

GUIDELINES FOR OBSERVATION

Welcome to the Montessori Academy! We ask that you read and absorb the following guidelines before observing a classroom. In that way, your visit will be a positive experience for you.

PURPOSE

Your visit will enable you to gain a picture of the dynamic process of a Montessori education. This observation will help you gain a full picture of the class room operation

PROCEDURE

As you enter, please do so quietly and do not encourage interaction with the children. If a child approaches you, respond directly to his inquiry and ask the child to return to his work so you may continue your work – that of observing.

Observers should try to get an overview of the classroom by scanning all areas then begin observing individual work. Look at children of different ages and notice their levels of concentration and the type of work they are doing.

Notice how children interact with each other. Some prefer to work alone while others work in small groups. Children are free to move from one area to another, but need to take responsibility for completing the work they choose.

Observe the adults. If you are inside a classroom, note the language they use with the children. The teacher will probably not be able to answer your questions during class time, but please use the back of this paper to take notes. After your classroom visit, you will have an opportunity to ask any questions you may have when you return to the office.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR COURTESY