



HOLISTIC EDUCATION



Welcome to iGrow:

PARENT INFORMATION GUIDE

2027

ABOUT US

Welcome to iGrow Nursery School, a warm and nurturing, family-owned Early Learning Centre where every child is valued and encouraged to flourish. Our mission is to support the holistic development of each child, building a strong foundation for lifelong learning.

Situated in the heart of Bloemfontein, our thoughtfully prepared environment inspires curiosity, creativity, and exploration. We value strong partnerships with families and take a personalised approach to meet each child's unique needs—ensuring they feel supported, confident, and ready to grow.

OUR AIM is to nurture children that are

- Independent
- Well mannered
- Self-confident
- Motivated
- Socially adjusted
- Critical thinkers

Our core values are rooted in truly seeing each child as an individual and believing in their unique abilities and potential. We are committed to treating children with respect in both our words and actions. Above all, we create a loving and nurturing environment where children feel safe, valued, and secure. It is within this sense of belonging that children gain the confidence to learn, explore, and thrive.

We also believe that children benefit from having a degree of autonomy and freedom in their choices. Through choice and independence, children develop confidence, self-belief, and a natural enthusiasm for learning.



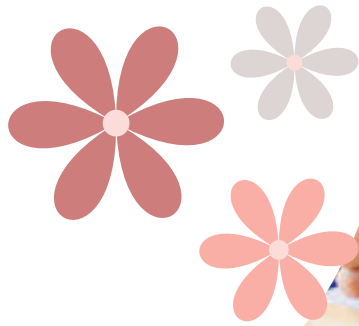
OUR BELIEFS

Respect each child. **Freedom** to explore.

Love the child.

Play is the most important work. **Believe** in the child.

CURRICULUM



Our curriculum brings learning to life, thoughtfully shaped by our environment and inspired by play, nature, and the educational philosophies of Maria Montessori and Loris Malaguzzi.

At iGrow, we offer more than just child care services. Our approach is centred on supporting **optimal brain development** during the most important years of early childhood, when learning and growth happen most rapidly — especially before the age of five. We believe these foundational years shape a child's confidence, curiosity, and lifelong love of learning.

Our environment is thoughtfully designed with the child in mind. We see the environment as the “third teacher” — a space that inspires exploration, independence, creativity, and meaningful learning experiences. We value the important role that risky play has in childhood development. Through carefully considered opportunities for challenge and exploration, children build resilience, confidence, problem-solving skills, and physical competence.

Children are treated with the utmost respect, and our educators use language that uplifts, affirms their worth, and supports their growth and development.



Language

Language in the preschool classroom includes activities like storytelling, singing, reading, and conversations that aid language development. These experiences expose children to vocabulary and communication skills, fostering literacy. Educators use interactive games, rhymes, and discussions to encourage language exploration and build confidence. We have rotating themes that children explore throughout the year.



Mathematics

Math is taught through hands-on activities using specially designed materials like number rods and the spindle box. Children explore fundamental concepts like counting and number recognition in a tangible way, fostering a deep understanding of math. They work at their own pace, encouraged to discover concepts independently, promoting confidence and a love for math early on.

Creative Arts

Creative arts in preschool involve a range of activities like drawing, painting, music, and drama that cater to children's developmental needs. These activities foster imagination, develop motor skills, and encourage self-expression and problem-solving. Educators promote open-ended exploration, allowing children to cultivate creativity and a lasting love for the arts. Integrating creative arts into the curriculum enriches learning experiences and supports holistic development in preschoolers.

Motor Skills

Motor skills, encompassing both fine and gross movements, are essential components of early childhood development. Fine motor skills involve precise hand and finger movements, like grasping objects, while gross motor skills involve larger body movements, such as walking and jumping. These skills are crucial for daily tasks, from dressing to sports. They also underpin cognitive development, as children learn through physical exploration. Developing strong motor skills in early childhood boosts coordination, independence, and overall growth, laying the foundation for later success.

Grace & Courtesy

Grace and courtesy in early childhood involves teaching polite behaviour and social skills, instilling manners, kindness, and consideration for others. Children learn greetings, turn-taking, sharing, listening, and conflict resolution through instruction and role modeling. These lessons encourage positive interactions, building a sense of community and belonging. By cultivating these skills early, children develop empathy, cooperation, and effective social navigation, laying a foundation for healthy relationships and societal engagement as they mature.

Practical Life

In Montessori preschools, practical life skills are fundamental. They involve activities like pouring, cleaning and care of the environment which promote independence, coordination, and responsibility. These tasks also develop fine and gross motor skills while instilling a sense of order and respect for the environment. Ultimately, engaging in practical life activities nurtures children's self-care and confidence for future learning.

