



## ***Infant and Toddler FAQ***

Q; What are the ages for the Infant and Toddler Programs?

A; Infant includes 3 months to 18 months. Toddler includes 18 months to 36 months.

Q; What is your teacher to student ratio?

A; In Infant the ratio is 4:1. We have a maximum of 8 infants and 2 teachers. In Toddler the ratio is 6:1. We have a maximum of 12 children and 2 teachers.

Q; Who provides snack for the students?

A; In Toddler, parents are assigned a week or two to provide snacks for the whole class. A list of what to bring is sent to parents by the teachers. If your child has food allergies that may prevent him/her from eating the snack provided in the rotation, we ask that parents pack a daily snack. In the Infant Room, parents provide appropriate snacks for their child only.

Q; What about lunch?

A; Parents pack a lunch for their child. It should be healthy and packed in easily opened containers that the child can practice doing themselves.

Q; What time is arrival?

A; Children can arrive between 7:30 a.m. and 8:30 a.m. In Toddler, we encourage you to say your "good byes" at the door, and send your child into the classroom to put his/her own things away. The teacher will greet the child and help the child with his/her things. If you have something important to tell the teacher, please send it in a note or an e mail. Arrival is often a very busy time and not the best time for a discussion with the teacher.

Q; What time is dismissal?

A; We have several options for Toddlers; 11:45 a.m. dismissal, 2:45 p.m., 4:30 p.m., and 6:00 p.m. dismissal. For Infant, we have a 3:00 p.m. or a 5:00 p.m. dismissal.

Q; When do children move up to the Primary (ages 3-6) classrooms?

A; Toddlers will start the transition to the Primary classrooms beginning around age 2 years 6 months. Children have to be fully potty trained in order to be in Primary. They will visit the Primary class several times, eventually becoming a full time Primary student when they are ready, usually close to 3 years old.

Q; What is the structure of the day like for a Toddler?

A;

7:30-8:30 a.m.	Arrival Time and Work Time
8:30-10:00 a.m.	Work Time <i>During "work time" teachers are giving lessons on the Montessori materials in the classrooms. The materials are developmentally appropriate and meet the needs and interests of the toddler age child.</i>
10:00 a.m.	Snack
10:30-11:15 a.m.	Outside/Free Play
11:15 a.m.	Lunch
11:45 a.m.	Dismissal
12:00 p.m.	Rest
2:00 p.m.	Wake Up and Prepare for Dismissal or After Care
2:45 p.m.	Dismissal
3:00 p.m.	After Care Starts (4:30 p.m. or 6:00 p.m. Dismissal Options)

Q; What happens in After Care?

A; After Care is a less structured time when children get to be social and engage in different kinds of play. If the weather is nice, children play outside. If unable to go outside, children play with non-Montessori materials in the classrooms. The children get a snack (provided by the parents) and have fun playing and singing with each other and the After Care teacher. Parents can come anytime to pick up their child.

Q; Does my child have to be potty trained?

A; No. We encourage early potty training, and the teachers work with you and the child to achieve success!

Q; What kinds of things should I do at home to help my child at school?

A; First; Toddlers love chores! Invite them to help you fold laundry, put dishes away, pour their own milk, clean up their own spills, even help make dinner! This is good work for them, and makes them feel important and engaged with the family. Second, turn off the TV, computer and tablet. Teachers can see a difference in the focus and attention span of Toddlers who watch a lot of TV and those who do not. The children who do not watch TV or use electronic devices are more eager to learn and are more interested in the Montessori Materials. Third; let them play outside! Exploring nature is a wonderful way to learn, have different sensory experiences, develop coordination and balance, and move their bodies.