori Programme. Through rigorous training, hands-on classroom practice, and collaborative learning, our aspiring Montessori teachers are mastering the skills needed to nurture the next generation. We are incredibly proud of our expanding community of educators who are dedicated to raising the standard of early childhood education across our centres.













MMI Vietnam

MMI Graduation Concert 2026

The much-anticipated **MMI Graduation Concert 2026** was successfully concluded on **4 July 2026**. Once again, our children put on an unbelievable performance belying their young age. It reinforces our belief that children have an incredible ability to learn, if you teach them well.

Every year, we adopt different themes for our Graduation Concert. Titled **“Music Changes the World”**, this year we explored the evolution of music through the decades, starting from pre-1970 all the way to the current music trends. We interviewed prominent “artists” from each era, such as The Beatles, Elvis Presley, Elton John, Taylor Swift, all aptly played by our children. Then,our children from different classes performed on stage based on one popular song from each era.

It took almost half a year for us to prepare for this concert. First, we allocated special classroom time for the children to be familiar with the different genre of music: Pop, Rock, Hip-Hop, EDM, R&B etc. Then, we assigned one artist to each child and we tailor-made the costumes for our children. Our children watched the video and learned how the artists moved, performed and posed for pictures etc. Then we recorded and played the interview video during our concert.









MMI Vietnam





MMI Graduation Concert 2026

This project was incredibly enjoyable for our children. Not only did they love the music, but they also enjoyed dressing up and being in the limelight. They were cooperative, gave their best during the endless rehearsals, and performed to perfection during the actual concert.It was an unforgettable experience not only for the children, but also for the teachers and the MMI Vietnam Management, the organisers of the concert.





MMI India



Diploma function at MMI, Gurgaon Head Office

A truly memorable day as our Batch 44 students were awarded their Diplomas in a beautiful ceremony filled with pride, gratitude, and inspiration.

The ceremony began with the auspicious lighting of the lamp in front of Dr. Maria Montessori's picture, setting a positive and meaningful tone for the day.

It was followed by an inspiring address by Ms. Pooja Kher, Head – Training, who encouraged the students to continue their journey of learning and growth.

We were also honoured to hear motivating words from Ms. Gurjot Kaur, Academic Manager, who shared heartfelt encouragement for our graduates, many of whom are now working as teachers in reputed schools.

The teachers shared their beautiful experiences, reflecting on how this course has transformed them — not just professionally as educators, but personally as individuals, making them more patient, confident, and compassionate.





International Dance Day

From every beat to every step, dance beautifully connects cultures, countries, and hearts across the world. This International Dance Day, we celebrate the joy of movement, the richness of traditions, and the vibrant expressions that unite us beyond languages and borders.

From classical rhythms to global grooves, every dance tells a story of heritage, happiness, and togetherness.



MMI India





Baisakhi Celebrations



Baisakhi celebrations filled the air with joy, happiness, vibrant colours, and festive energy!

From wheat farms to our plates, children explored the beautiful journey of harvest and gratitude while dancing to the lively beats of the dhol. The spirit of togetherness, culture, and celebration made the day truly memorable.





Community Helpers Day!

Celebrating our everyday heroes on Community Helpers Day! Our little ones enjoyed a special Fire Fighter Day filled with learning, role play, and gratitude for the brave helpers who protect and support us in our daily lives. A beautiful day of respect, appreciation, and joyful learning for our tiny community helpers!



Summer Camp at MMI Gurgaon



Summer camp at the MMI Clubhouse is all about fun, laughter, and unforgettable memories!

From exciting summer stories and creative adventures to making new friends and sharing endless smiles, every day is filled with joy, learning, and loads of fun. A season of happy hearts, playful moments, and beautiful childhood memories in the making!



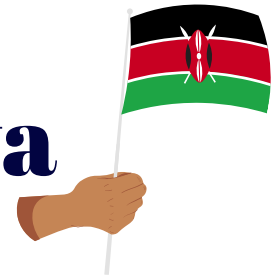
Annual Day Celebrations



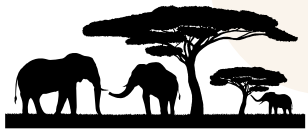
Our Annual Day celebrations were a beautiful blend of confidence, talent, teamwork, and joyful learning! From vibrant dance performances and expressive dialogues to enthusiastic stage presence, every child gave their 100% performance with pride and excitement. Watching children of all age groups patiently wait for their turn, follow their steps, remember their dialogues, and shine on stage was truly heartwarming. A celebration filled with confidence, creativity, discipline, and unforgettable memories for all!

COUNTRY UPDATE

MMI Kenya







A Tribute to Mrs. Fatima Ali

As Mrs. Fatima Ali retires, Modern Montessori International proudly celebrates her outstanding contribution to Montessori education and teacher training in Kenya.

For many years, Mrs. Ali has been at the heart of Montessori teacher education through her work with Montessori Learning Centre (MLC) Kenya and Modern Montessori International. Since MLC began offering the MMI Diploma in Early Childhood Education – Montessori Method in 2009, she has been instrumental in preparing generations of educators, ensuring that Montessori principles were understood not only as a method of teaching but as a philosophy that transforms lives.

