

## **NEWS RELEASE (For immediate release)**

### **RAISING STANDARDS OF MONTESSORI EDUCATION IN LUCAN**

Montessori Matters pre-school, Griffeen Glen Vale, Lucan, is one of the first Montessori schools in Lucan to achieve full certification status under the Equal Opportunities Childcare Montessori Programme.

Established in 2004 by Sharon Smyth, the school has offered a high standard of Montessori provision to parents and students in the Lucan area and it is fitting that it is one of the first schools to be certified in Lucan.

Certification awarded under the EOCP Montessori Programme assesses schools and reassures parents that the certified school provides a stimulating and high quality Montessori environment. It is awarded after strict criteria by a Montessori Education Advisor appointed by St. Nicholas Montessori Ireland.

Montessori Matters offers a curriculum to children aged between 2 ½ and 6 years and comprises of a comprehensive Montessori structured learning experience adjusted to suit each child's individual needs.

The classroom has the full range of Montessori equipment and experiences, with arts and crafts, music, Irish and French playing an important role in the curriculum. There is a well-equipped outdoor play area in a secure garden setting. From the outset Sharon Smyth was joined by Rachael Harbourne who has several years experience teaching and this year a third experienced teacher Sinead Mc Court has joined the team.

#### **Notes to Editor:**

Montessori Matters was founded in 2004. We operate as a Montessori school only conducting two sessions, one morning and one afternoon. We can accommodate up to 20 children in each session. Montessori Matters is committed to the total development of the whole child, socially, emotionally, physically and culturally, preparing the child for life. We will assist the child to develop a love of learning and to enjoy work, which will hopefully stay with him throughout his life. Montessori Matters, education for life. For more information about Montessori Matters call Sharon Smyth on 01-6214286 email: [info@montessorimatters.ie](mailto:info@montessorimatters.ie) web: [www.montessorimatters.ie](http://www.montessorimatters.ie)

Under the Equal Opportunities Childcare Programme in association with St. Nicholas Montessori Society of Ireland offers a structured initiative offering certification to Montessori pre-schools. This certification is open to all Montessori schools. A team of Montessori Education Advisors work closely with the Health Board, pre-school services officers, and County Childcare Committees throughout Ireland and the

purpose of the certification is to assess and raise standards in Montessori provision throughout the country. The EOCP team work with Montessori pre-school providers to establish quality in their area. All Montessori pre-school managers have been invited to apply for a school visit with the intention of seeking advice and engaging in the certification process. The visit by experienced Montessori Education Advisors will assist staff in assessing where individual schools stand in relation to quality provision and more importantly will assist in raising standards nationwide. For more information about the EOCP Montessori Programme please contact St. Nicholas Montessori Society on 01-2805705 email: [snmta@eircom.net](mailto:snmta@eircom.net) web: [www.montessorireland.ie](http://www.montessorireland.ie)