Walthamstow Montessori School

Flexi Schooling Policy

At Walthamstow Montessori School (WMS) we offer an inclusive learning environment where there is a strong emphasis on parent/carer partnerships.

Children are taught to work and learn co-operatively, have respect for each other and their environment within an ethos of high expectation and aspirations.

WMS supports parents/carers who would like and are able to partly home educate their child with flexi-schooling and this has been upheld by the school since it opened in 2001.

Accordingly, parents/carers and children can attend for 4 school days per week if they wish instead of all 5 days. This is a decision that a parent/carer makes by arrangement with the school. In this situation the child is registered at school and attending the school only part-time. This can be a long-term arrangement or a short-term measure for a particular reason. Both will be considered by the school.

The responsibility for flexi-schooling lies with the parent/carer and not the school. Should a parent/carer request a 4-day place and the child is of legal school age, it is made clear during the application process or process outside of admission, that at the parent/carer's choice a 4-day place may be granted and that the child's learning, planning and curriculum activities on this fifth school day will be the responsibility of the parent/carer. This effectively means that the child will not access 20% of the curriculum.

WMS ensures that parents/carers have access to their child's targets, areas of learning and topic work, to help ensure that school work can link to the home-education the parent/carer is providing.

Children are able to be included in school trips and school events that will support their work in school. Parents/carers are able to request the day their child they would prefer to have as their home day but it must be a regular fixed day.

Walthamstow Montessori School believes:

- That its inclusive ethos can accommodate most learners and that children within its community do benefit from attending school full time

- That they can make the most of its broad and creative curriculum. A curriculum that is designed to meet the needs of its learners.
- That it can meet the needs of all learners in terms of exploring their potential
- That it offers support to parents/carers in terms of supporting their child both academically and socially (a holistic approach)
- That it gives children great opportunities to acquire new knowledge and skills and allows children to apply these skills in a variety of ways, preparing them for life.
- That all staff at WMS work very hard for all children and that the creation of extra work for staff should only be done under 'exceptional' circumstances, to the benefit of the child.
- That it works hard to raise standards and levels of achievement and this is best done within its school community
- That the school continues to work hard to improve its levels of attendance and that allocation of school places should go to those children within its community who will benefit from attending a local school full time.
- That we teach skills for life – attendance, punctuality, resilience. tolerance, friendship and community living
- The school will work hard to maintain a smooth transition between education at home and education at school so that the child remains happy, supported and challenged.

This policy was adopted on dated: 01.05.2017

Date Last Reviewed: 1st September 2026

Date to be Reviewed: 1st September 2027