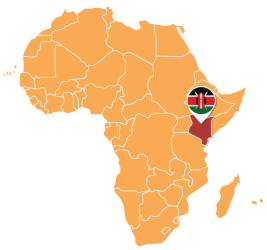
Mrs. Ali often shared that her passion for Montessori education was deeply personal. As a child with dyslexia, she struggled to understand many concepts through traditional approaches to learning. Discovering Montessori pedagogy opened a new world of hope, confidence, and possibility. Through understanding her own learning journey, she found her true calling: to become an educator who could help every child realise their potential and experience success, regardless of their background or learning differences.

This belief shaped her work as a lecturer, mentor, and educational leader. She championed an approach to education that recognised the uniqueness of every learner and encouraged teachers to see the strengths within each child. Her training inspired educators to create environments where children could develop independence, confidence, and a lifelong love of learning.

Throughout her career, Mrs. Ali remained committed to the continuous growth of Montessori education. She encouraged teachers to keep an open mind, remain flexible, and embrace best practices while staying true to Montessori principles. Her dedication helped ensure that MMI teacher training programmes remained relevant, comprehensive, and responsive to the changing needs of children and educators alike.

The impact of Mrs. Ali's work extends far beyond the classrooms and training centres in which she served. It lives on in the many Montessori educators she has trained, the schools she has supported, and the thousands of children whose lives have been enriched through the teachers she inspired.

On behalf of Modern Montessori International and the wider Montessori community, we thank Mrs. Fatima Ali for her years of dedication, leadership, and service. Her legacy will continue to shape Montessori education in Kenya for many years to come.



With heartfelt gratitude and best wishes for a happy and fulfilling retirement.

Modern Montessori International

MMI Nigeria

MMI (London) Nigeria

A key milestone during this period was the successful implementation of a shared training framework across all MMI (London) Nigeria centres, reinforcing our commitment to maintaining high standards of Montessori education and professional development.

Through moderation sessions and shared training frameworks, expectations, teaching approaches, and assessment methods were further aligned.

This has strengthened coherence across locations and reinforced the integrity of our training model. Alongside technical development, there was a continued emphasis on mentorship and professional growth within the organisation. Senior trainers actively supported and guided newer trainers, encouraging reflective practice and shared learning. This has contributed to a more confident, unified, and development-focused training team.









Key Milestones (Jan – June 2026)

- Strengthened internal trainer capacity across centres
- Increased collaboration and peer learning among trainers
- Enhanced confidence and competence in practical demonstrations
- Reinforced a culture of continuous professional development

As we look ahead to the second half of the year, MMI (London) Nigeria remains committed to expanding its impact, fostering meaningful partnerships, and continuing to support educational professionals in their efforts to create enriching learning experiences for children.



Onyi A. Udoji
Director
Modern Montessori International (London) Nigeria

COUNTRY UPDATE

MMI Cyprus



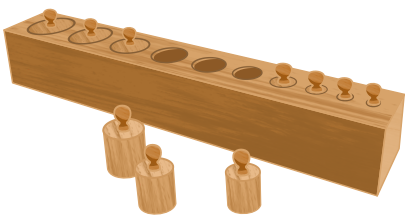
It is with great pride that we announce the unique collaboration between the University of Limassol, Modern Montessori International (MMI) in London and the Montessori Training Center (MTC) in Nicosia, through which students of the Pre-Primary Education program will be able to obtain the internationally recognized Montessori Diploma at the same time. The University of Limassol is the first university in Cyprus to offer this unique educational opportunity.💫















COUNTRY UPDATE

MMI Cyprus







The first Montessori presentation was held with great success on May 14, 2026 at the University of Limassol, marking the beginning of a new era in early childhood education. This collaboration combines academic knowledge with the Montessori approach, based on Maria Montessori's philosophy, which promotes respect for the child, independence, creativity and learning through exploration.💫





COUNTRY UPDATE

MMI Riyadh - Saudi Arabia

NEW





We are delighted to announce the opening of our new Modern Montessori International franchise in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.

This exciting development marks another important step in MMI's continued international growth and commitment to supporting high-quality Montessori education across the world. The new Riyadh centre will play a key role in training and inspiring the next generation of Montessori educators, helping to meet the growing demand for qualified teachers in the region.

We are proud to welcome Riyadh into the MMI global community and look forward to seeing the centre contribute to the development of confident, skilled and passionate Montessori professionals in Saudi Arabia.





CJ MONTESSORI
TRAINING CENTRE

Let's Stay Connected

Whether you're in UK, Asia, Africa or beyond, every MMI centre plays an important role in our shared success. Thank you for your continued passion, dedication and commitment to Montessori education. Together, we continue to inspire children, support families and build brighter futures.

With warm regards,
The MMI Team



Stay Connected

Working together. Learning together. Growing together.

Follow us on Instagram and Facebook for daily updates!

London (Head Office)
info@modernmontessori-intl.com
www.modernmontessori-intl.com

Singapore
enquiry@modern-montessori.com
www.modern-montessori.com

India
iinfo@modernmontessoriindia.com
www.mmiindia.com

Sri Lanka
admissions@mmisrilanka.lk
www.mmisrilanka.lk

Vietnam
enquiry@mmi-vietnam.com
www.mmi-vietnam.com

Indonesia
enquiry@mmi-indonesia.com
www.mmi-indonesia.com

Nigeria
modernmontessorilagos@gmail.com
www.mmi-nigeria.com

Kenya
info@mlckenya.com
www.mlckenya.com

Cyprus
mtccyprus.contact@gmail.com
www.mtccy.com

Egypt
imf.courses@imfcourses.net
www.facebook.com/IMF.Egypt

NEW

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