



RIETBERG
MONTESSORI SCHULE

THE RIETBERG MONTESSORI SCHOOL

Rietberg School Foundation:	Founded on 2 nd July 1987
President:	Bruno Battaini
Board Member:	Jacqueline Kohler
Management:	Gundula Kohrs, BA Business Administration
Secretaries:	Ursi van Damme, Anke Witten, Yvonne Eder

The Rietberg Montessori School was founded in July 1987 by Max and Jacqueline Kohler as the “Rietberg School Foundation“. The purpose of this foundation is to run a private school according to the educational principles of Dr Maria Montessori. The school consists of an elementary section and a kindergarten.

The board is the supervising body and the principal is the executive body of the Rietberg School Foundation.

OUR SCHOOL

The Rietberg Montessori School fulfils the requirements of the Association Montessori Switzerland (AMS), and is a state-accredited day school. It operates from Monday to Friday for children aged 3-12 years and meets the requirements of the department of education and the department of social policy of Canton Zurich. The school operates under the auspices of the local government. The curriculum is in accordance with the official curriculum of Canton Zurich and thereby allows a child to transfer to a state school.

The school is open from 7.30 am to 6.00 pm. The kindergarten and elementary school are organised into mixed age groups: 3-6 years (kindergarten), 6-9 years (lower elementary) and 9-12 years (upper elementary). There is one teacher available for every 10-12 children. To ensure that our children can meet the challenges of modern society, the Montessori Method is put into practice in all our classes. We encourage the children to develop independence, freedom of movement, motivation to learn and social skills. The aim is to offer a holistic approach to education.

English is an integral element in the school. In every class, there are both German-speaking and English-speaking teachers. French is taught as a subject from fourth grade onwards.



In the elementary school, all subjects, as well as languages and mathematics, are part of the “Cosmic Education“ (which includes all the sciences). Emphasis is also placed on music, painting, creative expression and drama. From lower elementary (6-9 years) onwards, the children learn to work with computers.

Children who are about to transfer to secondary school are worked with intensively to help them prepare for the transition.

A preparation program for the Gymi exam is offered to all 6th grade students.

OUR AIMS

JOY IN LEARNING

It is extremely important to us that we respect the children in their development and offer them educational material that will foster their desire to discover and their eagerness to learn, and thus prepare them for lifelong learning.

PERSONALITY AND COMMUNITY

A good community spirit and comradeship among children is only possible if they grow up to become independent, self-confident and responsible human beings. We support the children by carefully observing this process, by encouraging every child to develop his or her potential, and at a later stage, by offering a sound academic curriculum as well as education in the fine arts.

STRUCTURE OF THE DAY

Each day at the Montessori day school has a varied, harmonious structure.

In kindergarten, children spend their time working intensively with the Montessori material. Moreover they also attend rhythmic and gymnastic classes, singing circle, painting in the art studio and do excursions/trips to the nearby parks. After lunch and after their set lessons, they may play outside.

In elementary school, the children work with the Montessori material supplemented by lessons in specific subjects or project work



OVERVIEW OF OUR SERVICES

ALL LEVELS

- ✧ lessons taught in German and English
- ✧ annual performance of a play and music involving all age group
- ✧ children's party
- ✧ written reports at the end of each educational phase (kindergarten/lower elementary/upper elementary)
- ✧ art workshops
- ✧ student magazine
- ✧ after school care
- ✧ painting in the art studio, woodwork and sports
- ✧ vegetarian cuisine, fresh seasonal products every day
children with food intolerances and allergies (gluten and lactose intolerance) will be provided for

