



FARMHOUSE
MONTESSORI SCHOOL



EDUCATING
THE WHOLE CHILD

PARENT HANDBOOK

"My vision of the future is no longer people taking exams and proceeding then on that certification, but of individuals passing from one stage of independence to a higher one by means of their own activity, through their own effort of will, which constitutes the inner evolution of the individual."

- Maria Montessori

Farmhouse Montessori North Balgowlah - Preschool and Kindergarten Campus

School Telephone No. 02 9949 1008
School Facsimile No. 02 9949 1008
Location 9 Bardoo Ave, North Balgowlah NSW 2093
Email: enrolments@farmhousemontessori.nsw.edu.au

Farmhouse Montessori North Head - Primary Campus

School Telephone No. 02 99776790 (Parent use only)
Location Building 6 (The Gatehouse), North Head Sanctuary,
33, North Head Scenic Drive, Manly NSW 2095
Email: pa@farmhousemontessori.nsw.edu.au
Website: www.farmhousemontessori.nsw.edu.au

Welcome to the Farmhouse Montessori School

We extend a warm welcome to you and your children and hope you enjoy many happy years as a part of our community at Farmhouse Montessori.

Our philosophy

The Farmhouse Montessori School's philosophy follows the educational approach founded by Maria Montessori. We believe that each child has a natural love of learning, that they are competent, inventive, imaginative and brimming with ideas and theories about the world around them. We aim to encourage each child's natural desire to learn and to foster their natural curiosity and love of knowledge.

We believe Montessori education is centred on the child, with the Educator guiding rather than teaching. We believe we are facilitators in the process of learning. Educators present the information to the child in a climate of mutual respect.

We believe that the development of self-esteem, tolerance, mutual respect and concern for others are traits that are nurtured in this environment. We have a deep respect for each child and therefore nurture their individual learning process by recognising potential and provoking thought, action, and collaboration through observation and planning.

We honour our sense of place as a learning experience. We provide an environment that encourages and supports the child's awareness of their importance in caring for each other and their role in caring for the earth and its inhabitants. Our school has a commitment in creating a sustainable environment.

*We discovered that education is not something which the teacher does, but that it is a natural process which develops spontaneously in the human being.
– Maria Montessori*



Our History

In 1981 a group of parents who had been unsuccessful in placing their children into a Montessori School decided to form the Manly Warringah Montessori Society. Thus the first step was taken towards opening a school in the Manly Warringah area. Six months of hard work culminated in the commencement of the school in June 1982 at the Farmhouse Community Centre in Manly Vale.

The school opened with just 16 children. In 2002 we moved from Manly Vale to a temporary site in King Street and, after two years of demanding effort, finally moved into the present site in Bardoo Avenue North Balgowlah. At that time the school was able to provide a Preschool education for 60 children from two years of age.

In 2011 the Farmhouse was registered as a Primary school with the Department of Education and our third year students were enrolled into the Kindergarten year. A grant enabled the school to create a permanent outdoor environment and an application to the Department of Community Services allowed us to expand our numbers to 67.

In 2014 the School opened a new Primary campus at Manly's picturesque North Head to continue educating children from six to twelve years of age.

The Farmhouse is now able to offer children from two to twelve years of age a Montessori education in a wonderful environment on two campuses.

Montessori and its Benefits

Dr Maria Montessori (1870-1952) was one of the first educators to recognise that children are born with enormous potential for development, rather than as was then referred to as a 'blank slate'. Each child, she believed, together with his or her genetic endowment, seeks what is needed from their surroundings for the realisation of their unique potential. Effectively, children are born with an internal force that guides them towards self-actualisation.

A Montessori educator is trained to develop a classroom- referred to as the 'prepared environment'- that is 'stage appropriate' and then to observe and support the interaction of individual children with the materials provided. Based on these observations, the materials available in the classroom are adapted to the children's developmental needs. This child-centered approach to education is based on the belief that children themselves are the best guides to showing us what is right for them.

Children are born with a love of learning and seek out what is of interest every moment of the day. Every person coming into contact with each child has something to offer that contributes to the development of that child's mind. Parents and other carers of a young child are therefore in a privileged position of guiding and facilitating this process of development.

The more you look, the more you will see and become aware of the smallest, subtlest beginnings and tenuous manifestations of what drives your child. By becoming observers we do not limit our child to what we know, but allow our child to also teach us. This process can only occur in a secure, comprehensible environment where there is freedom to exercise choice, and where your child is given autonomy over the energy of this environment.

Farmhouse Management

The Manly-Warringah Montessori Society is a non-profit limited liability company registered under Section 24 of the Companies Act, 1961, and operates within the dictates of its Memorandum & Articles of Association. Membership of the Society is a prerequisite for enrolment.

Our Staff

The Farmhouse Montessori School is incredibly proud of its dedicated and experienced teaching staff.

Our teachers are not only committed to providing the best environment for their children, but are also involved in various Montessori and early childhood organisations. They support Montessori schools and centres throughout the world, and are regularly called up to speak at conferences, workshops, and institutions of early childhood.

Each Directress has a teaching degree as well as further Montessori training. Other educators have or are training for a Child Care Certificate, Diploma or further. All staff work closely together to ensure the children are provided with the highest standard Montessori environment. All teaching staff regularly participates in workshops and training to continue upgrade their understanding of child development.

Our Board

The organisational structure is made up of the Chairman and Secretary, Principal and up to five Directors. Members of the Board are elected annually at the Farmhouse AGM.

Our Parents

We encourage our Farmhouse parents to support the education of their children by understanding and respecting the Montessori philosophy.

Family Involvement Program

As we are a small nonprofit organisation, we rely on help from our families in order to keep the school running smoothly. We ask that each family assist in the ongoing function. The following are some of the ways in which families can participate in the family involvement program:

Fundraising

The school strives to continuously improve the quality of our students learning environment. Their indoor and outdoor space along with quality education materials are imperative for us to deliver an exceptional learning experience.

We occasionally hold fun social events to raise funds for these kind of improvements to the school. We encourage all of our families to be in involved so that the whole school community can take part in the growth of our school whilst benefitting from the social aspect.

The Board

The members of the board along with the Principal are responsible for setting the directions for the School and ensuring that its goals and objectives are met in line with its constitution, and all legal and regulatory requirements governing the operation of the business are met.

Aim

Manly Warringah Montessori Society is committed to ensuring that there are appropriate systems and processes in place to enable:

- Good governance and management of the Farmhouse Montessori School
- Accountability to all stakeholders
- Compliance with all regulatory and legislative requirements placed on the organization
- The organization to remain solvent and comply with all its financial obligations

Class Parents

Our Class Parents are crucial in helping our teachers facilitate the smooth and harmonious operation of their classrooms, and in assisting the development and welfare of the school as a community. It is important that each teacher and Class Parent work together to facilitate communication between the parents and teacher. Our class parents need to be tactful, discreet and able to keep information shared with them by both the teacher and parents confidential. He or she must also be willing to abide by the Code of Conduct and the policies and procedures of the school. Our class parents are a valuable asset to our school.

