



Meeting in the Middle

Adolescent Program Forum – Sharing Ideas and Practice

Thursday 03 to Sunday 06 September 2015



Montessori International College

880 Maroochydore Road, Forest Glen, Queensland

Registration Package



Welcome to the 2015 MiM

The 2015 Meeting in the Middle (MiM) is nearly upon us. It is with anticipation that we look forward to this time where we can re-connect, relate, refresh and share learning. Participant feedback from 2014 has largely informed this year's program. It is our hope that the program provides all participants with the opportunity to augment, empower and engage their learning at an individual and collective level.

Underpinning the planning is a recognition and reverence for the diverse contexts of our adolescent programs. Our coming together each year, is guided by the belief that, while we each have much to learn from those with wisdom and long experience, each of us by virtue of our daily work has knowledge and learning which when shared adds value to the whole. To this end we ask that all participants come ready and willing to share their insights, experiences, successes and challenges. It may be that we have attempted to include too much! The MiM will be responsive to your input and shaped around participant contributions.

We look forward to welcoming and hosting you in September.

Best wishes,
Chiray Fitton
Principal
Montessori International College

MiM 2014 Reflection:



"I found it extremely helpful to meet with the Montessori community and share ideas."
Amy Doyle, Adolescent Guide, Melbourne Montessori School (VIC)



Getting Here

From Brisbane Airport

Montessori International College is about seventy minutes drive from the Brisbane Airport. Hire cars can be arranged and collected from the airport. Shuttle buses are also available.

The following links can be used to assist you in planning your airport transfers:



Col's Airshuttle

<https://www.airshuttle.com.au/>

(Shuttle bus from Brisbane Airport cost \$39.00 one way)



Henry's Airporter

<http://henrys.com.au/henrysbris.html>

(Shuttle bus from Brisbane Airport cost \$39.00-\$49.00 one way)

From Sunshine Coast Airport

Montessori International College is just fifteen minutes drive from the Sunshine Coast Airport. Hire cars can be arranged and collected from the airport. Shuttle buses, public buses and taxi services are also available.

The following links can be used to assist you in planning your airport transfers:



Sun Air Bus Service

<http://www.sunair.com.au/>

(Shuttle bus from Sunshine Coast Airport cost \$20.00 one way)



Sunshine Coast Public Bus

<http://translink.com.au/>

(Bus from Sunshine Coast Airport cost \$5.60 one way)



Suncoast Cabs

<http://www.suncoastcabs.com.au/>

(Taxi from Sunshine Coast Airport cost \$9.00-\$20.00)



Accommodation

M1 Resort Maroochydore (1 Duport Avenue, Maroochydore)

A group reservation has been arranged at the **M1 Resort** in Maroochydore. To secure an apartment at the prices listed below, bookings are required by Friday, August 21.

Please note that if you are staying at the **M1 Resort**, a coach service to and from Montessori International College is included in your registration fee.

The **M1 Resort** is approximately:

- A fifteen minute drive from the Montessori International College campus
- A fifteen minute drive from the Sunshine Coast Airport
- A short walk from Ocean Street, Maroochydore, one of the most bustling and vibrant areas on the Sunshine Coast

Accommodation types available at the **M1 Resort** include:

- 1 bedroom apartment \$600 (3 nights) or \$200/night
- 2 bedroom apartment \$675 (3 nights) or \$225/night
- 3 bedroom apartment \$810 (3 nights) or \$270/night

Sharing accommodation significantly reduces the room rates per person. Bookings and further information about the accommodation can be found by visiting the **M1 Resort** website: <http://www.m1resort.com.au/>

When booking please inform reservations that you are part of the MiM Montessori group.

MiM 2014 Reflection:



*"A very worthwhile two day."
Principal, Steven Wallis, Principal, Southern Montessori (SA)*



Registration

Registration Fee of \$275.00 includes:

- Adolescent Program Forum
- Morning and Afternoon Teas
- Lunches
- Saturday Evening Dinner in Maroochydore
- Coach Transport between M1 Resort and Montessori International College

Registration Process:

Registering and paying for Meeting in the Middle is as easy as saying 'MiM'.

Simply follow the link below to complete the online registration form. Payment is through PayPal.

<http://montessoriiic.schoolzinewsletters.com/meeting-in-the-middle-details>

Registrations close Monday, August 24.

Cancellation Policy

Full reimbursement before Thursday, August 27.

No reimbursement after Thursday, August 27.

MiM 2014 Reflection:



"Thank You! Thank You! Thank You! Terrific – once again! What a great community and network building experience!"

Laureen Barnard, Adolescent Guide, Beechworth Secondary School (VIC)

"An amazing learning experience that stimulated ideas which can be adapted and applied."

Leigh Morrow, Adolescent Guide, Montessori International College (QLD)





The Program

Thursday, September 03

- 1.30pm **Coach departs M1 Resort**
- 2.00pm **Tour of the MIC Campus and Farm**
- 3.30pm **Registration**
- 4.00pm **Welcome Drinks, Canapés and Creative Expression**
Exhibition of Work and Learning Comes to Life
During drinks, each school's staff will work together to create an installation based on the motif 'Our Work, Our Story'.
- 6.00pm **Coach departs for M1 Resort**
- 7.00pm **Young Guns**
Our 'new to the field' adolescent practitioners are invited to meet over dinner to plan and prepare their collaborative presentation.

