



THE CHILDREN'S TREE
MONTESSORI SCHOOL

childrenstree.org

96 Essex Rd, Old Saybrook, CT

860.388.3536

Philosophical Agreement for Parents of Primary Students

We ask **both** parents (if child lives with two parents) to read each section thoroughly and initial both sides. If there are any questions about any of the policies stated, please speak to Marci Martindale or to your child's teacher for clarification.

I understand that I am enrolling my child for the full academic term. I believe it is in the best interest of my child to have continuity and consistency and I am aware that the benefits of Montessori are best achieved by attending for multiple school years. If my family learns it will be relocating, I will inform the school *in writing* as soon as possible.

Parent's initial _____

2nd parent's initial _____

I understand that tuition is allocated for the entire school year. There are no refunds for missed days or vacations. There are no makeup days if my child is out sick or on vacation.

Parent's initial _____

2nd parent's initial _____

I understand that my child will receive a greater educational benefit by continuing at The Children's Tree Montessori for the full developmental program. This includes the kindergarten year (Children turn 6 during kindergarten typically). One of the most remarkable aspects of Montessori is the way lessons are re-introduced over the years at increasing degrees of complexity. The final year in the Montessori classroom is crucial, as it is during this year that the child's previous work is integrated into the whole person. The child has a unique opportunity to demonstrate his/her leadership skills and have the opportunity to refine and model social and academic achievements. This gives the child an unparalleled foundation with which to move into First Grade. Without the kindergarten year, the child has not had the full benefit of the Montessori experience.

Parent's initial _____

2nd parent's initial _____

I understand that The Children's Tree Montessori School is a not-for-profit 501(c)3 organization and that all gifts given to the school are tax-deductible. The Annual Giving program is designed to help supplement the school's budget so that we are able to maintain and improve the quality of your child's education. This includes, but is not limited to, professional development, the hiring of certified teachers and assistants, and the purchase of additional enrichment materials for the classrooms. I will be asked to participate in both annual giving and the silent auction.

Parent's initial _____

2nd parent's initial _____

I understand that the school organizes parent gatherings, school-wide social events and parent workshops throughout the academic year. By attending these events I am helping to create a community that is well-informed and supportive of the belief that education is an important and integral part of our lives. Becoming involved sends the message that my child's education is meaningful.

Parent's initial _____

2nd parent's initial _____



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Teachers and parents meet twice a year to participate in a formal conference. Both parents are encouraged to attend. Additional conferences may be requested by a parent or a teacher.

Parent's initial _____

2nd parent's initial _____

I understand that letter grades are not traditionally provided to parents in a Montessori program. Any discussions of my child's progress will take place in person and not via notes or progress reports. I understand that I can request a conference with my child's teacher at any time.

Parent's initial _____

2nd parent's initial _____

I understand that observing my child's class is encouraged. The school recommends observation so that I may gain more insight into the course of my child's day, learn more about Montessori, and see what materials my child is using. Both parents should plan to observe the class at least once per year.

Parent's initial _____

2nd parent's initial _____

I understand that I have chosen an AMS (American Montessori Society) accredited school for my child. I acknowledge that AMS accreditation requires the school to hire highly trained teachers, to fully equip classrooms with certified Montessori materials, and adhere to the philosophical approach that is consistent with AMS training courses. (For more information on AMS requirements, go to www.amshq.org) I understand that this is what sets The Children's Tree Montessori School apart from other Montessori schools.

Parent's initial _____

2nd parent's initial _____

In the event that the purpose of any school policy or procedure is not clear to me, I will take steps to speak with my child's teacher or with school administrators to seek clarification on the issue. I accept responsibility for helping to maintain open communication between myself and the school.

Parent's initial _____

2nd parent's initial _____

I agree to the Code of Conduct for Parents policy found in the parent handbook on page 29. The handbook is provided on the Children's Tree website and via email.

Parent's initial _____

2nd parent's initial _____

I acknowledge and have been made aware that The Children's Tree Montessori School staff is trained in and manages the classroom using the Positive Discipline philosophy. CTMS offers parent workshops each school year on Positive Discipline and encourages all families to attend to help create consistency between home and school.

Parent's initial _____

2nd parent's initial _____

Signature_____

Signature_____

Child's Name_____

Date_____