The Open Day

Our open day is a family involved annual event which showcases our school to prospective families. This is done in the form of a 'village style fair' on our North Balgowlah Campus. Whilst staff do majority of this event planning in the weeks leading up to the event, we call on parent volunteers to help on the day in the various stalls along with putting up posters and publicity in the lead up. Our annual cake stall on the day is also a fabulous way for both parents and children to be involved making their favourite home baked goods to sell on the day.

Your Contribution

Many parents have skills or experiences they might like to share with their child's class.

If you have had an interesting experience, a craft or musical instrument, or perhaps have a cultural celebration that can be brought into the classroom or would like to contribute in some other way, please talk to the Directress to see if it can be shared with the children. Shared experiences are not only enjoyed by the children but are also a learning, bringing their home life into their classroom community. We really value the skills and experiences the parents and family members such as grandparents bring into the classroom.

Parents in the Classroom

When visiting the school, it is important that parents follow the same rules as the children such as:

- All eating and drinking must occur in designated areas.
- Tables and chairs must be carried as your child would carry them i.e. only one at a time with two hands.
- All work must be done on the mats or tables and mats must never be walked on or over.
- Tables or other work surfaces must not be sat on.
- All materials must be used according to their purpose and in a specific manner. All experimentation must be initiated by your child, rather than at the suggestion of an adult.
- All cloths and materials are designed for a particular purpose and cannot be used for other activities, for example please do not to take an item off one tray for use on another.
- Montessori activities are designed specifically to allow your child to achieve independent success and skill development. It is important to allow your child to work as they have been shown by their teacher.
- Please speak in a quiet voice and do not call out across the room.
- Our children are taught that to interrupt a person you must rest your hand on their shoulder or arm and wait to be acknowledged.
- We would appreciate it if you would turn your mobile phone off whilst on campus.
- Please note it is important to be respectful of your child's learning environment. If you are late or need to speak to the Directress, please wait at the door and she will come out to you. If you need to speak to your child please walk over to where they are and speak to them in a quiet voice.

Farmhouse Communication

Pigeonholes/Pouches

Each family is allocated a pigeonhole for receiving correspondence such as accounts, notes from the educators or other parents, or party invitations. It is a very effective means of communication and we suggest you check your pigeonhole often. We ask that marketing material is not distributed in our parent pigeon holes. Please ask the Principal or your Directress for approval before placing anything in other families' pigeonholes/ pouches.

Farmhouse Newsletter

The newsletter is distributed fortnightly electronically to all families at the school. It contains school updates, information of upcoming events, and the school calendar. Contributions are provided by members of the Board, staff, and parents. If you would like to look at a hard copy one is available in reception. Please note this is our main method of communication with our families and we ask you to keep up to date with the newsletter so you are aware of what's happening at the school

Notice Board

The noticeboard in reception at North Balgowlah (at the entrance to North Head) is used to inform parents of school matters and events of interest, as well as to display signup sheets for rosters or events for which the school may need volunteers. The Principal or your Directress must authorise any notices placed on the noticeboard.

Blackboard (North Balgowlah)

This is used to remind parents of daily or upcoming events and can be viewed out the front as you enter the school.

Parent Library

The Parent Library is located in the preschool reception. It has a stock of books, magazines and videos about Montessori education, general education, child health and development, family dynamics, philosophy, and spiritual aspects of life.

As a member of the Manly Warringah Montessori Society you are welcome to borrow these items. You will need to fill in the relevant details in the library card inside each book and give it to the School Secretary. Please observe the borrowing limit of one month to ensure all parents have access. If there are any books you would like to see as part of the library, please let the Directress or Principal know.

Parent / Teacher Communication

Conferences

Parent-teacher conferences are held each year during both the second and fourth term. A signup sheet will be placed on the notice board so parents are able to select a time for an appointment. Outside of this, you are welcome to make an appointment with your child's teacher at any time during the school year to discuss your child's progress or any concerns you might have.

Please also let your child's teacher know of any significant changes your child may be going through at home. Quite often we find that a child behaving differently, for example, has a relative visiting, moving house or a parent away. Letting staff know helps us to assist your child through this period of change.

Developmental Summaries

Reports of your child's progress are distributed to parents twice a year and will be discussed during parent-teacher conferences.

Information and Discussion Evenings

We hold information evenings during the year. These evenings are designed to be interesting and informative. They provide an opportunity to explain the Montessori method's application in all planes of development. They also offer support on developmental issues your child might be experiencing.

Our Educators or a guest speaker will present a particular topic which is then followed by questions and a group discussion. These evenings are extremely beneficial and provide insightful techniques to implement in your home. If there is a particular topic you would like to suggest for an information evening, please speak to one of our Educators. All parents are encouraged to attend.

Farmhouse Social Events

Auction Trivia Night

The Farmhouse holds an annual social event which also helps raise money for the school. This is the big event in the school calendar which we encourage all of our Farmhouse community to attend. It is a great opportunity to integrate into the community and make new friends.

The evening features a live art auction. Each class spends months creating beautiful artwork to which each child contributes. These stunning pieces are then auctioned off on the night. The creation of these pieces brings great pride to the students.

End of Year Concert

At the end of Term Four an End of Year Concert for both campuses is held at the North Balgowlah Campus to celebrate the past year. It is an entertaining event during which each class undertakes a performance for their classmates, families, and teachers.

Mother's Day & Father's Day

During Term Two and Term Three we celebrate Mother's and Father's day. We hold these morning celebrations at both campuses as morning teas or breakfasts to accommodate working parents. This is a great opportunity to bring parents into the classrooms to further the sense of community. *The date we hold these festivities varies each year in the Preschool Campus to accommodate children who attend different program days. ie One event will be held at the beginning of the week and the second at the latter so all children attending Farmhouse preschool will experience these celebrations.

*This event takes place in the 3-6yr classrooms and the Primary Campus.

Grandparent's & Special Friend's Day

During Term Four we warmly welcome Grandparents and Special Friends to come and visit the children's classrooms amongst a lovely morning tea. We use this platform to promote our 'love of reading' and offer the family members the opportunity to donate a book to the school. *This event takes place in all Classrooms and the Primary Campus.

Coffee Mornings

Coffee mornings are organised by the Class Parents to provide an informal opportunity for parents to meet and socialise. They are generally held monthly during the term and the day is varied to cater for parents who have part-time work or other commitments. Mothers, fathers, siblings and/or carers are most welcome.

Parents can volunteer their home for a coffee morning, so if you are interested in hosting, please let your Class Parent know. You will be given approximately two weeks' notice before a coffee morning. When the date is known it will be placed in the school calendar and a poster placed up on the noticeboard.

*any parent is encouraged to instigate and host morning teas.

Holiday Catch Ups

During the school holidays, catch up dates are planned by the Class Parents at local playgrounds or beaches. It is a great opportunity for a friendly get together and for the children to see their friends.

*any parent is encouraged to instigate catch ups.

