

A Montessori Education



What is Montessori?

Montessori is an approach to education based on the work of Dr. Maria Montessori whose research on human development has brilliantly stood the test of time for over one hundred years.



Does Montessori extend beyond the Primary and Elementary Years?

Yes! The Montessori Middle School offering rigorous and challenging academics is directly linked with a strong outdoor and expedition program. Academic success and intellectual independence deepen in a context that compliments our students' natural inclinations toward inquiry and innovation. Scholarship is rigorous and rewarding at The Montessori Middle School. In the classroom and through encounters with land and sea (gardening, rock climbing, sailing) social and environmental ethics contribute both toward individual student character and a strong moral character of the group. By design, our Middle School is small, inspires high levels of personal accountability and concern for others. The students have generated significant outreach initiatives and value the importance of pro-active citizenship as deeply as they value the joyful and life-long friendships developed at our school.

How do students' transition after Montessori and what is the legacy of a Montessori education?

Our school is unique in that we do not do academic screening for admissions. Rather, we look to build and protect a community of students inclined to actively participate in the rigors and opportunities of education. If admissions depended on a certain level of academic success, it would not be surprising that our students are accepted and highly successful in their next schools. Because our school's mission includes the development of "passionate and compassionate global citizens" character and consciousness deepen right along with all academic disciplines, and it shows. Upon graduation, our students are highly successful with admissions applications and entrance to other private, boarding and public schools. Reflecting self-knowledge, leadership and diversity of thought, our students carry a sense of responsibility toward others and themselves because it's been a practice all their years in Montessori.



How is it different from more traditional approaches?

In Montessori, students range in age from 14 months to 14 years. Based on Montessori's vision of Education for Peace, our classrooms are guided by the pedagogy described in our school's mission. Productively and with joy, our students pursue independent and collaborative work at all levels. A 3-4 year age span comprises each class where friendships flourish along with matters both academic and social. The arts (visual and voice), languages (Spanish, French and Chinese) and physical well being (gym and team sports) are valued components of our school's curriculum. The Montessori teacher's role is to facilitate and inspire, linking each child with a rich and compelling classroom environment, with the woods and nature outside our doors and often with the greater world.