Emotional Intelligence

In early childhood, emotional development encompasses understanding and managing emotions from infancy through preschool years. Children learn to recognize and express various emotions and understand others' feelings. Influenced by genetics, temperament, caregiving, and social interactions, emotional development is crucial. Caregivers and educators contribute significantly by offering a secure environment, teaching coping skills, and modeling healthy emotional expression. These interactions foster essential emotional competencies, which are foundational for building healthy relationships and resilience later in life.

Sensory

Sensory development in early childhood involves refining and integrating the senses: sight, hearing, touch, taste, and smell. Children explore their environment through sensory experiences, which are crucial for cognitive, social, and emotional growth. These activities help them recognize patterns, differentiate between textures and sounds, and develop preferences. Engaging in sensory activities stimulates brain development and fosters creativity, problem-solving, and emotional regulation. Caregivers and educators play a vital role in nurturing sensory development, setting the stage for lifelong healthy sensory processing.

The Environment

The environment is known as the third teacher because of the potential it has to inspire children. The environment is filled with natural light, order and beauty. Classrooms are set up for open ended play, community activities and investigation. At iGrow, we believe in the power of both indoor and outdoor learning.



Subjects Explored

Botany
Zoology
Geography
History
Art
Music
Science

These subjects are explored throughout the year.



Kiddies Kitchen is an innovative program for children to learn to cook. Our emphasis is on having fun while discovering a few basic kitchen techniques and fundamentals of cooking.

Extra-curricular

These are optional extras.



Kindermusik is the world's leading provider of music based education for children from birth through 7. We use the power and joy of music-making to help children learn and grow during the years most critical to brain development.



Gym Jam is a fundamental movement skills program that focuses on foundation gymnastics. Our aim is to teach children the physical, emotional and social skills for growth, in a fun and playful environment. From age 3.



Hoofbeats Equine Assisted Learning is an early childhood stimulation program on horseback. This is a new, fun, exciting and multisensory way of learning that helps children develop gross, fine and perceptual skills. From age 3.



What is Reggio Emilia?

Renowned worldwide, the Reggio Emilia approach is grounded in a deep respect for the child as curious, capable, and full of potential. Within carefully considered environments, children are encouraged to explore, express themselves, and construct knowledge through rich, hands-on experiences and meaningful interactions.

What is the Montessori Approach?

At IGrow, we draw on the Montessori philosophy developed by Dr. Maria Montessori, which recognises each child as naturally curious and capable. In thoughtfully prepared spaces, children are given the freedom to explore, make choices, and learn independently, supporting their development across all areas—cognitive, emotional, social, and physical.



School Events

At iGrow, we invest care and thought into every event, ensuring that special occasions are meaningful and memorable for our children. We warmly encourage parents to take part, creating opportunities to connect and build a strong sense of community within the school.



Safe and Clean

At iGrow, we take great pride in providing a clean, safe, and well-maintained environment for our children. Classrooms are thoroughly cleaned and carefully prepared each afternoon, ensuring a fresh and welcoming space every day. For your peace of mind, the school is equipped with CCTV surveillance and on-site armed response security. Our educators are also trained in first aid and fire safety, creating a secure environment where children can learn and thrive with confidence.



Qualified Teachers

Our teachers are committed to their profession and consistently deliver a high-quality program for our parents. Additionally, our staff participate in weekend training sessions to stay up-to-date with the latest developments in early childhood education.



Parent Events

At iGrow, we value strong relationships with our parents and strive to create opportunities for connection, learning, and rest. We host a variety of parent-focused events, including a “date night” where we provide childcare on a Saturday evening, giving parents the chance to enjoy time together. We also organise relaxed gatherings for moms to connect over a shared meal, as well as Saturday morning playdates, offering parents the opportunity to run errands or enjoy a quiet coffee or breakfast.

Reporting & Communication

We believe in keeping you closely connected to your child’s journey at iGrow. Families receive two detailed progress reports each year, offering meaningful insight into their child’s growth and development.

Our educators maintain an open-door approach and are always available to meet, ensuring any questions or concerns are addressed with care and attention.

In addition, our school app provides real-time updates, allowing you to track daily attendance and enjoy special moments from your child’s day through shared photos—keeping you informed, reassured, and part of the experience.

Bible and EQ for Kids

Once a week, children take part in a special enrichment lesson. Families may choose between a Bible class or an alternative programme designed to be inclusive of different beliefs and backgrounds.

Both options focus on nurturing each child’s inner development, supporting their values, character, and overall growth as confident young individuals.



IMPORTANT DAILY ANCHORS

Healthy eating habits include blessing the food, clearing the table, and practicing good table manners. Mealtimes are a wonderful opportunity for social development—sharing a meal together fosters a sense of community.