Social Evenings

To encourage the building of our parent community, social nights are planned sporadically throughout the year either by Class Parents or parents wishing to instigate a social catch up.

Farmhouse Procedures

A copy of the school's policies and procedures is kept in reception or on our website. It is available for inspection by parents.

North Balgowlah

Intake

Where more than one new pupil starts at the school at one time, integration to the class is greatly facilitated by staggering the introduction of these pupils into the classroom. This is a standard Montessori practice and is of benefit not only to the new student, but also to the other children in the class. The Principal determines each pupil's commencement date. There is no fee rebate resulting from a late start.

Our Program

Toddler | Infant Community (For children 2-3 years)

The Toddler program consists of a two, three or five day offering. This is the stage of development where they are learning independence emotional growth & socialisation. The children work with practical life materials to develop independence. Within practical life they also develop language fine motor skills & gross motor skills. The children are encouraged to prepare their own morning tea which consists of baking bread, slicing, washing & serving.

The high staff to child ratio allows each staff member to develop a relationship with the child. These relationships allow the child to feel safe, secure and supported allowing them to grow in confidence to explore & learn.

The child's individual progress is monitored through observation and planning. This allows the staff to provide challenging and appropriate activities within all levels of this age group.

Pre-primary (For children 3-6 years)

The pre-primary program consists of a two, three or five day offering. In the preschool program Dr Montessori describes this period of the child's development as the "absorbent mind."

The School aims to provide both creative and stimulating intellectual, artistic, and developmental experiences for the pre-school and kindergarten child. We strive to cultivate each child's natural desire to learn and to foster his/her natural curiosity and love of knowledge.

The Montessori classroom is comprised of four interrelated areas: Practical Life, Sensorial, Mathematics and Language, which incorporates Human Society, the environment and Science. A full range of cultural experiences including drama, French, music, poetry, cooking, art, storytelling, incursions and field trips complement the daily routine.

We strive to instill in each child a sense of acceptance and understanding through our diverse learning environment.

Primary (For children 6-12 years)

As the child transitions from the 3-6 plane of development to the 6-12 plane the child develops a reasoning mind. The primary Montessori classroom continues to bring children of different age levels together allowing them to progress through the curriculum at their own pace. This allows the environment to accommodate the needs of individual learners.

The Montessori classroom provides a curriculum to cover the entire span of interests & abilities for all of the children within the class. As the primary child is beginning to develop characteristics such as intellectual curiosity, a sense of justice, imagination and a reasoning mind they begin to take a strong interest in discovering and understanding the world around them and how they can contribute to the world.

During this plane of development, the primary classroom provides a foundation for the study of learning areas of which are interconnected in life. Subjects such as Mathematics, Science and Technology, Art, Geography, Music, Languages and Physical education are all part of a curriculum that allows the child to pursue their interests and develop concentration and research skills through concrete learning presentations.

The primary school is a registered NESAS School.

Attendance at The Farmhouse

Hours

The School operates for the following hours each day of the week during the school term:

North Balgowlah Preschool Campus 8.00am – 4.00pm

Toddler (2 day or 3 day) Program	8.30am - 3.30pm
*3-6yrs (2 day) Program	8.30am – 4.00pm
3-6yrs (3 day) Program	8.30am – 3.15pm
*4-5yrs (2 day) Program	8.30am – 4.00pm
Kindergarten (5 days) Program	8.30am – 2.30pm

Extended hours Care

Preschool (all classes)	8.00am – 8.30 am
Toddler	3.30pm – 4.00pm
3-6yr Class (3 or 5 day program)	3.15pm – 4.00pm
Kindergarten Class	2.30pm – 3.15pm or 2.30pm – 4.00pm

North Head Primary Campus

Before School Care	9am – 3.00pm
After School Care	7am – 9.00am
	3pm – 6.00pm

The Before & After school care program is provided by PrimaryOshCare – an external provider.

*START STRONG

The NSW Government is committed to ensuring that all children in NSW can participate in 600 hours of quality preschool education. To comply with this, 3-6yr students who are enrolled on a 2 day programme can attend 8.30-4pm.

Changes to Preschool Enrolment

By law we need to have in a priority of access that we:

"Give equal priority of access to":

1. children who are at least 4 years old on or before the 31 July in that preschool year and not enrolled or registered at a school.
2. children who are at least 3 years old on or before 31 July in that preschool year and from low income and/ or Aboriginal families
3. children with English language needs
4. children with disability and additional needs
5. children who are at risk of significant harm (from a child protection perspective)

Arrival and Departure

Arriving on time provides your child with the foundation of a regular routine and helps them develop a respect for the school, their classmates, and their teachers. Having a regular routine gives young children a sense of security, and this routine is disrupted if they arrive late and their classmates are already engaged in their work. Similarly, if you are late to pick your child up from school, they may feel no one is coming for them and become distressed. We ask that you drop off and pick up at the classroom door as parents are generally requested not to enter the classroom.

Staff may only discharge children to their parents, guardian, or a responsible person authorized in writing to collect that child. The school must be notified in writing if there are any changes to these arrangements. Please fill out a pink 'Pick Up Arrangement'

form and hand it to reception or your child's teacher. In the event of an emergency, a phone call is an acceptable means of changing arrangements, but the call must come from a parent whose voice is known to the staff. If the person picking your child up is not known to staff, they will need to provide photo ID.

If your child has not been picked up from school, or an emergency arises and a parent cannot be contacted, your nominated emergency contact will be called to collect your child.

Please note that our license only allows children to be at the school from 8.00am and parents are therefore required to remain with their children until that time. This also ensures our staff have the appropriate time to set the classroom up as necessary without the need to supervise children. Please ensure that there is a staff member in the classroom before allowing your child to enter. Our Preschool license only allows children to be at the school until 4pm. If a parent has not collected their child by 4pm and they are unreachable, we will contact the child's emergency contacts. If the emergency contacts are not contactable we will must follow protocol and call the authorities. A child left at the school beyond 4pm puts our license at risk, therefore this policy and protocol is strictly enforced.

Extended hours care: Preschool Campus

Our morning and afternoon care is available to all preschool children. Places can be booked on a permanent per term basis or on a casual basis. Payment for these sessions must be made before the child stays. Casual places are only available if spaces exist. This before and after care is operated by the Preschool staff at the Farmhouse.

Out of Hours Care: Primary Campus

This morning and afternoon care is run by PrimaryOshCare for children 5 years age upwards.

This out of hours care is NOT operated by The Farmhouse it is operated by an external company. The booking for this service is to be made directly with PrimaryOshCare.

Late pick up: Preschool Campus

If a parent is late, you are required to call the relevant campus directly. Depending on your child's program pick up time will vary slightly to stagger the carpark traffic. Once class has finished, the afternoon portion of the educators' day is allocated to re-setting and cleaning classrooms as well as program planning for the following day. For all parents picking up late, a charge will apply. If a parent is more than 10 minutes late your child will be placed in the after school program and you will be charged the relevant after school care fee.

