

Frequently Asked Questions

To begin the application process, please visit our website at www.themontessorischools.org

Flatiron
5 West 22nd Street
New York NY 10010

SoHo
75 Sullivan Street
New York NY 10012



Discover Our Programs

At The Montessori Schools, each program is thoughtfully designed to meet children where they are — supporting their growth, independence, and joy of learning at every stage.

Toddler Half Day Program

- Flatiron Campus: Children must be 2 years old by December 31, 2027
- SoHo Campus: Children must be 18 months old by September 2027 or January 2028

Our Toddler Half Day Program offers a gentle start to school life, running five days a week from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Children arrive and change into their indoor shoes before beginning their Montessori lessons, including art expression, introduction to musical instruments and ample opportunities for movement. They enjoy a healthy mid-morning snack, followed by music and indoor or outdoor playtime. Dismissal is before lunch, making this a wonderful introduction to the routines and rhythms of school.

Please note: Enrollment for the Half Day program is limited.

Toddler Full Day Program

- Flatiron Campus: Children must be 2 years old by December 31, 2027
- SoHo Campus: Children must be 18 months old by September 2027 or January 2028

Our Toddler Full Day Program provides a full, enriching day from 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., five days a week.

Mornings are filled with Montessori lessons including art expression, introduction to musical instruments and ample opportunities for movement. A nutritious snack is provided as well as indoor or outdoor play. After lunch, children nap and then continue to build friendships, social skills, and independence during the afternoon session. This longer day offers a beautiful balance of learning, play, rest, and connection.

Primary Full Day Program (Ages 3–6)

Our Primary Full Day Program welcomes children five days a week from 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., nurturing them through their foundational years.

Children begin their day with a focused Montessori work period, refuel with a healthy snack, and participate in music and outdoor or indoor playtime before lunch. Younger children enjoy a restful nap after lunch, while older children extend their learning with Montessori lessons and Spanish language enrichment. After napping, younger children also join in afternoon Spanish activities.

Families also have the opportunity to express interest in our Primary Spanish Bilingual Class at both our SoHo and Flatiron campuses. This unique program offers children the gift of learning in both English and Spanish, with a special focus on oral language development. Placement in the bilingual class is determined through a lottery, and final class lists are created with careful consideration of age and gender balance.

Phase-In Period for New Students

To help ensure a smooth and comfortable transition to school, we offer a thoughtful phase-in process for all new students.

Before the start of the school year, our Teachers and Associate Teachers schedule a home visit to meet your child in a familiar setting. Following the home visit, children and parents are invited to visit the classroom together, helping children begin to acclimate to their new environment.

After the classroom visit, new students attend school for abbreviated periods of time, gradually working up to their full-day schedule. In the early days, parents drop off at the classroom door and remain nearby in case a child needs a shorter day. Most children adapt quickly, and their schedule is extended at a pace that best supports their individual comfort and readiness.

Classroom Sizes

Our Toddler classrooms have a maximum of 12 students with two teachers, ensuring a warm and nurturing environment with individualized attention.

Our Primary classrooms accommodate between 15 and 22 students, also led by two teachers, fostering a vibrant community where children learn from both adults and peers.



Napping at School

We understand how important rest is for young children, and we thoughtfully support each child's individual needs.

All full-day Toddler students enjoy a nap each afternoon, typically from 12:15 p.m. to 2:15 p.m., giving them time to recharge and reset for the rest of their day.

In our Primary program, we offer a flexible approach. Children who still benefit from a nap have a peaceful rest period from about 12:45 p.m. to 2:15 p.m. Children who are ready to stay awake during this time engage in quiet, purposeful activities to continue their afternoon learning in a calm environment.

Toilet Training Requirements

We meet children where they are and support their growing independence with care and encouragement.

For our Toddler program, children do not need to be toilet trained to attend. Our teachers gently promote toileting independence and self-care throughout the year, following each child's individual readiness and comfort level.

In our Primary program, we encourage children to be toilet trained or very close to it by the start of the school year. We understand every child's journey is different, and our teachers partner with families to help ease this transition as needed.

Lunch at School

Parents have the option to enroll in our lunch program through our catering partner, Little Green Gourmets, which delivers warm and healthy meals to the school each day.

Alternatively, families may choose to send a nut-free lunch from home for their child.

What is Early Decision?

Our Early Decision program is designed for families who know that The Montessori Schools (Flatiron or SoHo) are their clear first choice.

There will be three rounds of Early Decision acceptance notifications:

- First Round: October 21, 2026
- Second Round: November 11, 2026
- Third Round: December 9, 2026

Families who choose Early Decision must submit their enrollment deposits at the time of acceptance to secure their child's spot.

If you prefer not to participate in Early Decision, you may apply through our regular admissions process, with the acceptance notification released on February 24, 2027.

Please note: Applicants applying for financial aid are not eligible to participate in the Early Decision program.

Early Decision and Regular Decision Application Deadlines

Families applying for Early Decision are encouraged to submit their applications by the following dates:

- October Early Decision: Submit by September 30, 2026
- November Early Decision: Submit by October 14, 2026
- December Early Decision: Submit by November 18, 2026

Applications for Regular Decision are due by January 20, 2027.

Are Recommendations Required?

Yes. If your child is currently attending a full-time preschool program, we ask that you provide a signed copy of our Teacher/Mentor Evaluation form to your child's current teacher or mentor to complete and return.

