

Montessori in Kamloops



Public Montessori has been an educational choice for families in School District #73 since September 2001, when a classroom opened for children in grades 1 to 3.

This successful program is now expanding, and in September 2005 public Montessori will also be offered to intermediate students in grades 4 to 6. The Montessori classrooms are located at Aberdeen Elementary, 2191 Van Horne Drive.

The Kamloops Public Montessori program adheres to all requirements of the BC Ministry of Education. Students are integrated within Aberdeen Elementary and are able to take advantage of all school and School District #73 programs. Students are eligible for entry at all levels, from Grade One through Grade Six. Parents are responsible for providing transportation for their children.

Aberdeen Elementary is recognized for:

- its highly respected music and band program
- a strong and involved PAC
- inclusive and dynamic staff dedicated to the growth and development of all students
- participation in the Virtues Project -a holistic approach to character education for families of all cultures

Also located at Aberdeen Elementary is a privately run Montessori pre-school/Kindergarten classroom and an after-school program.



Why Montessori?

The aim of Montessori education is to foster competent, responsible, adaptive citizens who are lifelong learners and problem solvers. Montessori education provides children with skills for today's society. They learn to:

- think critically
- solve problems, and
- work collaboratively

The blend of social and academic learning promotes respect, confidence and self-motivation in children.



Kamloops Public Montessori at Aberdeen Elementary

“Education for life”



Registration & General
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A School District #73 Program



What is Montessori?

Montessori is a method of teaching developed by Dr. Maria Montessori over 100 years ago. Dr. Montessori (1870-1952) was a physician, anthropologist & educator who created a universal form of education based on children's developmental stages. Dr. Montessori was nominated three times for the Nobel Peace Prize for Education.

Montessori education has proven to be successful for children of all ages, skills and backgrounds.

The Philosophy

Montessori is founded on:

- **respect** for oneself, others and their environment
- **peacefulness, empathy, kindness and truthfulness**
- **environmental stewardship** based on a sense of individual responsibility
- the pursuit of **independence** and **self-mastery**
- the **love of work** and a **passion for excellence**



“The child brings us great hope and a new vision. There is much we teachers can do to bring humanity to a deeper understanding, to a higher well-being, and to a greater spirituality.”

-Maria Montessori

“Montessori fosters creativity, independence of thought and action, a positive self image, joy and a spirit of service to others and the environment”.

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Montessori Families

Kamloops Public Montessori is a district-wide program open to all students in School District #73. Students attending the program come from neighborhoods throughout our community, including North Kamloops, Valleyview, Sahali, Downtown, Paul Lake, Cherry Creek, Barnhartvale, Rayleigh, Westsyde and Aberdeen.

Montessori families and teachers have unique reasons for making Montessori their choice in education. We invite you to meet our Montessori family and to hear their thoughts about the program...



"We chose Montessori as a result of Aaron's thirst for learning... We were so pleased with his being able to cultivate his own desire to learn, that when it came time to place Lindsay into school, we looked no further than Montessori." Wendy and Greg (parents)



"My favorite part about going to Montessori is practicing random numbers and buddy reading." - Annika (6)

"I appreciate the mutual respect that the teachers have with the children... they learn at their own pace and are encouraged to challenge themselves each day. I am most grateful to have found an education program that not only educates my children in an extraordinary way, but also instills the same morals and values in my children that they follow at home—the Montessori program has become an extension of our family." Rhonda (parent)



"I love teaching Montessori because it allows me the freedom to pursue children's interests. It is truly a blessing to have the opportunity to witness children's growth and development within an environment that stimulates their love to learn." - Mrs. "A" (teacher)

I did have concerns about my son having had no previous exposure to the Montessori method.. My concerns were quickly abated when my son's teacher, classmates and the entire Montessori philosophy embraced his arrival. He is thriving personally and academically in his new classroom environment.! - Andrea (parent)

Having been in the teaching profession for just over ten years... some of my most rewarding experiences have been shared with children in the Montessori classroom. I thoroughly enjoy guiding the children towards independence and self-motivation through the implementation of the Montessori philosophy. - Ms. "C" (teacher)

The Classroom

The Montessori classroom, also known as "the prepared environment," is child-centered. Classrooms and materials are designed for 3-year age groupings, a structure that enhances academic learning opportunities for younger children while developing the leadership skills of older children.



Preschool/kindergarten, grade 1-3, and grade 4-6 classes provide large group, small group and individual learning opportunities. Within this environment the child drives the pace of learning, choosing materials that excite and interest them.

The diversity of learning activities recognizes and allows for the unique interests and learning styles of each child.

"Education is a natural process carried out by the human individual, and is acquired not by listening to words, but by experiences in the environment". - Maria Montessori

The Tools

Montessori education is based on the premise that learning takes place through the senses. Students learn by manipulating materials and interacting with others. These meaningful experiences are precursors to the abstract understanding of ideas.



The Montessori classroom uses highly unique and varied learning materials, which engage and encourage the child's curiosity and desire to learn. The materials are sequenced from simple to complex with an unusual richness of didactic (hands-on) materials. Often self-directing and self-correcting, the materials teach organized problem solving and are enjoyable and rewarding to use.

The Montessori curriculum includes language, mathematics, science and culture. Subject matter from a variety of disciplines is integrated during lessons to illustrate the interrelationship of all things.

"The essential thing is for a topic to arouse such an interest that it engages the child's whole personality." - Maria Montessori

For more information about Montessori

The Michael Olaf Montessori Co: www.michaelolaf.net

American Montessori Society www.amsa.org

American Montessori International: www.montessori-ami.org

Bambini Montessori Materials: www.bambini.montessori.com