Late pick up: Primary Campus

If a parent is late, you are required to call the Primary Campus directly. If you are more than 10 minutes late your child will be placed in out of hours PrimaryOshCare. They will invoice you directly with the care fee.

Attendance Register

North Balgowlah -Compulsory Sign In/Out

The arrival and departure of your child must be recorded in the register in reception. This register is a legal document and is a Government requirement. Signing this register is the responsibility of the person who drops off or picks up your child. In the case of an emergency or evacuation, we rely on the information entered in this register to ensure all children are accounted for. We would appreciate it if children did not write upon this document.

North Head

The roll is taken at 9.15am each day.

Absences

If your child is unable to attend classes, please call the school and let us know they will be absent so that staff are not waiting for their arrival. As a requirement of the Government, an 'Absentee Notice' will be filled out by a staff member and added to your child's file. It is also important for us to know if your child has contracted a contagious illness so we can let other parents know.

If you know your child will be absent from school due to an impending appointment or holiday, please fill out a green 'Absentee Notice' and hand it into reception.

Late Arrival

Arriving late can be unsettling for both child and their class. Being late also prevents your child from getting the most benefit from the day. However, from time to time, if your child is unable to be on time, a 'green absentee or late arrival slip' or must be completed.

Temporary Guardianship

If you are going away and leaving your children in the care of a family member or guardian, an 'Authorisation and Consent of Parent(s) or Legal Guardian(s)' form needs to be completed and returned to the school office, especially if you will not be easily contactable. This form grants temporary guardianship to the nominated person so they have full authority to make all educational, recreational, and medical decisions for your child whilst at the Farmhouse Montessori School. A copy of this form is available on request.

Alternative Pick Up Arrangements

If you have made regular arrangements for the collection of your child, please ensure you have filled in a pink 'Pick Up Arrangement' form. As a requirement of the Child Care and Protection Act, full name, address and phone number of the person picking your child up must be supplied. Daily or urgent changes must be advised via a pink 'Pick Up Arrangement' form, or by telephone by a parent known to staff. If you wish to advise via email, please be aware that emails may only be checked sporadically, if you do not receive an email back from the school acknowledging your change in arrangement, please call reception.

Parking at school

The Farmhouse Montessori has limited parking spaces available in the school carpark. To provide a safe parking zone, the school has strict requirements for parking:

North Balgowlah

- All parking in the school car park is **nose to kerb only**. For the safety of our children, reverse parking is not permitted.
- An adult should accompany your child to and from the car and remain with them at all times. Please hold your child's hand.
- There is a 5 minute parking limit during peak times.
- If you wish to speak to your child's teacher or socialize we ask that you park on the street.
- All children are expected to carry their own bags on their back from the car in both the Toddler and Pre-primary class.
- Please do not leave children unattended in the car. If your child is asleep or unwilling to get out of the car, ask someone you know to stand by your car while you go into the school.
- During peak times (8:15-am-9:30am and 2:15pm – 3:30pm), the car park exit is left turn only.

North Head

- Limited car parking is available adjacent to the school's entrance. Priority for these spots should be given firstly to parents with infants or toddlers in their cars.
- The top car park has plenty spots to accommodate everyone and is only a short walk to the school gate.
- Please remember to obey parking signs as the SHT rangers can issue parking infringements.
- Please check under your car for bandicoots, particularly at night.

Front Door

Please ensure that the entrance door to the school and the security fencing is firmly closed behind you as you enter or leave the school. An open door whilst a parent is having a conversation can be a serious safety hazard especially in the toddler/preschool age group with the carpark so near to the entrance.

Excursions and Incursions

Preschool excursions are generally only organised for the 3-6yr children. Occasionally we may require parent volunteers to assist with supervision and transport the children on the day.

Primary children at the North Head campus participate in excursions regularly as part of their curriculum studies and also occasionally require parent volunteers to assist. For all excursions, the school covers half of the cost.

Birthdays

Pre-primary

How do we celebrate in the 3-6 year class?

We explain to the children that it takes the earth one year to travel around the sun; this is one unit of measurement for time. A candle is lit to represent the sun and we talk about events in the life of the child in the 3-6 class. Your child is welcome to bring a poster with photos of marking each year of their life.

The 'birthday child' holds a globe of the world and walks around the sun once and stops; the first birthday has been reached. If a photograph of the 'one year old' is available then we all look at it, we will then mention a special event, provided by the parent that happened to the child during that year. This is repeated until the current birthday is reached. Each year is accompanied with a song sung by the whole class "the earth moves around the sun"... The child then blows out the candle and 'happy birthday' is sung.

Celebrating in the toddler class:

We also talk and share events in your child's life and enjoy photos of these milestones. We then sing happy birthday and celebrate with our friends.

What do I need to do?

When your child's birthday is approaching, please contact your class teacher to organise which day is best suited for celebrating your child's birthday. We try to have it on the actual day but if there are 2 children having a birthday we would try and give them their own day of celebration, or if their birthday lands on a weekend, we can choose which day is best suited.

Celebration food.

All celebrations are followed by a birthday snack provided by the child's parents. We encourage parents to think about other alternatives other than cake as a 'treat' on their birthday. When thinking about what to bring consider fruit platters, savoury plates such as cheese and crackers or meatballs that are easy for the children to eat with their hands. Feel free to chat to any of our staff for idea.

We also ask you to speak to the directress regarding any food allergies and if able, bring something in that all children could eat. These children always appreciate being able to eat the same food as everyone.

Children with allergies:

If your child has a food allergy you can bring some premade treats to keep in the freezer for those special times.

Primary

A candle is lit to represent the sun and we talk about events in the life of the child from zero to birthday age. The same ceremony is celebrated as in the 3-6 environment. Children in Yani are asked to bring either a fruit platter or plain popcorn. Please note that cakes are not permitted. Please discuss any dietary requirements with the Directress.

As part of the Montessori birthday celebrations, families are asked to donate a book to the school library in their child's name. The children take great delight in hearing who donated certain books over the years, particularly if it was an older sibling or themselves in prior years. The children really enjoy an excursion to the book shop with their parents to choose the book they will add to the North Head library. Your child's name will be written on a label inside the front cover and the book is read at the end of the birthday celebration. This donation ensures an ongoing library resource for the children.

What to Wear, What to Bring

Clothing

Your child's clothes should allow freedom of movement and be easy for them to manage alone. Clothes with manageable fastenings allow young children to dress themselves which contributes to their self-confidence. If your child is able to pull up their own pants, buckle their own shoes, or zip up their own jacket their independence grows, as will their sense of pride in their appearance.

At the Farmhouse Montessori, we strongly promote a philosophy of peace. In keeping with that, our students are not permitted to bring in weaponry of any kind in any form. Bags or clothing worn or brought to school should not have superheroes or other aggressive characters depicted on them.

In keeping with the Montessori philosophy of the Absorbent Mind, we would also prefer if other commercial characters such as Disney or Nickelodeon personalities did not feature on students' clothing and bags. Young children have trouble discerning fantasy from reality, and we like to promote a sense of reality on school grounds.