Please keep in mind that enrichment classes and social groups (like music or art classes) are not considered full-time preschool programs for this requirement.


CITY
The Family Book
Subway
In the Tall, Tall Grass

Philosophy on Move Ups

At The Montessori Schools, we believe that every child's growth unfolds at their own natural pace.

As children approach their third birthday and prepare to transition out of the Toddler Program, we thoughtfully assess their individual readiness for the Primary Program. This process is a true collaboration between your child's current Toddler Teachers, future Primary Teachers, and the Assistant Head of School-Education.

By focusing on each child's developmental needs rather than a set schedule, we ensure that their transition happens at the right time — setting them up for continued success, confidence, and joy in their learning journey.

Age Cut-Off Policy

At The Montessori Schools, we do not have a strict age cut-off for admission applications. Thanks to the flexibility of the Montessori curriculum and our developmentally driven approach, we are able to accommodate children throughout the year.

- At The Montessori at Flatiron, children who turn 2 years old by December 31, 2027 are eligible for admission.
- At The Montessori in SoHo, children who are 18 months old by September 2027 (or January 2028) are eligible for admission.

If your child turns 2 years old (Flatiron) or 18 months old (SoHo) after these dates, you are still welcome to apply. Your child may be admitted as a late-start student and can begin once they reach the appropriate age — even later in the academic year, such as in January.

We intentionally create classrooms with a full range of ages to best support the Montessori curriculum and the development of every child. Thanks to the fluid and individualized Montessori approach, late-start students transition smoothly into the classroom community without disruption.

What Happens When My Child Is Accepted?

When a family receives an acceptance notification, an enrollment agreement and a $10,000 tuition deposit are due within several days of the acceptance notice.

Please note: We are unable to hold a seat for your child if the signed agreement and deposit are not received by the stated deadline.

Application Process for International Students

The admissions process for international applicants follows the same steps as for all other students, with one adjustment:

Instead of an in-person initial interview, international applicants will participate in a Zoom interview.

Acceptances are conditional until the family completes their move to the United States and participates in a required in-person follow-up interview.

At What Age Are Other Languages Introduced?

Children begin exploring Spanish in our Primary Program (ages 3–6), where it is seamlessly woven into the Montessori classroom environment.

Each day, children enjoy 30 minutes of Spanish language and cultural experiences led by our full time employed Spanish teachers, with an emphasis on conversation and cultural understanding.

Families also have the opportunity to express interest in our Spanish Bilingual Primary Class at both our SoHo and Flatiron campuses, where learning takes place in both English and Spanish to build strong oral language skills. Placement in the bilingual class is determined through a lottery, and final class lists are created with careful consideration of age and gender balance.


EXIT
Primary 2



Growing Forward: Your Child's Path After Montessori

We are committed to guiding families thoughtfully and personally through the next step in their educational journey.

Our Head of School partners closely with each exmitting family, offering multiple one-on-one meetings to explore the best school options and walk through every step of the exmissions process.

Throughout the year, the Head of School also stays in close contact with Admissions Directors at ongoing schools to support and advocate for our students.

To help families navigate a range of options, we also host evening informational seminars on the admissions processes for New York City's public schools, public charter schools, and Gifted and Talented programs.

We are proud to share the list of schools where our students have continued their educational journeys — please see our Matriculation List for more details.

For Additional Questions

If you have any further questions, please contact **Alexandra Shworak,** Assistant Director of Admissions, at alexandras@themontessori.org. We look forward to meeting you and welcoming your family to The Montessori Schools!

To fill out or inquiry form and/or to register for an open house:

Scan here for our Flatiron Campus:

Scan here for our SoHo Campus:

Ongoing Independent Schools

Academy of St. Joseph
The Allen Stevenson School
Atlanta International School
Avenues The World School
Bank Street School for Children
Basis Independent (Manhattan)
The Berkeley Carroll School
The Brearley School
The Browning School
Brunswick School, CT
Buckley Country Day School
The Caedmon School
The Calhoun School
The Chapin School
City & Country School
Collegiate School
Columbia Grammar & Preparatory School
Convent of the Sacred Heart
Corlears School
The Dalton School
Dwight School
Dwight-Englewood School
The École
The Epiphany School
Ethical Culture Fieldston School
Far Brook School, NJ
Far Hill Country Day School, NJ
Friends Seminary
The Geneva School of Manhattan
Grace Church School
Green Farms Academy, CT
The Harker School, CA
The Hewitt School
Hillbrook School, CA
Horace Mann School
Immaculate Conception School
International School of Brooklyn
La Scuola D'Italia New York
Léman Manhattan Preparatory School
Little Red School House (LREI)
Lycée Français de New York
Maryel School of New York
Marymount School of New York
Montclair Kimberley Academy, NJ
The Nightingale-Bamford School
The Packer Collegiate Institute
Pine Street School
Polis World School
Poly Prep Country Day School
Riverdale Country School
Rodeph Sholom School
The Rumson Country Day School, NJ
Sacred Heart Greenwich, CT
SAR Academy
The Spence School
Speyer Legacy School
Saint Ann's School
St. Bernard's School
St. David's School
St. Luke's School
The Town School
Trevor Day School
Trinity School
United Nations International School
Village Community School




The MONTESSORI Schools
FLATIRON | SOHO