

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What are the admission requirements?

This is a progression degree that has two entry points; eligible students may apply directly to Stage/Year 1 or directly to Stage/Year 2 depending on the qualifications they have achieved.

What is a progression (or Add-On) degree?

A progression degree is a programme that builds on an existing knowledge base. In this case, the Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Montessori Education (Level 8) builds on the knowledge base of the Montessori philosophy and method for 3-6 year olds and focusses on the philosophy and method for supporting children's learning (6-12yrs).

To be eligible to apply to Stage/Year 1 requires students to have achieved a FETAC 6 Award in Montessori with a Merit profile and a minimum of 2 Distinctions. CIT is in partnership with Cork College of Commerce though applications from comparable institutes are welcome.

To be eligible to apply to Stage/Year 2 requires students to have achieved a Bachelor of Arts in Montessori (Level 7).

Application for Stage/Year 1 and Stage/Year 2 is by 'Direct Entry' only – eligible students apply directly to the Admissions Office in CIT and do not apply through the CAO system. Please email admissions@cit.ie for an Application Form.

Where can I find detailed module information?

<http://modules.cit.ie/HMONT8>

CIT has developed this website which gives full details of all modules for all courses. The website also has information on recommended textbooks, average weekly workload, assessments and exams.

How many places are available?

There are 50 places in Stage/Year 1 and 30 places in Stage/Year 2.

BA (HONOURS) IN MONTESSORI EDUCATION (6 - 12YRS)

Dr Maria Montessori (1870 - 1952) developed an innovative, child-centred approach to education. The goal of Montessori education is to foster a child's natural inclination to learn. Montessori teachers are trained facilitators in the classroom, always ready to assist and direct. Their purpose is to excite the child's enthusiasm for learning and to guide it, without interfering with the child's natural desire to teach themselves and become independent.



ENQUIRIES TO

Department of Sport, Leisure and Childhood Studies

Stage/Year 1

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Stage/Year 2

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BA (HONOURS) IN MONTESSORI EDUCATION



MONTESSORI EDUCATION

CIT, in partnership with Cork College of Commerce, is offering a BA (Honours) in Montessori Education leading to a NFQ Level 8 award. This is a specialist two-year add-on Honours Degree programme that aims to produce highly skilled Montessori 6-12 teachers with the requisite knowledge, skills, and competence to work effectively to meet the requirements of children in a variety of Irish or international educational settings.

It has two entry points; direct to Stage/Year 1 and for those with a FETAC 6 Montessori qualification and direct to Stage/Year 2 for those with a Level 7 degree in Montessori. The degree includes supervised internship as well as practical and research experience.

The programme focusses on teacher training with a balance of Montessori practical labs, theory and supervised internship including a preparatory module to inform teaching practice and offers an array of supporting modules, such as, psychology, special educational needs, ICT, research skills, ethics and administration.

Moreover, students can choose an elective module; the range includes Irish, theatre production, music, early childhood intervention, literacy and inclusion practices, adapted physical activity for children with a disability to name a few.

Is there a pathway to primary school teaching from this course?

- BA (Honours) graduates are eligible to apply for the Graduate Diploma in Education (which typically runs for 18 months) as long as they present with the minimum Leaving Certificate requirements.
- CIT is working towards gaining Teaching Council recognition for the BA (Hons) programme which would enable graduates to teach in a number of areas including – Primary Schools; Integrated Primary Schools and Special Needs Schools.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Graduates may seek employment in a number of areas including national and international Montessori schools (3-12yrs); working with children with specific learning needs; ECCE profession; Out-of-School centres; sector related management and policy development and research centres. CIT is working towards gaining Teaching Council recognition for the BA (Hons) programme which would enable graduates to teach in a number of areas including – Primary Schools; Integrated Primary Schools, and Special Needs Schools.

WORK PLACEMENT

There is a mandatory 8 Week (240 hours) Teaching Practice in Primary Schools in Stage/Year 1 where students will have the opportunity to create and deliver appropriate lesson plans. In line with CIT policy, students on placement are required to successfully complete CIT's Garda Vetting Procedure as part of their registration.



BA (HONOURS) IN MONTESSORI EDUCATION

COURSE PROGRAMME

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YEAR 1

Semester 1 (Sept – Dec)

Montessori Materials 6-9
Montessori Theory 6-9 years
Special Education Needs
Montessori Intern Prep
ICT in the Classroom

Elective

APA for the Young Child
An Ghaeilge
Free Choice Module

Semester 2 (Feb – May)

Montessori Work Practice
Montessori Theory 9-12 years
Montessori Materials 9-12
Child Psychology

Elective

Early Childhood Intervention
Theatre Production
Free Choice Module

YEAR 2

Semester 3 (Sept – Dec)

Educational Research Skills
Pedagogy in Practice
Ethics in Education
Linking Education to PE
Literacy & Inclusion Practices

Elective

Kodály-Inspired Education
Single Vs Coed Schooling
Free Choice Module

Semester 4 (Feb – May)

Educ Research Dissertation
Comparative Educ. Practice
Psychological Adjustment
Multicultural Education

Elective

Social Psychology &
Groupwork
Administration & Finance
Free Choice Module

“The transition from the College of Commerce to Cork Institute of Technology was smooth. We had induction and orientation around campus and the lecturers made us feel welcome which helped us settle in. We had a bit of a bumpy start moving from FETAC 6 to a BA (Honours) Level 8 programme but with advice and support found the effort put in very rewarding. We have our own space; a specially designed room with Montessori materials. We are treated as educators and we contribute a lot to the programme. We have a close bond with all the lecturers which makes the CIT experience enjoyable!”

The first Montessori Class to CIT