Children should not come to school in their best clothes, as they then tend to feel reluctant to wash, polish, paint, climb or dig. It is appropriate to dress your child as if they were going to the park. Girls are discouraged from wearing dresses or skirts; shorts or leggings are more appropriate.

Sunhats are compulsory year round. Your child should have a hat with a protruding brim, preferably one with some protection at the back. The school operates a 'no hat no play' policy as stipulated by the Cancer Council.

It is essential that all clothing items are labelled with your child's name. The school takes no responsibility for lost clothing. Labels can be purchased from THAT'S MINE: www.thatsmine.com.au

In the case of wet weather, children are encouraged to wear raincoats rather than bring umbrellas.

School Bags

School bags should be big enough to carry a full change of clothes, as well as a lunch box and drink bottle. It is essential that all items are labelled, and, as with clothing, school bags may not have superheroes or violent characters depicted on them. It is preferable that your child is able to open and close their bag without any help; a zipper fastening is ideal. We would appreciate you checking your child's bag daily for notes and dirty clothing.

Please remember to vary the change of clothes in your child's bag with the change the season. During rainy weather children with gumboots and raincoats with hoods are permitted to play outside, but please remember to pack some street shoes for them to change into once they are in the classroom.

Sunscreen

We ask that you apply sunscreen to your child before you leave home to ensure it has activated by the time they reach school. 30+ sunscreen will be reapplied to those staying for lunch. We would rather children didn't bring their own sunscreen to school every day in their bags, but if sensitivities are present you may leave an appropriate sunscreen with their teacher clearly labelled with their name. Please ensure you tick the appropriate box on the attendance register each day to indicate whether your child has had sunscreen applied before school.

Primary Tick Repellent and Tick Removal Policy

Please refer to Appendix 2.

Dummies and Bottles

Whilst we appreciate there may be a period of unsettlement in a new preschool student commencing, we ask that you leave bottles and dummies at home. This will assist us in building independence in your child. If you feel your child requires extra support please see your child's teacher.

Toys

We would appreciate toys remaining at home. There are plenty of activities available at school, and toys can often cause a disturbance especially if they are lost or damaged. The exception to this rule is the Pre-primary Storytelling Time, where a toy or object holding a particular meaning for a child may be brought to school and shared with the class along with a sleeping comforter for the toddler community.

We ask that Primary students refrain from bringing any toys from home.

Pre-primary Storytelling

If your child has something of interest they would like to share with their classmates, please consult their teacher. Children are encouraged to tell a story about the object they have brought to school. This includes when, where, and from whom it was received, as well as any interesting activity associated with it. It is helpful if you have spent some time with your child determining what will be said. This is a great aid to develop story writing skills in the future.

Work

Most of the work done in the Farmhouse classroom does not involve paper. However, any arts or crafts work or writing practice the children do will be sent home. When commenting on your child's work we encourage you to ask whether they enjoyed working on it or for a description of the work, rather than say you think it is good, or that you like it.

Food

North Balgowlah

We ask each child to bring a piece of fruit or some vegetables to school each day to share with their classmates. This will be provided for children to snack on during the morning. If you feel you may forget to bring fruit in daily, please feel free to bring your weekly quota weekly. Each classroom has filtered water available for the children to access as they wish. There is no set snack time and children are encouraged to prepare their own food and eat whenever they are hungry.

In the Toddler room, children also share food prepared and cooked during the morning as a group. Full menu descriptions are on view outside of each classroom.

Please inform your child's teacher if your child has a food allergy, sensitivity or intolerance so as to ensure your child is catered for accordingly.

Lunch

All children will need to bring their own lunch. Families are encouraged to pack healthy and nutritious food with minimal packaging- 'naked' lunches are best. Not only does this promote healthy eating, but it ensures your child gets the greatest benefit from the afternoon session.

We ask that your child does not bring the following foods onto the school premises:

- Nuts: Please note for the safety of those children who have a nut allergy, the school has a strict NO NUT policy.
- Sticky spreads such as honey and jam
- Biscuits and cakes
- Chocolate and lollies
- Chips
- Anything in a wrapper or packet
- Juice and cordial: Drink bottles should only contain water.

Classrooms are equipped with refrigerators in which school lunches are stored on both sites. We welcome thermos' with a preheated lunch. One lunchbox and a drink bottle is sufficient for the day.

North Head

Children can bring a small snack to have during the morning work cycle or with their lunch. Please check lunch policy for appropriate foods.

Vaccination Requirements

From 1 January 2018, parents must provide a copy of one or more of the following documents to enroll in any child care centre: The NSW Parliament has passed a Bill to amend the Public Health Act to strengthen vaccination enrolment requirements in child care (also known as early childhood education and care). Children who are unvaccinated due to their parent's conscientious objection will no longer be able to be enrolled in child care.

All enrolled students must provide one of the following:

- an [AIR Immunisation History Statement](#): which shows that the child is up to date with their scheduled vaccinations (this can be obtained by Medicare) or
- an [AIR Immunisation History Form](#) :on which the immunisation provider has certified that the child is on a recognised catch-up schedule (temporary for 6 months only) or
- an [AIR Immunisation Medical Exemption Form](#) :which has been certified by a GP.

**For further information please refer to our health policy.*

Sickness

While regular attendance is important and desirable for each child, it is unfair on your child to send them to school if they are unwell. A child who feels sick wants only to be in the comfort of their own home and is miserable being at school. In the case of a contagious illness, it also places the whole school community at risk and exacerbates the cycle of infection. Please note the necessary time periods required and refrain from sending your child to school if any of the following conditions exist:

- above normal temperature - your child should be at normal temperature without medication for 24 hours before returning
- rash – please exclude until rash is no longer contagious
- vomiting or diarrhea – your child should not return to school until they are free from symptoms for 24 hours
- conjunctivitis - please exclude your child from school until discharge from the eyes has ceased
- sore throat or persistent cough
- fresh cold with a profuse, cloudy discharge from the nose
- your child is not well enough to play outside
- impetigo (school sores) - please exclude until sores have sealed over- a doctor's certificate will be required
- ringworm (tinea) - please exclude until the day after treatment has started
- pediculosis (head lice) – please exclude until the day after treatment has started and all eggs have been removed
- any type of contagious disease for the period specified by the Department of Health

Should your child suffer a chronic condition (e.g. asthma), symptoms relating to this condition should be discussed with your child's Directress.

We request you advise the school promptly if your child will be absent. Please note it is a Government requirement that the school is notified if your child contracts a contagious disease so that other parents can be advised of possible exposure, and members of the school community who may be at special risk e.g. pregnant mothers, can be alerted.

Should your child become ill during the course of the day or arrive too ill to participate in the daily activities, we will contact you and ask you to take your child home. In the event a parent cannot be notified, a person from your emergency list will be called.

Medication

If your child is taking prescription medicine you must give the staff written permission to administer their medication. The written permission must accompany the original prescription bottle and must include specific instructions as well as note the prescribing doctor. Medication forms are available from your Directress or at the office and can only be signed by a parent.