MiM 2014 Reflection:



"It was wonderful to meet so many people experiencing such similar things in the workplace. I found that it re-energised me as a guide."
Vanessa Rugiano, Adolescent Guide, Elonera Montessori School (NSW)

"Thank you so much for all of your amazing organisation, enthusiasm and love of adolescents! I am re-inspired (if that is possible!) to get our adolescent program up and pumping in 2015 and hopefully sharing with you next year!"
Gay Wales, Principal, Melbourne Montessori School (VIC)





The Program (cont.)

Friday, September 04

- 8.30am **Coach depart from M1 Resort**
- 9.00am **Welcome and Housekeeping**
- 9.15am **Time to Refresh**
Revisit the essential principles of the Montessori adolescent program.
- 9.45am **Voices from the Field**
Practitioners share strategies for shaping community.
- 10.30am **Morning Tea**
- 11.15am **Focus Areas for Shaping Community within the Adolescent Program**
Breakouts:
101 *Civility*
102 *Division of labour*
103 *Service*
104 *Community meetings*
105 *Acts of leadership*
106 *Odyssey*
- 12.15am **Through the Looking Glass**
A still point acknowledging the commonality within our work with adolescents.
- 12.30am **Lunch**
- 1.30pm **Voices of the Past**
The Humanities - re-thinking the wonders of human endeavour.
Breakouts:
201 *Skill acquisition through the humanities*
202 *Critical and creative thinking*
203 *Communication and its' many forms*
- 2.45pm **Young Guns**
Young Guns present their professional learning reflections.
- 3.15pm **Afternoon Tea**
- 3.45pm **Enduring or Endangered?**
A conversation challenging us to think deeply about our work as adolescent practitioners. What is our current position within the broader landscape of education? Is our work with adolescents relevant?
- 5.00pm **Coach departs for M1 Resort**



The Program (cont.)

Saturday, September 05

- 8.30am **Coach departs from M1 Resort**
- 9.00am **Pedagogy of Place (PoP)**
Getting creative and curious about 'place' - practitioners share learning experiences that come out of 'place'.
 Breakouts:
 301 *Designing PoP learning experiences*
 302 *Connecting PoP to the learning web for study and work*
 303 *Senior Phase learning designs*
- 10.30am **Morning Tea**
- 11.15am **Liquorice Allsorts**
 Breakouts:
 401 *Permission to parent*
 402 *Communication and marketing*
 403 *Digital citizens*
 404 *Micro-economy enterprises*
 405 *Creative and physical expressions*
- 12.15pm **Through the Looking Glass**
A still point focussing on purposeful work.
- 12.30pm **Lunch**
- 1.30pm **Rituals, Ceremony and Rites of Passage**
Practitioners share these emerging cultural customs.
- 2.30pm **The September Project**
Plenary session exploring the notion of a shared project which connects our Montessori adolescents with other Montessori adolescents in Australia.
- 3.30pm **Afternoon Tea**
- 4.00pm **Designing and Engineering of the September Project**
- 5.00pm **Coach departs for M1 Resort**
- 6.30pm **Dinner at Solbar, Ocean Street**
- Naming of the 2016 Host for MiM and Reflections**
Program leaders are invited to express their interest in hosting the 2016 MiM.



The Program (cont.)

Sunday, September 06

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| 9.00am | Coach depart from M1 Resort |
| 9.30am | Collaborative Planning of the September Project
<i>Breakout groups to work on specific areas of the project planning.</i> |
| 10.30am | Presentation of the September Project Plan
<i>Developing a timeline identifying key milestones for the project together with persons and/or schools responsible.</i> |
| 11.00am | Morning Tea |
| 11.30am | Reflections and Progress Report |
| 12.00pm | Tidy and Pack Up |
| 12.15pm | Close |
| 12.30pm | Coach departs for M1 Resort |

MiM 2014 Reflection:



"The Mathematics session was extremely helpful both in developing my pedagogy and the professional connections made."
Sean Nagy, Adolescent Guide, Montessori International College (QLD)



Useful Links

Montessori

NAMTA

<http://www.montessori-namta.org/>

Montessori Australia Foundation

<http://montessori.org.au/>

Montessori International College

<http://www.montessori.qld.edu.au/>

Accommodation and Transport

Col's Airshuttle

<https://www.airshuttle.com.au/>

Henry's Airporter

<http://henrys.com.au/henrysbris.html>

M1 Resort Maroochydore

<http://www.m1resort.com.au/>

Sun Air Bus Service

<http://www.sunair.com.au/>

Suncoast Cabs

<http://www.suncoastcabs.com.au/>

Translink – Public Bus Service

<http://translink.com.au/>

Sunshine Coast

Big Top – Ocean Street

<http://www.bigtopmarketfresh.com.au/>

Sunshine Coast Destination Limited

<http://www.scdl.com.au/>