

4100 South 1st Street Cabot, AR 72023 (501) 605-7401 www.cabotmontessori.net

Supplementary Policies and Authorizations

Child's Name:				Date of Birth:		
	Last	First	M.I.			
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Signature:				Date:		

Nutrition Policies

- We are required by the Arkansas Department of Health and Human Services to offer a school lunch program and
 as such a school lunch can be provided, by request, for a fee of \$50 per month per child. It is strongly encouraged
 for students to bring lunch from home in a lunchbox. Preparing and cleaning up their own lunch is an important
 part of the Montessori Method. No students are currently participating in the school lunch program.
- Box lunches brought to school must consist of a balanced array of nutritious foods. Candy, soft drinks, and other high sugar foods will be removed from lunch boxes and sent home. If a food's first ingredient is high fructose corn syrup or another form of sugar, please **do not** send it to school.
- We are required by the Arkansas Department of Health and Human Services to verify that the children are bringing nutritionally sound lunches from home. If the lunch requires us to substitute food items to make it nutritionally sound, a fee of \$3.50 will be added to your next tuition invoice for each day requiring substitution.
- The school provides food and drink for a morning and an afternoon snack.
- Please notify us if your child's lunch requires storage in the freezer.
- Milk and water are provided as an option at lunch time. Eating utensils, napkins, and glasses are also available.
- Please let the school know as soon as possible if you would like to celebrate your child's birthday in class by providing a special treat (e.g., cupcakes, pizza lunch.)

Personal Belongings Policies

- Due to a wide range of activities at school, children should be dressed in comfortable, weather-appropriate, washable clothing.
- Any clothing that is not machine-washable or stain-resistant should be left at home. If it cannot get dirty, please leave it at home.
- Do not send in clothing that restricts movement, requires extra assistance to put on or take off (e.g., lace-up shoes, overalls, buckles, button-down shirts, belts, onesies), or shoes that make noise.
- Slip on or Velcro closure shoes are recommended because they are easy to put on and take off unassisted.
- Label ALL removable clothing items (e.g., jackets, coats, hats, gloves.)
- If an article of clothing becomes wet/soiled during the school day it will either be washed at school or sent home. If it is washed at school, and it is not currently labeled, your child's name will be written on the tag to ensure it is returned to you.
- You must provide an extra, weather-appropriate, set of clothes with each individual piece labeled, to be kept at school in the event your child's clothing becomes wet/soiled from play or a bathroom accident. The Early Primary class requires three (3) complete sets. If wet/soiled clothing is sent home, please return another set of clean (labeled) clothing the following day. If your child has no spare clothing available at school you will be called to bring some. We do not borrow clothes from other children. The spare clothing set should include:
 - Shirt
 - Pants/Shorts
 - Pair of Socks
 - Underwear
 - Shoes (One pair only for the Early Primary Class)
- A fitted crib sheet and seasonally appropriate small blanket (label both) will need to be provided for naptime/rest-time. It is not necessary to take the sheet or blanket home as they will be washed at school weekly or more often as needed. The blanket must be something your child can carry and manage on their own as getting out and putting away their own blankets is part of the curriculum.
- Diapers (no Pull-ups), wipes, and diaper cream will need to be provided for children in the Early Primary class.
- If your child requires the use of a security object (e.g., pacifier, bottle, blanket), please wean them from such
 devices before they begin school. If your child is already attached to a **small** soft object (e.g., blanket, lovey, silky,
 plush animal) they will be allowed to have the object for naptime only (please label with your child's name.) We do
 not permit the children to carry such items during the school day as they are a distraction from the learning
 environment.
- Please do not allow your child to bring other personal belongings (e.g., toys, candy/gum, electronic devices.) Items of interest to the entire class (e.g., flowers, seeds, empty nests, books, rocks, shells) are always welcomed.

Discipline Policies

- Montessori discipline is an inner discipline in which the child develops control over their own behavior, through interest in the Montessori materials, positive social integration, and through the freedom-within-limits environment.
- Some children are more successful in an environment with a more direct instructional method of teaching.
 Parents of children who experience impulsive or aggressive behavior, may be advised to seek a school that specializes in direct instruction.
- If the ground rules are consistently followed and positively reinforced, the necessity of external discipline will be diminished. When such external discipline is deemed necessary, the following guidelines will be observed:
 - Rules are stated on the child's first day of school. Daily reminders are given, if necessary, to the group as a whole.
 - o Inappropriate behavior is stopped by the teacher or assistant.
 - o If the child appears to be "in control," an alternative work/activity is offered.
 - o If the child is not able to regain control, they are isolated from work/classroom activities at the edge of the room in a separate chair, for a short time, (1 minute per age of child), to re-think their behavior. The child is then asked if they are ready to return to the class. Problem solving skills are reinforced and alternative behavior choices are developed/suggested.
 - Continued misbehavior will result in isolation from the group with adult supervision. For example they will be required to sit in the office with a book. Parent will be called to discuss the child's behavior if it reaches this discipline level.
 - o If isolation is ineffective a parent will be called to take the child home immediately. A conference will follow. If the inappropriate, unwanted, behavior persists, suggestions will be made that an alternative school may better meet the needs of the child in question.
- Biting is considered quite a natural reaction in some smaller children. It has derived from the fact that when children are developing their verbal skills, sometimes they cannot speak quick enough to express their frustration and use the first thing they think of to "talk." On the other hand, we must keep all of the children at our school safe and secure. Therefore, just like falls and minor mishaps cannot always be prevented, neither can all bites. Injury reports will be completed on all bites that leave a mark. The parents of the children involved are informed of the incident. When older children bite intentionally, however, the above disciplinary guidelines are followed. Parents who have further questions about biting are invited to discuss the matter with the Director.