KINDERGARTEN

- ✧ two - three teachers per class
- ✧ rhythmic
- ✧ weekly singing circle

ELEMENTARY

- ✧ two - three teachers per class and additional subject teachers
- ✧ quiet hour (homework time)
- ✧ thorough preparation for grammar school exams in upper elementary
- ✧ specialised teachers for the subjects French (from 4th grade onwards) arts and crafts, woodwork, music and painting
- ✧ biannual parent-teacher conferences
- ✧ sports day, ice-skating day, hiking
- ✧ visits to museums, art galleries and theatres
- ✧ camp week in the upper elementary
- ✧ hike with overnight stay in the lower elementary
- ✧ music ensemble
- ✧ voice training upon consultation as from upper elementary
- ✧ media and informatics (from 4th grade onwards)

EXTRAS

- ✧ German tuition, German as a second language
- ✧ holiday program
- ✧ Wednesday afternoon care
- ✧ piano, violin, harp and cello lessons
- ✧ sport/soccer
- ✧ mindfulness
- ✧ film project
- ✧ kung fu
- ✧ yoga



ORGANISATION

SUPERVISED HOURS

Full day for kindergarten and school

7.30 am to 6.00 pm included in the school fees except Wednesday afternoons

Wednesday afternoon no lessons

Childcare by registration, separate charge
12.00 noon – 1.30pm or 12.00 noon – 6.00 pm

TEACHING HOURS

Kindergarten

Mornings: 8.00 am to 12.00 noon
Mornings and lunch: 8.00 am to 1.30 pm
Full day: 8.00 am to 3.30/ 4.00 pm

Elementary

Depending on age group and timetable
8.15 am – 4.00 pm

LUNCH AND CARE PROGRAMME

The school offers breakfast between 7.30 am and 8.00 am. The children have lunch with their teachers and the assistants. The children are provided with a cooked vegetarian meal from the school kitchen. Children with food intolerances and allergies (gluten and lactose intolerance) will be provided for.

The school offers fruits and bread free of charge during the afternoon break.

After lunch the children play, under supervision, in the garden or, in poor weather, indoors. After lessons the children have the opportunity to participate in a range of extra activities.



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CONTACT WITH PARENTS

The teachers place great emphasis on regular and intensive contact with parents.

The parents are welcome to visit the classes or accompany a group on excursions. At the beginning of the school year each class arranges a parents' evening. During the year there are further information and educational evenings offered. Interviews with the teachers or the principal are always possible by appointment.

In the elementary school, parents are invited once a semester to parent- teacher conferences involving the parents, the child and the teacher. Upon completion of a stage of development (lower elementary/upper elementary) the parents receive a written progress report.

In kindergarten, parents are invited to an interview with the teachers before the child transfers to the elementary school and they receive a written final report on the child's development and work. Additional interviews may be arranged on request.

ADMISSION CONDITIONS

The Rietberg Montessori School admits children from all over the world and from any religious denomination. However, it is important that the parents are acquainted with and agree to the principles of the Montessori Method and agree with them. It is an advantage if a child has attended a Montessori kindergarten before starting in the Montessori elementary school.

The admission of a child into the Rietberg Montessori School is decided by the principal, in consultation with the teachers. Before a child is admitted, the parents are invited to an interview with the principal and are encouraged to observe the classes. In addition, the child spends a trial period a week in an elementary class or three days of introduction in a kindergarten class. Only then does the principal decide whether or not the child is admitted. Usually, children enter our school at the beginning of the school year, in August. However, if there are places available, entries are possible during the school year.



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LOCATION

The school is located in three charming Art Nouveau villas at Seestrasse 119, 121 and 135. The houses are surrounded by the Belvoirpark and the Rieterpark, with access to a large playground and beautiful gardens with mature trees. It is an ideal place for children to learn and spend their free time.

The villa at Seestrasse 119 houses four kindergarten classes and one lower elementary class. At Seestrasse 121 there is one lower and one upper elementary class, and the school administration. The house at Seestrasse 135 also has one lower and one upper elementary class.

Being situated in the centre of Zurich, the school is easily accessible by public transport. The train station “Zurich Enge” and the tram stops “Museum Rietberg” or “Brunastrasse” (tram line 7) are very close to the school.

CONTACT

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