order. Composed entirely of sliding timber screens suspended beneath a flush level roof, the internal and external perimeter walls can be fully retracted for eight months of the year. In accordance with Monessori’s principle that encourages children to interact with the natural world, such permeability provides seamless continuity between inside and out, uniting the central activity space with smaller pockets of residual space at the perimeter—places that provide more intimate spaces for animal shelters and small gardens where children can plant vegetables or flowers.

Remarkably, despite the relatively large scale of the building and the overwhelming number of children (some of whom travel for up to two hours to benefit from the above average standard of education and environment), the kindergarten only has five rooms. With the loop broken down into four segments, each enclosure relies on low-level screens for subdivision, with the only full-height wall giving necessary isolation for the staffroom that sits adjacent to the main entrance.