

FAIRVIEW MONTESSORI SCHOOL TUITION CONTRACT

This agreement is between Fairview Montessori School ("FMS") and _____, the parent(s)/guardian(s) ("PARENT") financially responsible for the following child ("STUDENT") _____.

I. Enrollment is for the entire school year or portion thereof remaining and is payable in equal installments, the first of which is due upon enrollment and with submission of this contract. There are no refunds or reductions in tuition for absences due to illness, quarantine, vacation, or for any closures up to 10 consecutive school days due to public health order or to prevent the spread of illness in instances of an outbreak or that are deemed necessary to maintain a healthy and safe environment for the children.

- A. If PARENT decides to withdraw at any time after submitting this contract, the first tuition payment is forfeited.
- B. Payment is due on or before the 1st of each month even if PARENT does not receive an invoice.
- C. Accounts not paid by month's end will result in the STUDENT'S suspension until the account is current.
- D. Other fees:
 - 1. Payments not received by the 3rd (or the 2nd if the 3rd is a Sunday or holiday) incur a \$25 LATE FEE.
 - 2. PARENT will be charged \$15-20 for returned checks to cover bank fees assessed against FMS.
 - 3. Event fees, if any, will be brought to PARENT'S attention prior to the event and usually are <\$15.
 - 4. A semester snack fee will be charged once in the fall and once in the spring.

II. PARENT must return all enrollment forms before STUDENT can attend. Forms must be updated yearly.

- A. STUDENT must be fully immunized unless medically exempt. Flu vaccine required yearly by Nov. 15.
- B. Failure to provide proof of vaccinations or an annual health assessment may result in exclusion.
- C. STUDENT files will be kept 3 yrs. and are confidential unless disclosure is required and permitted by law.

III. FMS is peanut and tree-nut free. Notice of STUDENT'S food allergies and diet restrictions must be in writing.

IV. PARENT acknowledges that the Montessori environment differs from a traditional preschool classroom and that Montessori caters to children during a three-year developmental period.

- A. Montessori incorporates the use of materials that pose choking and laceration hazards (glass containers, ceramics, small beads, etc.) to children under age 5 years and agrees that risks inherent to the Montessori curriculum are outweighed by the benefits of the experiential education that Montessori provides. FMS agrees that a credentialed Montessori guide will be responsible for instructing both the children and the assistants in the use and care of such materials. A child who consistently mouths objects in the classroom or is otherwise developmentally too young to successfully navigate the Montessori environment may be asked to postpone enrollment for a month or more.
- B. Best practice in a Montessori classroom includes a class/group size that may be larger than that in a traditional classroom. Fairview Montessori has received from the Colorado Department of Early Childhood a waiver to the rule limiting group sizes to 20 in a mixed-age environment. Rationale: Montessori "is a dynamic learning environment with multiple activities occurring simultaneously. Because the entire classroom is designed to optimize children's independence, adults are not needed to manage every situation or 'control' a group of children. The classroom materials themselves allow children to repeat, and master concepts and explore information. In addition, children learn with and from each other and are not solely reliant on the teacher. Larger class sizes are by design, to give children greater agency over their own learning." *~Montessori Public Policy Initiative*
- C. PARENT understands that a Montessori primary education continues through the kindergarten, or leadership year. By attending this culminating year of the three-year Montessori educational cycle, my child will benefit from the full scope and sequence of the curriculum and will contribute to the mixed-age environment that is critical to the integrity of an authentic Montessori classroom.

V. PARENT agrees that email is the primary and official means of communication used by FMS and that directory-type information will be distributed to FMS families and to the lead teachers. FMS will not release or sell email addresses to solicitors or 3rd parties.

VI. PARENT may terminate this CONTRACT by providing 30 days written notice of withdrawal. Tuition already paid is not refundable. STUDENT may attend class during the month following notice of withdrawal if the month's dues are paid in full. Failure to provide timely notice obligates PARENT to pay 100% of the following month's tuition.

VII. FMS may use my child's image and likeness for promotional purposes and may share images of my child and/or my child's work with other enrolled parents and in the class newsletter provided my child remains anonymous. FMS does not make use of social media nor does FMS give permission to parents to post images of students shared by us to their personal social media accounts.

VIII. FMS may terminate this CONTRACT and release PARENT from future tuition responsibility if it determines, in its sole discretion, that:

- A. STUDENT is unable to thrive in the environment or requires more attention than staff can provide.
- B. FMS is unable to meet the STUDENT'S needs or PARENT has misled the school as to the STUDENT'S readiness.
- C. STUDENT or PARENT conduct is not compatible with the school's mission or the welfare of other students.

IX. PARENT agrees to read the Parent Handbook, which is available online, and to comply with school policies and procedures and any changes that may occur from time to time. This contract shall remain in force for the entire time my child is enrolled at Fairview Montessori.

Signature: _____ Date: _____