



Group recording link

https://uowtsd-my.sharepoint.com/:p:/g/personal/2503877_student_uwtsd_ac_uk/IQBUIInZB8DYDTIPvQinca5anASyZlrgdl3A1bEk-Xn8lKoY?e=BfQ5z7



Montessori theory within the Welsh Primary Curriculum

FFION ANWEN MINETT



Introduction to the Montessori Theory

- Created by Dr Maria Montessori in 1907. (The American Montessori Society,2025)
- The Montessori Theory focuses mainly on a child-centered approach.
- It looks to value childrens independence and helps to respect them as individuals.
- The theory looks at making children nearly 100% in charge of their own learning journey.
- It shows how parents and teachers are not there to tell children how to learn but help them go in the right direction.

(Jones,2025)



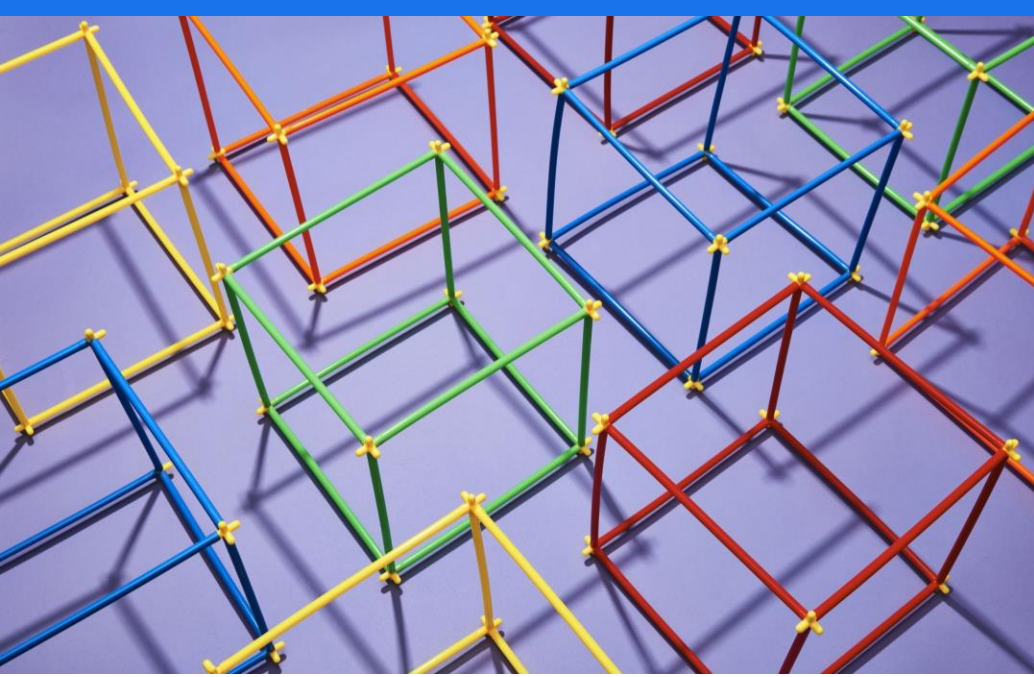
(Source: Northridge Montessori,2025)

What is the curriculum for Wales?

- The new curriculum for Wales was established in 2022.
- It focuses on four main points :
Ambitious learners, Healthy individuals, Enterprising contributors, Ethical citizens

(The Good Schools Guide, 2025)





Montessori principles in line with the Welsh Curriculum

- We can look at how the Montessori theory lines up with the four main points of the new Welsh Curriculum.
- The focus of the theory being independence and wellbeing would align with building healthy individuals.
- The next would be hands on learning would join with enterprising contributors.
- Child-led exploration would sit with ambitious learners.
- Lastly, respect and responsibility would align with the point of building ethical citizens.

Montessori in the classroom

- There are a few ways in which Montessori can be applied in the classroom and how they relate to each subject.

*Literacy-
Tactile letters to
help children
learn their
ABC's*



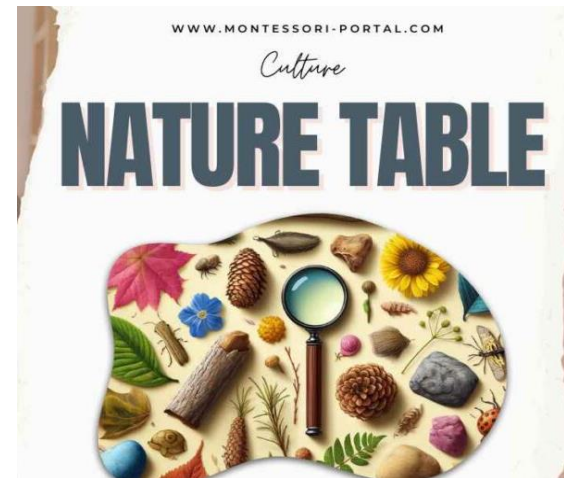
(Source:MontessoriToys,2024)

*Numeracy- Sticks
and numbers to
learn to count*



(Source:MontessoriToys,2025)

*Humanities-
Nature walks
and activities*



(Source:MontessoriPortal,2023)

*Science and
Technology – Use
of anatomy
puzzles*



(Source:MontessoriToys,2024)

Benefits for children in Wales



(Source:WallpaperAccess,2025)

There are many benefits of the Montessori theory within the welsh classroom which aligns with the Welsh Curriculum. These include:

Encouraging Creativity and Adaptability which is a key aim from the Curriculum of Wales.

Helps to support inclusive classrooms as they can be a range of ages of children working together as a group.

It can help to strengthen the welsh identity as Montessori's theory shows respect for culture, this would be an opportunity to teach the welsh language.

Challenges and considerations



As like any application of a learning theory would have its challenges, the Montessori has challenges and considerations while applying it to the Welsh Curriculum.



Need and cost of training teachers in a Montessori way.



Trying to balance the curriculum requirements for Wales with the freedom of the Montessori theory.



Attempting to change the learning materials into the Welsh language and the way of life in Wales.



Making sure that a child is still meeting the educational growth guidelines whilst the educators are using this method.

(Twinkl,2025)



Conclusion to the Montessori theory

- The Montessori theory closely links into the Welsh Curriculum as its main focus is child centered learning.
- The main points of the theory (independence, hands-on exploration and respect) matches naturally with the 4 stand out parts of the new Welsh Curriculum.
- Even though this theory can provide some challenges, such as new and specific training for teachers and keeping in line with the curriculum guidelines, the benefits for the children far outweighs the negatives.
- If all education settings in Wales were able to adapt to the Montessori teachings, teachers can create environments that can aid children for the everchanging world.

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