Management of Farmhouse

Grievance Policy

Grievances or complaints may arise from time to time, and it is important that they are handled and not ignored. An unexpressed or unresolved grievance can often escalate unnecessarily. Parents have the right to complain or dissent on any school-related issue. If you have a grievance, please contact your class teacher firstly.

Confidentiality of any issue raised will be respected at all times.

Procedure

Parents are required to follow the grievance procedure if they have a complaint or wish to dissent on any school related matter. Details of all discussions and meetings must be recorded, signed by all parties involved, and placed in the Concerns and Grievances Register. The procedure is as follows:

- Discuss the matter with the appropriate person e.g. classroom issues with your class teacher, or a finance concern with the financial administrator etc.
- If either party is still dissatisfied, they may take the matter to the next level and request a meeting with the Preschool Co-ordinator or Principal.
- If still dissatisfied with the outcome, the matter may be referred to the School Board, by written submission. This submission must outline the problem and proposed solution(s). This letter must be received by the Thursday before the next scheduled Board meeting so the issue can be raised at the meeting. All parties will be consulted and the outcome reported at the following Board meeting. Written notification from the Board of the final decision will be made within 5 working days of the meeting.
- If the complainant is not satisfied with the outcome, and the matter relates to the quality of services being provided by the school, the matter may be raised with the Department of Education and Communities.

Financial Policies

The Board determines Farmhouse financial policies including the annual budgets and fees. They are consistent with, and seek to reinforce, the commitment parents make to the full Montessori program when their child commences at the school.

The school finances are administered by the Board Treasurer who is elected at the Annual General Meeting of the Manly Warringah Montessori Society. The Treasurer is assisted by the School Secretary and the Bookkeeper who together deal with the day-to-day responsibilities including banking, invoicing, salaries and correspondence. A Registered Company Auditor audits the school accounts annually.

Manly Warringah Montessori Society Fees

Annual membership of the Society is per family unit, and confers one vote per member at all Board meetings as well as the right for either parent to stand for election to the Board.

Enrolment Fee

You will be charged an enrolment fee to be paid before your child commences their education at the school. This fee is to secure their place at the school and is non-refundable and supports the school developmental program as well as administrative costs. The enrolment fee varies between campuses.

Waitlist application fees for siblings of those enrolled at The Farmhouse are waived.

Term Fees

As the Farmhouse Montessori is a non-profit organization, school fees are set so that together with the government subsidy, they cover the day-to-day running costs of the school. Extra funds for specific items and purposes outside these areas may however be required which is when fundraising is applied. The School Board reviews fees annually.

Fees are invoiced annually and are payable in full by week 8 of the term prior. The annual invoice reflects due dates and the amount due. It is up to the parent to take note of this.

If you are having difficulty paying your fees it is essential you contact our financial administrator. If you feel you may be eligible for a fee subsidy please contact the Principal in order to determine your eligibility.

**please refer to our fee policy for further information*

Maintenance Levy

A compulsory fee of \$125 per term is payable per term per family. This fee is used for the maintenance of both school campuses'

Donations

The Farmhouse Montessori School is a registered charity and gratefully accepts donations to our building fund. Donations above \$2.00 are tax deductible.

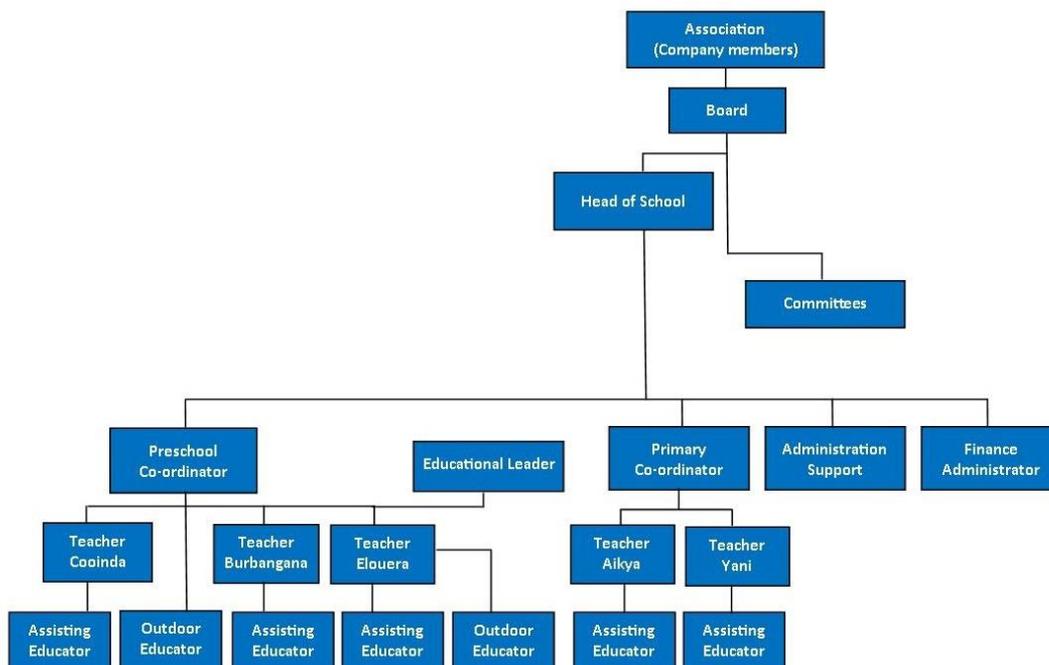
Payment and Banking Details

All cheques are to be made payable to the 'Manly Warringah Montessori Society'. For security reasons cash is not accepted for payment of school fees, but the school's bank details are available for those wishing to pay by direct deposit.

Bank Details: Account Name: Manly Warringah Montessori Society
Westpac BSB: 032096 Account Number: 589564
ABN: Manly-Warringah Montessori Society: 95 002 437

School and Governance

School & Governance



**Appendix 1.*

*Appendix 2.

TICK POLICY & INFORMATION

RATIONALE

This policy attempted to bring together the most up-to-date and practical information for students and staff in bushland areas. This policy does not offer advice on health care. It remains the responsibility of parents and individuals to assess and manage risk based on their own needs. Always follow directions on recommended products.

AIM

The purpose of this policy is to provide informative information to all Parents, Staff and Board Members and asked them to read carefully the following policy objectives.

- Protect the right of parents to consent (or not) to their children being treated by staff for the removal of ticks at school
- To raise awareness of the dangers of tick allergies and reactions, and to manage their treatment at school.
- To set protocols to ensure tick exposure on campus in minimal
- Ensure that there is education on reducing the risk of tick bites.

