## **About Somersfield Academy**

## **School Overview**

Somersfield Academy was founded in 1991 by a group of parents who created the Montessori Education Trust. The school was originally known as Montessori Academy, but changed its name to Somersfield Academy when it relocated to Devonshire in 2001. The school is overseen by a Board of Governors on behalf of the Trust, and is led by a Principal with the support of two Division Heads.

The school aims to prepare students to be global citizens, independent, life-long learners and to acquire the problem-solving skills and knowledge necessary for educational success. Teachers encourage self-expression and creative thinking as well as respect for and understanding of different philosophies and cultures in accordance with the school's learner profile.

The school has almost 500 students representing over thirty nationalities with 65% of them having Bermudian connections. The campus is welcoming, and beautifully landscaped. Classrooms are spacious and well equipped and specialist rooms include science labs, a library, two computer labs, art rooms and an Innovations Centre. Playgrounds are modern and attractive and the large sports field is well maintained. A full size gymnasium is used extensively for school and community activities.

Somersfield is divided into the following divisions: The Children's House (ages 3 - 6); the Primary Division, which is sub-divided into the Lower Primary (ages 6 - 9) and Upper Primary (ages 9 - 11); and the Secondary Division which is sub-divided into the Lower Secondary (ages 11 - 14) and the Upper Secondary (ages 14 - 16). The Montessori curriculum is offered in the Children's House and Lower Primary Divisions. The Upper Primary Division concentrates on academic preparation for the Secondary Division, which offers the International Baccalaureate Middle Years Programme (MYP).

All members of the teaching staff are fully qualified, university certified, and most hold advanced degrees. The school provides a programme of continuing professional education both overseas and locally for all teachers and staff.

Admission to the school is determined by previous school reports and a screening procedure, and the school's ability to provide a suitable programme. Admission is also dependent on available space. The school has provision for children with mild learning needs.

The school has an active PTA which raises funds for many projects as well as organising several social events in Somersfield's busy calendar. The school hosts a large number of community clubs.

Somersfield is fully accredited by the Canadian Association of Independent Schools (CAIS) and the International Baccalaureate (IB). The school is a member of the International Montessori Council and the American Montessori Society.



