

PRESS RELEASE

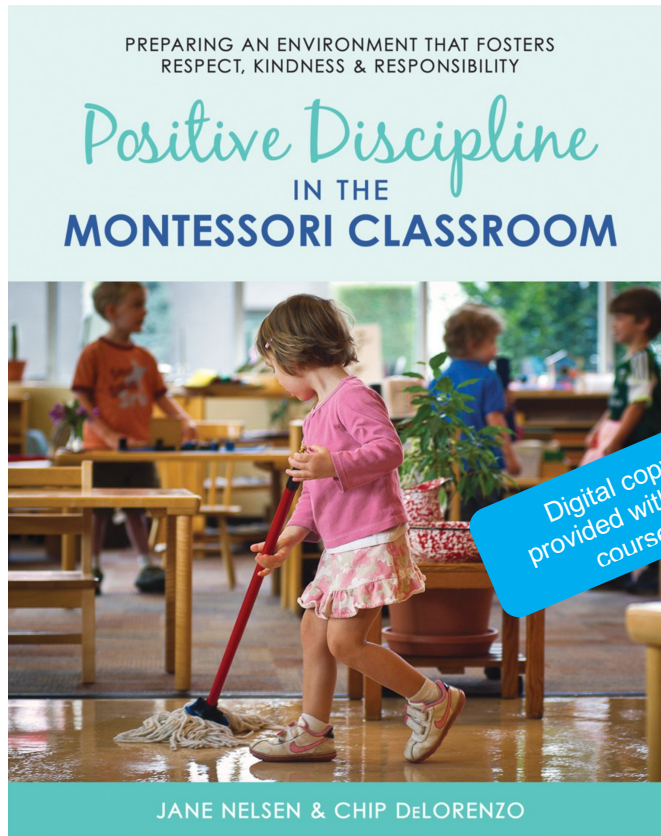
POSITIVE DISCIPLINE EDUCATORS COURSE WITH CHIP DELORENZO

Montessori Australia is proud to announce the first Positive Discipline course exclusively for Australian educators beginning 4 May 2022. The 16-hour course will be facilitated online over 8 weeks by **Chip DeLorenzo** (author of the new book *Positive Discipline in the Montessori Classroom*) with **Mark Powell** (Positive Discipline facilitator who has run parenting courses in Australia for many years).

Positive Discipline is used as a foundational approach to classroom and school discipline in many Montessori schools throughout the United States because of its continuity with the Montessori principles of respect and independence. It is based on the work of Alfred Adler and Rudolph Dreikurs, both contemporaries of Maria Montessori. The primary goal of the approach is to help create a social/emotional environment where children are given the tools to succeed in becoming responsible, respectful and capable members of their communities and families. Based on the best-selling books of Dr Jane Nelsen, Positive Discipline has become the gold standard of relationship building courses because it teaches important life and social skills in a manner that is deeply respectful of both children and adults.

Recent brain research reveals that children are hardwired at birth to connect with others, and that children who experience a sense of connection with their school community (peers and adults) and family are more likely to exhibit successful social behaviours, such as cooperation, respect, interdependence, confidence and helpfulness. However, in order to experience this success, children must learn the necessary social and life skills. Positive Discipline is based on the understanding that discipline must be taught, and that discipline teaches.

Positive Discipline tools help children experience connection and responsibility. They are mutually respectful and encouraging, being kind and firm at the same time. They are effective long-term because they teach important life-skills such as respect, concern for others, problem solving, empathy, helpfulness. This approach invites children to discover how capable they are by encouraging the constructive use of personal power and autonomy.



Classroom Practitioners' Course

- 8 Wednesday evenings from 7:00pm to 9:00pm AEST on 4, 11, 18, 25 May, 1, 8, 15 and 22 June 2022.
- The course is relevant for Montessori practitioners teaching all age groups: early childhood, 6-12 year-olds, and adolescents. Non-Montessori educators are also welcome.
- Participants will receive a certificate of completion from Montessori Australia.
- Participants will receive electronic resources through a digital learning platform, including a digital copy of the book *Positive Discipline in the Montessori Classroom* as well as the workbook. (Hard copies of the book will be available for purchase.)
- Early bird price for the 16-hour course is \$390 (for MA members registering before 4 April 2022). Members registering after 4 April will pay \$450. Non-members will pay \$450 before 4 April or \$490 after 4 April 2022.

Classroom management can be the most difficult thing for new teachers to learn; it's so often the missing piece in many teacher training programs. Challenging student behaviour can also become a distraction for experienced Montessori educators. In this 16-hour course Chip DeLorenzo provides time-tested principles and tools for handling those prickly social-emotional situations that can, and do, come up in every Montessori classroom. *Positive Discipline* codifies Montessori principles in a way that allows new and seasoned teachers to gain a practical understanding of "deviations" and to apply these principles to the typical behavioural challenges of the modern child.

Chip DeLorenzo has been a Montessori educator since 1995. He is the former Head of School of the Damariscotta Montessori School in Maine, where he spent 20 years as a teacher and administrator. Chip is a *Positive Discipline* trainer and school consultant and has worked with thousands of Montessori teachers and parents in teaching the principles and practices of *Positive Discipline* through various workshops and lectures. He holds Early Childhood, Lower and Upper Elementary AMS certifications, and has worked extensively with Montessori Adolescent students. He is the author of the new book *Positive Discipline in the Montessori Classroom* with Jane Nelsen. Chip is the father of four Montessori children, and he and his wife, Kathy, live in Jefferson, Maine USA.



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