IMPLEMENTATION

SOME IMPORTANT TIPS FOR PREVENTING TICK BITES INCLUDE:

- Wear a wide brimmed hat to protect your head and neck.
- Wear light-coloured clothing so you can see small ticks, especially nymphs.
- Wear a long-sleeved shirt and tuck it inside your pants.
- Tuck your pants into your socks so ticks can't get onto your legs.
- Apply insect repellent to your skin containing (Rid®, Tropical strength Roll on. We currently use RID at Farmhouse Montessori Nth Balgowlah and an organic spray at the Nth Head Campus supplied by one of the current parents.
- Always walk on the tracks and or paths to decrease the chance of brushing past a tick bearing plant.
- Tick checks are vital. Children will be check by staff when they return from hiking or walking around the Nth Head Campus by conducting a thorough search especially behind the ears, in the hair and on the back of the head.
- Brush skin and clothing before entering the school.
- If you've been outdoors, do not absentmindedly scratch anything that itches until you've examined it.
- NSW Government Health Brochures on the Preventing and Managing of Tick Bites are available to all parents at both campuses in the reception area.

NORTH HEAD CAMPUS

- As the school is located in a National Park, the spraying of insecticides on campus is prohibited. This includes the school playground.
- Unfortunately the existing playground fencing measurements are specifically designed to allow the safe passage of protected bandicoots through the schools grounds. The fence is therefore unable to be lowered to prevent the host animals coming into the school yard where they can drop tick
- Both Campuses to regularly remove plant debris and undergrowth to remove moist vegetation where ticks thrive.
- The grounds of the school will have the grass cut and the shrubs and small trees trimmed on a regular basis as deemed necessary by the school this will be at least two times a term (to allow sunlight to saturate the lawn).
- Parent are asked to advise the school if they suspect their child has suffered a tick bite on school ground, The school will then advise other parents via email than an incident has occurred so extra care ca be taken preparing children for school and checking them upon their return home.
- The Farmhouse would like to plant insect/tick repelling plants such as chrysanthemums, citronella, lavender, sage and garlic on the school grounds. Unfortunately, the National Park location limits the types of plants the school may plant. A list of plants has been provided by the Trust to the school. We are in negotiations at the moment about the above plants if they are not on the list.
- During periods when tick bites are occurring more frequently play time maybe moved from the grassy playground to the paved parade ground if possible. During such times Friday sports days will also be held on the parade ground or other hard surfaced area.
- Children at the Nth Head campus will be encouraged to wear light coloured clothing which makes it easier to see ticks in the high season.
- North Head parents have the options of using an all-natural homemade tick repellent spray. This homemade repellent consists of Geranium Bourbon essential oil, Witch Hazel, Purified water and castile soap. As it is a water based spray, it must be applied to the children immediately before going outside for sports or playtime. Activation is immediate. The school has a supply of this on site.
- Authorisation notes to be sent out at the beginning of each year for the use of the natural tick repellent with a list of the ingredients in this spray, these are to be placed in the children's files in the school office.

- The staff will apply to children that have parental permission to use the all-natural homemade tick repellent spray heavily before playtime, concentrating particularly on their feet and heads.
- All children on re-entry to the classroom after both lunch time and the play period will have a cursory inspection by staff for any possible signs of ticks.
- All parents will be advised to check their child each night for ticks during tick season.
- Parents will be discouraged from allowing their children to play on the hill by the side of the school grounds at pick up time during the tick season.

NORTH BALGOWLAH CAMPUS

- The services of a professional pest controller will be employed annually to conduct a pest inspection of the campus, and to spray for ticks in high risk areas when required on a regular basis.
- Sunlight must be allowed to saturate the playground lawn as ticks do not like dry conditions. The grounds must have the grass cut short and the shrubs and small trees trimmed
- The Farmhouse must ensure plant debris and undergrowth are removed regularly. Ticks thrive in moist vegetation.
- The school will plant insect/tick repellent plants such as chrysanthemums, citronella, lavender, sage or garlic on the school grounds

TICK REMOVAL PROCEDURE AT SCHOOL

Avoidance of tick bites is the best option.

- This involves “dressing for the occasion” (see and download the pamphlet “Preventing and Managing Tick Bites”) and the use of repellents from the tiara website. <http://www.tiara.org.au/>
- For small ticks (larvae and nymphs), the school will be using permethrin cream (available at pharmacies).
- For adult ticks, the parent will be called straight away so that the child can be collected and the tick handled by the parent as the best method is now to freeze them with an ether-containing spray (available at pharmacies) these are not recommended for the use in schools.
- Wait for the tick to drop off or remove it taking the utmost care to not compress the tick (as this will squirt allergen, toxin and possibly infection into you).
- Under no condition will tweezers be used to remove a tick from a child at the school.

TICK REMOVAL PROCEDURE AT HOME

Avoidance of tick bites is the best option.

- This involves “dressing for the occasion” (see and download the pamphlet “Preventing and Managing Tick Bites”) and the use of repellents.
- If you are bitten by a tick, kill the tick where it is:
- For small ticks (larvae and nymphs), use permethrin cream (available at pharmacies) &
- For adult ticks, freeze them with an ether-containing spray (available at pharmacies).
- Wait for the tick to drop off or remove it taking the utmost care to not compress the tick (as this will squirt allergen, toxin and possibly infection into you).

THERE ARE THREE MAJOR ALLERGIC CONDITIONS CAUSED BY TICK BITES

Large local reactions

- The least dangerous allergic reaction to ticks, local reactions usually occur within 4-12 hours of being bitten. Identified by swelling and redness, extending from the bone joint above the bite to the one below. Recommended treatment includes rest, elevation of the affected area, ice application, antihistamines and cortisone. This type of reaction can take up to 10 days to resolve, but typically has no ongoing effects.

Anaphylactic

- This presents as a sudden and severe allergic reaction to a tick bite, and can be life threatening. Although fatal anaphylaxis to tick bites is rare, allergic reactions to ticks are more common than those to bees and wasps. Allergens in tick saliva provoke this anaphylaxis, but it is imperative to note that this reaction only occurs when the tick is disturbed.

Mammalian meat allergies

- Tick bites can cause mild to life threatening allergic reaction to mammalian meats such as beef, pork, lamb, kangaroo, goat and venison, The allergen in the meat to which people react is called alpha-gal. The allergic reaction to meat is typically delayed for 2-10 hours after eating the meat. Some people are so sensitive to alpha-gal they react to all mammal products including milk and gelatine. Any products derived from mammals may cause allergic reactions. Making avoidance very difficult as the allergen may be found in a wide range of agents used in medical treatments, as well as in foods.

PROCEDURE FOR THE REMOVAL OF TICKS FROM A CHILD WITH NO ALLERGIES PRESENT

Although no clinical studies have been conducted into the best methods of tick removal, there is a range of practical advice available based on a consensus of expert opinion and clinical experience?

