# Inspire the JOY of learning through Montessori!

#### What is Montessori?

Montessori education places emphasis on whole-child development, and provides a carefully planned, stimulating environment that helps children develop an excellent foundation for learning and leadership. In traditional Montessori environments, teaching methods and materials demonstrate the philosophical commitment to support students and prepare them for real life.

#### What makes Montessori so special?

Montessori offers educators the chance to consciously do things differently. The methodology is held up as an example of innovative education – even though it was developed more than a century ago.

- Montessori looks at the whole child his or her social, emotional, physical and cognitive development.
- It's the most widely used education methodology Montessori can be found on every continent and in almost all countries.
- Levels of Montessori education in Canada are:
  - Infant/Toddler (o-3 years old)
  - Early Childhood/ "Casa" (2 1/2 to 6 years old)
  - Elementary (Grades 1-6)
  - Middle school & High school (Grades 7-12)
- Montessori features multi-age classrooms, allowing children to learn at their own pace; younger students learn from their peers and older students take on leadership roles.
- Montessori offers smaller class sizes and higher teacher-to-student ratios, while encouraging independence.
- Learning is self-directed based on the child's interests and needs.
- The teacher guides the child based on observation.

Montessori education is gaining ground in North America; it is increasingly being publically funded by governments and incorporated in public schools.

#### Why should I consider becoming a Montessori teacher?

Montessori has a totally different approach to teaching—the teacher is not centre-stage, lecturing. Rather, she is an observer and guide; the focus is not her knowledge but the child's interests.

The Montessori teaching journey is not an end, but just the beginning. It offers teachers the opportunity to evolve as educators and be shaped every day by your students.

### What kind of training is required?

Teacher training generally requires an undergraduate degree, and is usually one year post-graduate work for each level of training. It's important for teacher training to be recognized by either **AMI**, Association Montessori Internationale, or **MACTE**, Montessori Accreditation Council of Teacher Education.

Many teacher training centres are overseen by AMI; some MACTE centres in the U.S. have a Master's Degree program.

## TRAINING CENTRES WITHIN 2 HOURS OF LONDON

#### **MACTE** training centres

Montessori Teachers College Toronto/Oakville – www.montessoriteacherscollege.com
Infant/Toddler, Early Childhood, Elementary

Toronto Montessori Institute (TMI) - www.tmi.edu

Infant/Toddler, Early Childhood, Elementary

Michigan Montessori Teacher Education Centre – www.MMTEC.org (MACTE-AMS)

Early Childhood; Elementary

#### **AMI training centres**

Foundation of Montessori Education Toronto – www.ami.edu/fme Early childhood

Online: The Center for Guided Montessori Training
www.guidedstudies.com

1+ year online & 2 weeks onsite training

Interested in seeing a Montessori classroom in action? Contact us for a tour!

MONTESSORI ACADEMY OF LONDON

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