The Beehive Montessori School

Strategic Plan
2012 – 2016

Mission

The Beehive Montessori School aims to provide an environment that helps the developing child move towards their fullest potential. By respecting and nurturing individual needs and abilities, we encourage an enjoyment of learning, intellectual, physical, spiritual and emotional growth, independence, and a sense of community responsibility.

The Beehive Montessori School is an educator of children and adolescents according to the Montessori Method with a particular reference to the guidelines of the AMI (Association Montessori Internationale).

We respect the Whadjuk Nyungar people as the traditional custodians of the land on which the school is situated.
Vision and Possibilities

In 1976, eleven parents who wanted a Montessori education for their children dreamed of founding a school in their area. By the end of that year they had a Principal, a school council, a hall, a name and 15 students. In February 1977 they opened the Beehive Montessori School. They could hardly have imagined what Beehive would become by 2012; an internationally recognised Montessori School with 250 children that includes an innovative and successful Adolescent Program.

We acknowledge the enormous and valuable contribution that the parents, principals and teachers, board members, staff and children who have preceded us have made to our school and from which we benefit. We are contributors to a continuum stretching from the founding of the school to its distant future. So much has been achieved, in the last few years especially, as we celebrate the building of the first stages of the new school and the success of the Adolescent Programme.

We who are at the Beehive carry the torch for the School to achieve its great potential. We have a bold vision; to achieve our goal of completing a new purpose built, environmentally sustainable school that reflects the highest principals of Montessori philosophy and which embraces the beauty and significance of our site by the ocean at Mosman Park.

While recognising that the school’s direction will evolve as time passes, our vision is that the Beehive Montessori School becomes a model for the very best of Montessori education practice in the world.

The Beehive campus, when completed, will be seen an exciting example of Montessori practice in its architecture, function, gardens and the use of its natural surroundings. The school will demonstrate, in the use of the land and in behaviour, its commitment to being environmentally responsible. We envisage the school being complemented by its unique access to educationally valuable surroundings in Mosman Park, Fremantle, the Swan River and the Indian Ocean.

The School’s staff, and potential employees, will find Beehive an outstanding employer that fully supports and encourages their personal and professional development within an enjoyable and stimulating working environment. The school will continue to attract dedicated staff and will be a Montessori school employer of choice in Australia and worldwide.

Teachers associated with the Beehive will be recognised worldwide as having the highest Montessori credentials, and will themselves excel in teaching and promoting Montessori principles and practice.

We envisage opportunities for Beehive to provide Montessori education for:

- babies and children from birth to 3 years and their parents
- 3 to 11 year olds in primary school education
- 12 to 15 year olds in a unique occupations-based adolescent programme and an adolescent residential program
- students within our Education Support Centre
- outstanding Montessori teacher training

Past Beehive students will identify strongly with the Beehive and its reputation, and the school will have active alumni that will be a testament to the school’s achievements and could contribute financially to the future developments of the school.
The school will be financially sound with secure tenure over its land. This financial strength could offer opportunities for establishment of Montessori schools elsewhere, not only in Perth but also, for example, in Aboriginal communities where the model of learning within the environment may complement local cultural traditions.

The Beehive will have valuable relationships with other educational institutions in our community, such as secondary schools and universities, through which Beehive can benefit from, and contribute to, mutually beneficial projects and facilities. This will include the development of an alliance with a University to provide a Montessori teacher training centre. The School will be active in its local community and participate in worthwhile activities.

To achieve this vision the Board has adopted the following strategic objectives:

**Strategic Objectives**

1. To preserve and continuously improve on an educational system for children based on the education of the whole child in keeping with the purest ideals of the Montessori Method and the guidelines provided by the AMI (Association Montessori Internationale).

2. To maintain its commitment to an Education Support Centre for students with special needs.

3. To support and promote the personal and professional development of its staff and to ensure it attracts, promotes and retains the employment of AMI trained teachers within the school.

4. To develop an alliance with Notre Dame University to establish a Montessori Teacher Training Centre.

5. To continue and market an Adolescent Residential Programme to educate students from years 7 to 9.

6. To establish an Infant Programme to educate children from 0-3 years and their parents.

7. To research the feasibility of establishing a day care centre as a source of income for the school.

8. To continue its current site at Leighton Beach to incorporate purpose built school buildings and playing fields and landscaping to accommodate the current and future needs of the school.

9. To maintain operational financial surpluses from year to year in order to accumulate reserves for future expansion, improvement and other needs.

10. To maintain a bursary system.

11. To develop and foster mutually beneficial relationships with educational organisations in our community with the aim of sharing resources and projects.

12. To develop and foster communication within the School and relationships with the wider Montessori Community.

13. To consist of four junior primary classes, three middle primary classes, two upper primary classes and one adolescent programme.

14. Undertake fundraising of sufficient finance to achieve the building programme and to buy obtain ownership of the school’s land.
## Version History

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<th>Date</th>
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<td>March 10 2009</td>
<td>Parts deleted and minor additions – Council Meeting March 9 2009.</td>
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<td>May 4 2009</td>
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<td>Board Retreat at Rottnest updating for what has been achieved to date, creating goals for next 5 years and including indigenous custodianship in Mission</td>
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<td>March 2012</td>
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