



## 10 Things to Consider When Choosing the Right Montessori School

Use this checklist to help evaluate whether a Montessori school aligns with your family's values, supports your child's development, and reflects the high-quality standards practiced at Explore Montessori & Academy.

### Authenticity of the Montessori Program

- Does the school follow true Montessori principles, including uninterrupted work periods, mixed-age classrooms, and hands-on materials?
- Are children encouraged to practice new skills to mastery?

### Teacher Training & Credentials

- Are guides Montessori-trained through recognized programs, and does the school support ongoing professional growth?
- Are there scholarships for teachers to attain additional certifications if desired?

### Prepared Environment

- Are the classrooms calm, intentional, and child-centered, with accessible materials that promote independence?

### Child-Centered Philosophy

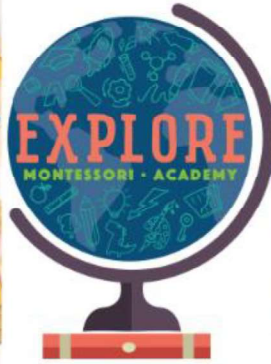
- Does the school honor the child's natural curiosity, provide choice within limits, and guide rather than direct?
- Are additional values like outdoor time, social emotional practice, & pretend play permitted/encouraged?

### Classroom Structure & Curriculum

- Is the curriculum balanced across practical life, sensorial, math, language, cultural studies, and social-emotional learning?

### Transparency & Observation

- Does the school welcome parent observation, offer clear communication, and demonstrate openness in its practices?
- Is there open communication at all levels? Teachers, supervisors, & directors?



### **Parent Partnership**

- Are families kept informed, supported with education opportunities, and invited into the collaborative learning process?

### **School Culture & Community**

- Does the environment reflect respect, inclusivity, emotional safety, and kindness at all levels?
- Are parents encouraged to engage in and outside of school times and events?

### **Consistency & Long-Term Vision**

- Does the school offer multi-year continuity to support stability, attachment, and deep Montessori learning?

### **Logistics & Practical Fit**

- Is the location convenient for your family's needs?
- What is the school's view on parental autonomy?
- How many days is the school closed and does that work with your family's needs?