Bathroom etiquette/hygiene – Bathroom etiquette and hygiene are important—this includes toilet training, washing hands, and drying. Respect for privacy is also emphasized, both for oneself and for others.

Routine – Establishing routines, even with some flexibility during the day, provides anchor points that create a predictable schedule for children, helping them feel safe. A consistent routine promotes positive behaviour.

Language – Regarding language, iGrow is a bilingual school offering instruction in English and Afrikaans. Your child will be spoken to in the language of your choice; however, they will be exposed to both languages daily.

Grace and Courtesy offer children clear guidance on how to understand and respond to various social situations and behaviors. Children aged two and a half to six years are in a sensitive period for learning courtesy and manners.

During this time, the emphasis is on equipping them with the *vocabulary, actions, and steps necessary* to develop their interpersonal skills and effectively interact with their environment.



HEALTHY LUNCHBOX POLICY

At iGrow, we recognise the vital role that a **healthy daily diet** plays in a child's growth, development, and ability to learn. Good nutrition supports concentration, energy levels, and overall well-being during these important early years.

We follow a “no junk food” approach, encouraging children to bring wholesome, balanced meals and snacks. Foods where sugar or sweeteners are listed among the first three ingredients are discouraged. While occasional treats may be included during special class celebrations and events, these are kept to a minimum to maintain a consistent focus on healthy habits.



COMMUNICATION AND FAMILY PARTNERSHIP

Effective communication between home and school is a cornerstone at iGrow. We use an online portfolio system to support ongoing connection with families, sharing meaningful moments and insights into each child's learning journey. Every child has a personalised portfolio that includes their work, as well as photos and videos capturing their experiences and development at school. Parents are encouraged to engage with and contribute to these portfolios regularly, strengthening the partnership between home and school.

Our educators are always available to connect should you wish to discuss your child's progress or share important information. In addition, each class has a dedicated WhatsApp group for timely updates and reminders, ensuring clear and consistent communication alongside our online platform.

DAILY RHYTHM

The morning work cycle and outdoor time is on rotation between classrooms.

8:00	Breakfast	
8:20	Morning Work Cycle	
10:00	Snack Time	
10:20	Outdoor Time	
11:40	Lunch	
12:00	Half Day Pick Up	
12:30	Nap Time	
14:00	Outdoor Play	
	Afternoon Pick Up	
17:00	Last Pick Up	

MEET OUR PRINCIPAL



Jeanne Meyer

HOD Junior Primary
Phase Degree

25 Years Teaching
Experience
10 Years at iGrow

Principal

Jeanne is the heart of iGrow. With over 25 years of experience in early childhood education, she brings a wealth of knowledge, empathy, and strong leadership to our school community. As Principal, she is actively involved in all areas of the school, ensuring that both staff and children are well cared for and that daily operations run smoothly and efficiently.

Jeanne will be your primary point of contact at iGrow, supporting you and your family from your initial enquiry and throughout your journey with us. Her commitment to creating a nurturing, well-organised, and joyful environment lies at the core of everything we do.



info@igrownurseryschool.co.za



079 995 0672

iGrow EDUCATORS

At iGrow, we have a team of **qualified and experienced** educators who bring warmth, skill, and dedication to the classroom. We maintain favourable child-to-adult ratios to ensure that each child receives individual attention, care, and support.

Children are thoughtfully placed in groups where they feel secure, engaged, and best able to thrive, allowing us to meet their unique developmental needs and support their growth in a meaningful way.

Classroom Ratios

At iGrow, we prioritise low adult-to-child ratios to ensure each child receives the attention, care, and guidance they need to thrive. Our ratios are thoughtfully maintained as follows, and are often lower than indicated:

- 2 years - 2.5: 1 adult to 5 children
- 2.5 - 3.5 years: 1 adult to 8 children
- 3.5 – 5 years: 1 adult to 12 children

***Please note that classroom composition may vary depending on overall school enrolment; however, our adult-to-child ratios are always maintained.* Children are thoughtfully placed in environments where they feel secure, supported, and best able to develop according to their individual needs.

Fee Structure 2027

Fee structure
12 Month Payment plan
(January - December)

Monthly

Half Day (07:00 - 12:00/12:30) R 3 958.00

Aftercare (12:30 - 17:00) R 1 260.00

Full Day Summary R 5 218.00
(Half day school + Aftercare)

Enrolment Fee (Once-off) R 2 000.00

** We offer a sibling discount for families with more than one child enrolled, as well as a 5% discount on fees paid in full upfront for the year.

