

Montessori Aotearoa New Zealand (MANZ) Membership and Rates

MANZ is a safe and inclusive membership, where diversity (including members with different or no Montessori qualifications), are valued.

MANZ welcomes and values all members and all Montessori services and schools. *Montessori Journey to Excellence (MJ2Ex) Te Ara Ki Hihuatanga: Essential Elements* is our benchmark for quality.

There are five categories of membership in the Montessori Aotearoa New Zealand (MANZ) 2018 Constitution. In 2019 a 6th category was added - Home Base Care Operator.

- **School members:** These include Licensed Montessori early learning services, independent and integrated Montessori primary and/or high schools and Montessori primary and/or high school classes running in state schools.
- **Organisation Members:** These are organisations with an interest in Montessori education who are not involved with the on-going operation of a Montessori school or class.
- **Individual Members:** These are individuals interested in Montessori. This includes people who own/oversee a Home Base Care, or for a person who runs a Home Base Care from their home.
- **Student members:** These are ākonga enrolled in Montessori initial teacher education programmes.
- **Honorary Member:** This is a person the membership considers to have provided outstanding service to the Association by way of time, effort, skills and knowledge.

General

1. All MANZ membership rates are set by MANZ Council.
2. MANZ must notify members of changes to membership fees for the following financial year by October 31 of the current financial year. School membership will be increased by the inflation adjustment each year unless Council decides otherwise.

Joining The Association

1. Schools, Individuals, Students and Organisations need to apply to MANZ to become members by contacting the Executive Officer. A membership application form will be emailed out.
2. Membership may not be granted if the MANZ Council has made the formal decision that membership of the applicant is not in the best interest of the Association or its objectives. Criteria for not allowing membership could include previous non-payment of membership fees.

School Members

School membership is annual and can be paid either in one full-year payment in March or in four quarterly instalments in March, June, September and November.

If a member decides to withdraw from membership during the calendar year; then the whole year payment is still required. Members cannot join for the year and only pay one or two quarterly instalments.

Any member that joins and withdraws after one or two quarters will be required to pay the whole annual school membership next time they apply to re-join MANZ before membership is accepted.

First Year School Discount Membership

For new Schools opening, membership for the first year of operation may be offered at the first-year discounted rate on the proviso that the school will continue with full MANZ membership in the second year.

The discount is offered to assist schools who open with low enrolments and need time to build numbers.

The first year discount is not offered to schools who are already open.

If, after the first year of membership, the school does not become a full paying member of MANZ, no further new member discounts will be offered to any subsequent schools opened by the same owner.

Membership Entitlements

Representation

- Representation and leadership on Government Advisory Groups and committees.

Profile

A *promoted profile* on the number one Montessori website in the country. Member schools are highlighted in the Directory of schools, early learning services and playgroups with a dedicated website page for higher profile marketing opportunities.

- A listing in *Montessori Voices*.
- *MANZ Membership Certificate* – issued in March each year.

Publications

- *Montessori Voices*: A subscription to our quarterly, parent-focused magazine for all whānau/families attending the service/school.
- *e-zine Informed*: A subscription to our quarterly *e-zine* for kaiako with articles of interest for each level of teaching, information on upcoming professional development, reviews of professional development which has been and job advertisements.
- *InTouch*: A subscription to our 6-weekly *e-zine* from MANZ detailing the Executive Officer's work with the government and government agencies advocating for MANZ members and tamariki.

Discounts

- *MANZ Conference and Professional Development* – a generous discount for MANZ conference and professional development for all staff, parents, whānau, service/school owners and Trust members.
- *Discounted Classified* – discounted classified advertising on MANZ website, in *Montessori Voices* and *e-zine Informed* for up to three months from the placement of the advertisement.

Support

- *One-On-One Support for Employers* – where members have access to the Executive Officer during business hours for management, policy and HR advice between 9.00 am and 5.00 pm Monday to Friday. Phone 027 448 5525 or email eo@montessori.org.nz.
- *Membership MANZ GoogleGroup Forum* - where members discuss issues, share ideas, information, resources, ask questions, and network in our Montessori community.

Eligible to Apply for Yearly

- *Binda Goldsbrough Research Fund* – each year MANZ sets aside a research fund to provide a practical means of supporting Montessori research in Aotearoa New Zealand. (approx \$2000)
- *Dr Nicola Chisnall Memorial Award* – this award is for schools to detail initiatives, large and small, that make significant contributions to tamariki, families and communities. (\$500)
- *MANZ Study Grant* - this is available for kaiako (teachers) in MANZ member services and kura (schools) to apply to assist with Montessori study costs. (\$1000).

Voting Rights

Voting rights at MANZ Annual General Meeting:

- Five votes at annual AGM for member centres/schools and one vote for individual members

Individual Members, Home Base Care Operator and Student Membership

Any individual, Home Base Care operator or student can join as an *Individual Member*.

Membership entitlements:

- 25% discount off the full rate for MANZ conferences and professional learning and development.
- *e-zine* Informed each quarter.
- *Montessori Voices* each quarter.
- One vote at AGM's (vote has a value of one).

NOTE: Staff at a MANZ member school can join individually as an Individual Member.

Staff at non-member Montessori schools can join individually as an Individual Member. Individuals not associated with a member kura can join as an Individual Member.

Organisation Member

An organisation other than a school, such as a teaching education provider or development unit, can be an *Organisation Member* of MANZ.

Membership entitlements:

- Organisation membership receive one registration at all MANZ events at the member school rate.
- One copy of *Montessori Voices*.
- One vote at AGM's (vote has a value of one).

NOTE: If the organisation is involved in the operation of a class or school then they need to become a School Member.

Cancelling MANZ Membership

The Membership of a School/Individual (referred to as a Member) may be cancelled by the Council:

- if the Member dies or becomes bankrupt or assigns his estate for the benefit of his creditors; or being a company shall be in receivership or liquidation; or being a corporate body be dissolved or wound up.
- if a Member defaults for a period of three months in payment of their membership fee.
- if the Member is not acting in the best interest of the association

If the Council is satisfied and resolves that the continued membership of such a Member is not in the best interests of the Association the following process will be followed:

- an email notice will be sent to the Member stating the reasons why the continuance of the membership has been questioned and inviting him/her to submit any information or comment which they consider should be taken into account.
- if no reply is received within 30 days or the reply is deemed unsatisfactory, the Member shall be notified by email of the time and place not less than four weeks ahead at which the Council will meet to consider the matter, and at which he/she can appear or be represented or to which he/she can forward such submissions as he/she may desire.

If the decision of the Council is to expel the Member, the minutes must:

- state the reasons
- the tenor of any submissions that may have been made by or on behalf of the Member
- whether the decision of the Council was unanimous, or not
- the number of votes recorded for and against the motion.

The Member will be notified of the decision by email within seven days.

Any person ceasing to be a Member of the Association from any cause whatsoever shall nevertheless remain liable to the Association for all membership fees and other monies which may have become due by him/her prior to the cessation of membership.