

# Montessori teacher

Montessori teachers help very young children to grow in confidence, and learn at their own pace.

**Salary:** £18,000 to £30,000 average per year

**Hours:** 37 per week

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## 1. Entry requirements

You'll need to study for a Montessori diploma that includes a placement.

You'll need to be at least 17 and have some GCSEs, including English and maths, before you can begin training. Some training organisations may also expect you to have A levels or equivalent.

You could start with higher qualifications like a foundation degree or degree in any subject.

You may also be able to:

- train as a Montessori classroom assistant then move on to a teacher training course
- start as a trainee teacher in a Montessori nursery or school

You'll also need an [enhanced background check](#) which your employer will arrange for you.

## 2. Skills required

You'll need:

- patience and the ability to stay calm at all times
- organisational skills
- excellent communication and observational skills
- the ability to build good relationships with children, parents and staff

## 3. What you'll do

The aim of Montessori teaching is to learn by doing, rather than finishing an activity or making an item to take home.

You'll guide young children rather than give instructions, using specially designed equipment to cover 6 core areas of learning:

- practical activities used in everyday life
- training the senses - sight, hearing, touch, taste, smell
- literacy and language
- numeracy and arithmetic
- knowledge and understanding of the world and different cultures
- creativity

Your day-to-day duties might include:

- planning a programme of work and activities
- preparing the learning areas and resources, and making sure they're safe
- watching the children and making notes of progress and issues
- making sure all children have equal chances to learn
- supporting parents and involving them
- looking after sick or injured children
- helping with dressing and undressing when needed
- feeding children when required
- attending staff meetings
- keeping records and writing reports

## 4. Salary

Starter: £18,000 to £21,000

Experienced: £21,000 to £25,000

Highly Experienced: Up to £30,000 (head or nursery manager)

These figures are a guide.

## 5. Working hours, patterns and environment

You'll work around 37 hours a week. You may need to spend extra time preparing lessons and attending meetings.

You'll work in a school or a nursery. Many nurseries are open from 8am to 6pm, so you'll need to work flexibly.

## 6. Career path and progression

With experience you could become a nursery manager, assistant headteacher or headteacher. You could also become an area manager for a group of schools.

You may be able to set up your own school, or take on a franchise either in the UK or overseas.

### Related careers

You may be interested in:

- [Primary school teacher](#)

- [Nursery manager](#)