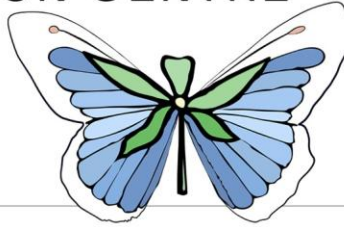


MAIN CAMPUS

(Private: 18 mos. - 4 yrs. ~ Charter: 5 - 12 yrs.)
2834 East Southern Avenue, Mesa, AZ 85204
(480) 926-8375 Fax: (480) 503-0515
montessorictr.org



NORTH CAMPUS

(Private: 2 - 4 yrs. ~ Charter: 5 - 12 yrs.)
815 North Gilbert Road, Mesa, AZ 85203
(480) 964-1381 Fax: (480) 668-5457
montessorictr.org

We are honored that you are considering Montessori Education Centre. MEC is devoted to nurturing the whole child's growth and guiding the transformation of each student while modeling a love of learning.

As a charter school, MEC adheres to state open enrollment laws for grades K-6.

Our goal for our enrollment process is to ensure that our prospective parents are able to make an informed choice when considering MEC. We view our enrollment process as the beginning of a long-term partnership between family and school.

*Because Montessori education is non-traditional in many ways, it is important that parents have a good understanding of our philosophy and instructional methods. A conversation with prospective parents helps **you** decide if your family's educational philosophy, goals and objectives align with those of our school. It also gives us an opportunity to begin to gain an understanding of the unique interests, skills and challenges of your child. This is important for classroom placement. We want to make sure your child is placed in the environment that is best suited for their learning style and personality. Thank you for taking the time to be thoughtful in your responses.*

How did you become familiar with the Montessori approach to education?

How did you learn about Montessori Education Centre?

What factors contributed to the decision to apply to MEC?

How does the Montessori philosophy match with your family values and expectations for a school program?

Discuss your view of multi-age environments.

Montessori education is a flow experience; it builds on the continuing self-construction of the child—daily, weekly, yearly—for the duration of the program. Although our school is divided into multi-age classrooms—primary (ages 2.5 through 6), lower elementary (ages 6 through 9) and upper elementary (ages 9 through 12)—our environments introduce an uninterrupted series of learning passages, a continuum. In Maria Montessori's language, "the successive levels of education must conform to the successive personalities of the child."

A child may take three or four years to complete the curriculum in an age level. When a child does a fourth year or an extra year, depending on when they started the program, it is considered a Bridge Year. Because we do not subscribe to definitive grade levels, this extra time in an environment is not considered "holding back" or "retention" and is not "repeating a grade" as the student's work will move along the continuum. Through thoughtful and thorough observation and assessment, the faculty and administration will determine the most appropriate placement for a child.

Please review the prepared environments described on our website for complete descriptions of every level.

Montessori pedagogy also does not subscribe to giving grades. Grades, like other external rewards, have little lasting effect on a child's efforts or achievements. The Montessori approach nurtures the motivation that comes from within, kindling the child's natural desire to learn.

A self-motivated learner also learns to be self-sufficient, without needing reinforcement from outside. In the classroom, of course, the teacher is always available to provide students with guidance and support.

Our teachers closely observe each student's progress and readiness to advance to new lessons. Scheduled conferences are held twice during the year, so parents may see their child's work and hear the teacher's assessment. Our teachers are committed to honest communication in a timely manner throughout the year regarding your child's growth.

As a Montessori parent, will you support the fact that we do not follow traditional grade levels and trust that your child's level will be determined according to their unique developmental stage? If you have any comments, please feel free to add those here.

As a Montessori parent, do you understand that we do not use grades to determine student growth? If you have any comments, please feel free to add those here.

What do you believe is necessary to get the most out of a Montessori environment?

Are you interested in MEC for your child's kindergarten year only, or are you interested in having your child here through 6th grade?

What attributes and characteristics do you want to see in your child by the time they leave MEC after 6th grade?

How do you believe parents and teachers can work together to provide an optimal learning experience?

Since most parents were educated in traditional classrooms, parents who choose to send their children to a Montessori school must be willing to learn along with the child.

Parents must be willing to invest time in understanding the Montessori philosophy and how things are done in a Montessori classroom.

What do you see as your responsibility when enrolling your child in a Montessori program?

Parents must also be willing to learn how to discipline and guide children in ways that works in tandem with the school and promotes the development of the whole child.

What are your views on a school and teacher's role in your home?

Describe your child (learning style, temperament, special interests, extracurricular activities, and academic, emotional, or behavioral challenges).