

Children's Circle Montessori School

Program Statement

Children's Circle Montessori School welcomes you to a genuine Montessori education for young children. As Co-Owners/Operators and family members, Hannah Ansara-Tucci (Education Director), Mariateresa Brancatella (Finance Director) and Daniela Purves (School Director), along with our dedicated child care providers and educators, we view children as competent, capable, curious and rich in potential.

Children's Circle Montessori School is consistent with the Ministry of Education's policy by operating a program that constitutes high quality child care, early years programming and pedagogy that supports children's learning and development.

Our mission to provide an environment rich in purpose and experience so as to inspire, motivate and empower children to reach their full learning potential is achievable through implementing the four foundations of early learning: belonging, well-being, engagement and expression.

Belonging refers to a sense of being connected to others, being valued and forming relationships.

Well-being addresses the importance of physical /mental health, self-care, sense of self and self-regulation.

Engagement occurs when children are involved, focused and able to explore their environment with natural curiosity and exuberance.

Expression or communication (to be heard, as well as to listen) may take many different forms. Through their bodies, words and use of materials.

Goal: To plan for and create positive learning environments and experiences in which each child's learning and development will be encouraged and supported.

Approach: The Montessori environment is designed to develop a foundation for creative learning and a sense of independence. The diversity of the Montessori materials, activities and experiences foster physical, intellectual, creative, social, and personal skills.

Goal: To support positive and responsive interactions among the children, parents, guardians, child care providers, educators and other staff members.

Approach: Child care providers and educators are aware of children's cues and respond appropriately and consistently. Comprehensive and respectful communication ensures positive relationships with all members of the school community.

Goals: To promote the health, safety and well-being of children.

Approach: Child care providers and educators implement the policies and procedures related to health, safety and well-being of children, meeting and/or exceeding the requirements of the Ministry of Education, Ministry of Environment, City of Brampton and Region of Peel.

Goal: To encourage the children to interact and communicate in a positive way and support their ability to self-regulate.

Approach: The Montessori classroom environment and the playground encourages social interaction for cooperative learning, peer teaching and emotional development. Children become aware of their feelings and the feelings of others.

Goal: To incorporate the Montessori Work Cycle, indoor/ outdoor play, as well as active play, rest and quiet time, into the day, and give consideration to the individual needs of the children receiving child care.

Approach: The Daily Schedule is designed to allow a sufficient amount of time to meet the physiological and development needs of the children.

Goal: To involve local community partners and allow partners to support children, their families, childcare providers and educators.

Approach: Cooperatively work with community partners who include, but not limited to, Ministry of Education, Region of Peel, Peel Health, Peel Inclusion Resource Services, Child Development Resource Connection Peel, Speech Pathways, Brampton Caledon Community Living and ErinoakKids Centre for Treatment and Development.

Goal: To support child care providers, educators and other staff who interact with the children at school in relation to professional learning.

Approach: Professional education is offered to improve skills and knowledge to directly benefit children and peers.

Goal: To foster the children's exploration, play and inquiry.

Approach: Learning takes place when children explore their social and physical environment and choose Montessori curriculum and activities that interest them. Freedom of choice entails some responsibility while allowing a child's natural aptitudes to be satisfied.

Goal: To foster the engagement of and ongoing communication with the parents about the program and their children

Approach: Encourage members of the school community to speak freely, honestly and with respect regarding their needs and experiences to ensure they feel heard and valued.

Goal: To provide child-initiated and adult-supported experiences.

Approach: The Montessori environment gives children the opportunity to problem-solve, self-correct, see connections in knowledge and to create new ideas. The child care providers and educators are educated and trained in the Montessori philosophy and the methodology for the age level they are teaching and have the ability and dedication to put the key concepts into practice.

Goal: To document and review the impact of the strategies identified in this Program Statement.

Approach: Evaluate and address successes and areas of opportunity at least annually based on written documentation, collaboratively with parents, guardians, care child providers, educators and Owners/Operators.

Children's Circle Montessori School is:

- Accredited by The Canadian Council of Montessori Administrators and guided by the Montessori Method; www.ccma.ca
- A participating member of Raising the Bar in Peel; www.cdrcp.com/raising-the-bar-in-peel
- Licensed by The Ministry of Education's Child Care and Early Years Act, 2014 and guided by the professional resource, "How Does Learning Happen"; www.ontario.ca/laws/statute/14c11, www.edu.gov.on.ca/childcare/HowLearningHappens.pdf

The intention of this Program Statement is to strengthen the quality of Children's Circle Montessori School's program and experiences that lead to positive outcomes related to children's learning, development, health and well-being.