We accommodate half day & full day care
Our operating hours are: 07h00 – 17h00

We accept children aged between
2 years and 5 years' old

We offer a beautiful environment with
top-quality materials

Qualified Educators
Loving and dedicated staff

We are a dual language school:
English and Afrikaans

Extra-curricular Optional Extra *Prices may increase in 2027.

**Kiddies
Kitchen**

R 150
Once per term

Hoofbeats

R 790
Per term

Gym Jam

R 730
Per term

Kindermusik

R 700
Per term

We offer a selection of extracurricular activities as an added convenience for our families. These optional programmes take place during school hours, allowing children to participate without placing additional demands on your schedule.

Participation is entirely voluntary, and these offerings are introduced in response to parent interest and requests. Please note that all extracurricular activities are privately run, and all enrolment, administration, and fees are managed directly with the individual providers.



2027 School Terms for iGrow

****Our school terms run alongside the Department of Education.**

Term 1

**13 January -
19 March**

Term 2

**6 April -
25 June**

Term 3

**20 July -
22 September**

Term 4

**5 October -
8 December**

The early years of a child's life are a time of rapid brain development, laying the foundation for future learning, behaviour, and overall well-being. Quality early childhood education plays a vital role in nurturing curiosity, building confidence, and developing essential cognitive, social, and emotional skills. A thoughtfully prepared environment, guided by skilled and caring educators, allows children to explore, discover, and grow at their own pace—fostering a lifelong love of learning and a strong sense of self.

What to look for when choosing an early learning environment:

- ✓ Qualified, experienced, and nurturing educators
- ✓ Low adult-to-child ratios for individual attention
- ✓ A safe, clean, and well-maintained environment
- ✓ Opportunities for play-based and hands-on learning
- ✓ A focus on social, emotional, and language development
- ✓ Open and consistent communication with parents
- ✓ An environment where your child feels happy, secure, and valued



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THIS SCHOOL MADE SUCH A DIFFERENCE IN MY CHILDREN'S LIVES.

At igrow children are encouraged to learn through play and each child is seen as an individual, with different interests and strengths. The teachers are caring and the facilities are beautiful.

Invest in your child by planting the seeds of imagination and learning in a fun way. Would recommend 100%

-Marie Bester



“

I COULDN'T BE HAPPIER TO HAVE MY SON IN IGROW.

I have seen great development in a short time. The teachers go over and beyond to make sure the kids and parents are happy. 5 stars isn't enough to rate igrow. The school is an investment into your child's growth and development.

-Bibi Ebrahim



“

IN THE WORDS OF MY 4 YEAR OLD SON, IGROW - THANK YOU FOR ALL THE NICE THINGS.....😊

This has been the best decision I have made for my son. He has grown into a social butterfly. The staff are so special to us, Incredible at what they do and most of all, to drop my child there every morning, knowing he is safe and in the best care, I leave with a happy heart and pick him up smiling. I couldn't have asked for a better!!! This school is tops!!!!

-Candice Loyd

“

WE CAN SING IGROW WITH SUCH PRAISE.

The holistic approach that iGrow offers is unique and has empowered our children in so many facets. iGrow provides a beautiful, safe space where each child thrives in his or her own personality. The concept of play and practical life skills are important at this time of any toddler, and is what iGrow is able to provide for us. Bloemfontein is privileged to have this school.

-Conrad Bornman

“

IT'S NOT JUST THE CURRICULUM...

It's not just the curriculum that is above other nursery schools, but the child psychology intelligence that the staff have and the type of language they use around my child that is important. Such young children are so vulnerable to the type of words and phrases used. Socialisation, child confidence, manners, empathy and independent exploration for learning is just as important as whether they can name colours and draw horizontal lines. These are things that other popular nurseries don't even evaluate or encourage.

-Joy Terry



PLEASE FEEL FREE TO TAKE A LOOK AT THE REVIEWS ON GOOGLE.



OUR OFFERING



Beautiful Home Like Environment



Quality Infrastructure & Materials



Clean and Hygienic Facilities



Qualified and Passionate Educators



Premium Communication Software



First Aid & Fire Trained



Easy & Safe Drop and Go System



CCTV and Armed Response



Holistic Approach



Intimate School Setting



High Quality Program

APPLICATION PROCESS

Choosing the right early learning environment is an important decision, and we are here to guide you every step of the way.

For more information or to access our application forms, please visit our website:

www.igrownurseryschool.co.za

- Families can conveniently complete their application online via the admissions page.
- Once it has been determined that iGrow is the right fit for both the child and the family, an offer of placement will be made.
- All required enrolment documentation must be submitted in full. Please note that incomplete applications cannot be processed.

We look forward to welcoming your family to the iGrow community and sharing in your child's early learning journey.

162 Waverley Road, Dan Pienaar, Bloemfontein



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