- Never remove a tick with tweezers, forceps, a tick removal gadget or your fingers, “Household tweezers are tick squeezers!” Squeezing a tick causes tick saliva to enter the blood stream, increasing the risk of tick induced allergies Parent now have the choice whether or not to approve the removal of ticks from their child on their annual child information sheets. The school recommends the none removal by staff at school and only the application of the Lyclear cream that will be kept on site for this.(See below for more information).
- In the case of the smaller nymph and larval ticks the application of a permethrin cream such as Lyclear directly to the tick will kill it. Then, either wait for it to drop off, or seek medical attention for removal. All parents at both campuses will be required to give written permission of the application of this cream to their child by staff. This will permission note will be kept on the child file until the parents advised the school to cancel it.
- In the case of larger adult ticks, the use of an ether containing spray is recommended to freeze the tick such as Wart off. As all ether contain sprays and other aerosols are unfortunately not recommended for use in a school environment for safety reasons (see MSDS Material Safety Data Sets) for more information), in the case of adult tick bites, staff should call the child’s parents for further instructions.. (The school would prefer to leave the tick until the child is collected by the parent.)
- Please note that killing ticks with an ether containing or permethrin cream (Lyclear) and then removing them as soon as is practicable in as safe a setting as is possible, may reduce the possibility of the child developing an allergy to ticks. It may also reduce the risk of the child contracting a tick borne infectious disease or developing tick paralysis.

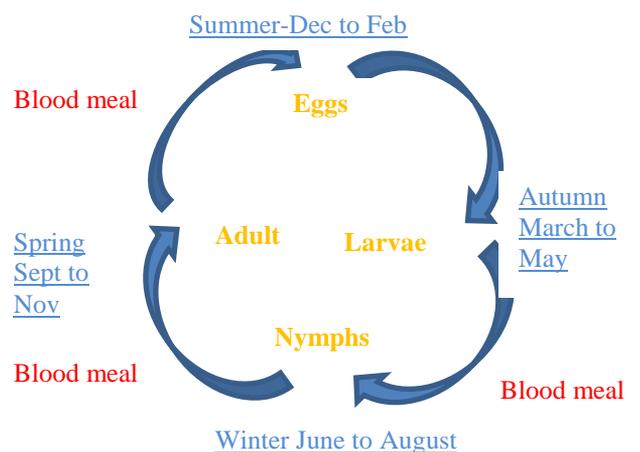
PROCEDURE FOR THE REMOVAL OF TICKS FROM A CHILD WITH TICK ALLERGIES PRESENT

- Any child presenting with an allergy to ticks must carry emergency mediation (e.g. an adrenaline auto injector such as an Epi Pen).
- If such a child has an allergic reaction to a tick bite, staff are to follow their ASCIA action Plan, including the use of an adrenaline auto injector (EpiPen) that must be supplied annually by the child’s family to the school in case symptoms of anaphylaxis occur.
- In any child allergic to ticks, the tick should always be killed and removed in a safe place (e.g. an emergency department of a hospital) until it is established that the process of killing the tick and removing it ca be performed safely by the tick allergy sufferer. Once this is established, ticks maybe killed and removed outside of a hospital, depending upon the individual circumstances and lonely after consultation with a medical specialist. Some individuals are so highly allergic to ticks that medical support should always be sought. In such cases it is best to seek medical advice. Seek urgent medical attention for any child presenting with their first allergic reaction to a bite (The school will call for an ambulance, and then contact the parents.)
- As mentioned above, ether containing sprays are currently recommended for killing ticks.

TICKS HAVE FOUR DISTINCT STAGES OF DEVELOPMENT:

egg – larva – nymph – adult. Larvae, nymphs and adult females must have a blood meal from a host. After the blood meal larvae and nymphs drop off the host and rest in the environment as they develop into the next stage; adult females drop off the host and lay eggs.

The whole cycle usually takes about a year.



TICK REMOVAL AEROSOLS & CREAMS

Lyclear®

Also recommended by the University of Sydney is Lyclear®, a scabies cream containing 5% permethrin. The application should be repeated after one minute. The tick should be left in place until it drops off. If the tick is still in place after 24 hours, gently remove it with fine tipped tweezers. Lyclear is a topical cream containing 5% permethrin and there is a chance that you can develop an allergic reaction to the active ingredient, hence It is best used infrequently or for serious infestations only. Possible to use in schools with permission.

Aerostart® & Elastoplast Cold Sprays

Aerostart® contains 24% ether. It is recommended by the University Of Sydney Department Of Medical Entomology, and the Australian Society of Clinical Immunology and Allergy. (ASCIA) Apply a small squirt directly onto the tick, taking care to minimise contact with the surrounding skin. It is designed for car engines—not people, and is classed as a skin irritant. If you are using it regularly you probably should consider ways to reduce tick exposure. Both Aerostart® & Elastoplast are highly flammable and must be kept away from naked flames or lit cigarettes. Not recommended for use in schools.

Wart-Off Freeze

ASCIA recommends Wart-Off Freeze® www.wartoff.com.au/products.html. Not recommended for use in schools.

Permethrin clothes wash:

Some very good success from ABBR treating their clothes with a permethrin clothes wash called Debugger. This product kills ticks on contact. The manufacturer states that this product is effective for at least six months, or 5 to 6 washes. “Any material can be treated with Debugger. Hats can be soaked in it along with clothes to give full protection.” www.equip.com.au/Products/

IT IS IMPORTANT TO NOTE THAT:

- Some of these products are not registered for use as therapeutic products for humans
- Some of these products are highly flammable, and thus should not be used near a naked flame or whilst smoking.
- They are also not permitted for use on school grounds due to their flammable nature.
- Use of these products may cause rapid cooling of the skin and there may result in skin irritation.
- More information on these products may be obtained from the manufacturers.
- Pending future studies of the effectiveness
- Pending future studies on the effectiveness of various tick removal and killing methods, such advice is based on a consensus of expert opinion rather than derived from formal clinical studies,
- Freezing ticks may also have the advantage of reducing the risk of tick sensitisation, and the later development of a tick allergy or related allergic syndromes.

IN SUMMARY

Regardless of the type of reaction experienced after a tick bite, the principles of management are:

- Try to reduce the risk of tick bites during the high season:-have another area set aside to play in.
- If you've been outdoors, do not absentmindedly scratch anything that itches until you've examined it:-Staff to do a cursory check of all students upon re-entry to the school after being outside for lunch and play and sport.
- Know what to do if you find a tick lodged in the skin:- Apply cream if permitted.
- Know how to manage allergic reactions to tick bites (including anaphylaxis):- follow the child's Action plan and administer the EpiPen- call an ambulance, call the parents.

SOURCES

ASCIA 2014-The Australasian Society of Clinical Immunology and Allergy
AABR-Australian Association of Bush Regenerators 2014
NSW Department of Health
Tiara(Tick Induced Allergies Research & Awareness)

CREATED/REVIEW DATES

Created 2/5/2016



FARMHOUSE

MONTESSORI SCHOOL

EDUCATING THE WHOLE CHILD

Preschool

(02) 9949 1008

9 Bardoo Avenue, Nth Balgowlah, NSW 2093

Primary

(02) 9977 6790

Building 6, Nth Head Sanctuary,
33 North Head Scenic Dr, Manly, NSW 2095

For more information please visit our website:

www.farmhousemontessori.nsw.edu.au

General Enquiries:

admin@farmhousemontessori.nsw.edu.au

Enrolments:

enrolments@farmhousemontessori.nsw.edu.au