



Little Angels Montessori School, Inc.

PARENT HANDBOOK – Toddler Class 18+ months

*"Our Care for the child
should be governed, not
by the desire to make
him learn things, but by
the endeavor to always
keep burning within him
that light which is called
Intelligence."*

Maria Montessori M.D.

Little Angels Montessori School, Inc.

1908 W Parkside Ln, Phoenix, AZ 85027

623-594-0888

<http://www.lamsaz.com>

E-mail: littleangelsmontessorischool@gmail.com



Little Angels Montessori School, Inc.

Dear Parents,

Please take time to read this handbook thoroughly, and keep it in a handy place for frequent reference. All parents are expected to be familiar with the school policies and to abide by them. Please sign the last page of the handbook and return it to the office for our records.

Sincerely,

Kiran Malhi
Director

Responsibilities of the School:

- To provide an environment that is clean, safe and attractive.
- To maintain the standards and licensing required by state, county and city agencies.
- To provide a program that is stimulating, developmentally appropriate and the best possible.
- To provide teachers who are exceptional in their capacities for guiding and caring.
- To remain committed to professional growth and openness to new ideas.

Responsibilities of the Parents:

- To bring and pick up the child **on time**.
- To fulfill financial and legal obligations to the school promptly.
- To support both school and child:
 - by attending parent meetings and conferences,
 - by keeping informed on goals and policies of the school,
 - by volunteering time, effort and talent as possible.

Responsibilities of the Children:

- To construct the adults they will become.



Little Angels Montessori School, Inc.

Enrollment Procedure

The parents and child visit the school for an interview with the administrator, by appointment. At this time, they also observe a classroom in session. The child is observed by the teacher and/or administrator while in the classroom and the outdoor environment. During this time the program is explained to the parents and questions asked and answered regarding policies, schedules, fees, staff qualifications, discipline, etc.

Please follow the enrollment steps on [our website](#).

Disenrollment Procedure

Disenrollment is at the sole and absolute discretion of the Director. As a private school we reserve the right to disenroll a student under any of the following, but not limited to, circumstances. This is in keeping with one of our goals of doing what is best for all children. We will keep the parent informed to ensure the best communication.

- A child's behavior consistently prevents the other children from learning
- A child hits a teacher
- A child deliberately harms another student
- Tuition payments are not being fulfilled. Our philosophy is if you entrust us with your child, then you should respect us by paying on time.
- A family does not follow the guidelines set forth in the parent-handbook (this would have to occur several times to reach this point)

Admission Requirements

The child should be at least 18 months old to start in the Toddler Program. The Little Angels Montessori School strongly endorses a three-year program to provide maximum advantage of the Montessori method, including the Kindergarten year. **A two-year program is the minimum recommended enrollment**, unless of course the child has had previous Montessori experience.

If no spaces are available in the school, the child may be placed on a waiting list after submitting a completed enrollment form, having an interview with the administrator as in the Enrollment Procedure and paying the registration fee. **No** fees are refundable. No guarantees are made for desired placement, which is dependent upon space as available. Children may be enrolled at any time during the school year.



Little Angels Montessori School, Inc.

School Hours & Fee Schedule

The school hours & fee are:

Half Day*: Please refer information on our [website](#).

Full Day*: Please refer information on our [website](#).

Extended Care: 7 Please refer information on our [website](#).

*** : \$15/hour for any extensions up to 5:00pm and \$1/min after 5:00pm(will be billed monthly).**

Arrival and Dismissal Procedure

Please park your car in the parking spaces, so as not to impede traffic flow. Make sure to hold the child's hand in the parking lot for the safety of the child.

You must sign your child in and out daily using your full Name and time of drop off and pick up. This is a legal requirement.

A staff member will assist your child in to the classroom.

Never just drop a child off without contact with the staff.

We cannot release a child to an unauthorized person.

Always inform a staff member when picking up your child.

We appreciate your efforts in all of this.

Emergencies

The Administrator, Ms. Kiran Malhi will be notified of all emergencies. In her absence Ms. Casandra Novello will handle emergencies. 911 will be notified if the school cannot handle the emergency situation.

The Administrator is reachable after hours via school email. Absences and routine matters should be called in to the office.

Insurance

The School carries Liability Insurance as required by licensing authorities and is available for review on the premises upon request.



Little Angels Montessori School, Inc.

SCHOOL POLICIES

Please read the school policies below carefully, we ask for your cooperation in following them at all times.

Toilet Training Procedure

For Toddler students who are not yet toilet trained, **diapers and wipes need to be provided to the school on a monthly basis**. These items are **NOT** provided by the school. When your child's inventory is low, you will receive a reminder notice.

We are happy to offer our support in the toilet training process. We recognize that children are capable of amazing things at much younger ages than they get credit for. And toileting is one of them! We offer a loving, natural environment for a child to learn to use the toilet all by themselves. Your child will have multiple role models as there are many others who are using the toilet with success each day. Once a child acclimates to their environment, we recommend sending them to school in underwear. Bring in several pairs and we'll consistently encourage and remind the child to use the toilet throughout the day. You'll be pleasantly surprised to find your child excitedly indicating when they need to use the toilet and learning how to pull down and up their pants. We want as much success and joy for your child in this development so we'll work closely with you throughout the process. Before you know it your child will be using the toilet comfortably and will have such pride and joy in their accomplishment! For your information, we use the following terms when speaking to your child about this process: pee, poop, toilet, and bottom. Please be sure to follow suit so there isn't any confusion.

Sign-In/Sign-Out Procedures

Each child must be signed in and out each day with the time of arrival and departure noted. ***Please make sure not to be late for the school as it disrupts the classroom work cycle.*** There is an iPad kept in the office for signing in and out. This is a state law and must be followed on a daily basis. This also helps us to keep an accurate attendance record.

Release of Children

We must know to whom your child may be released. We require a written note if, your



Little Angels Montessori School, Inc.

child will be picked up by someone other than the parent or guardian. In case of emergency, phone authorization for release of your child will be accepted. **Please call as soon as possible** to let us know when someone else will be picking up your child or if you are unavoidably delayed and will be late.

Absences

Please call us by 9:00 a.m. if your child will not be attending that day. We are required to report any serious illnesses to the State Health Agency and to keep accurate records of all children who are absent along with the reason for the absences.

Sick Children

Certainly, you would not want your child to have close contact with a child who is not well. We understand that keeping a child home with a mild case of "sniffles" is unrealistic; however, we have an obligation to all parents to ensure a healthy atmosphere for all children. The following is a list of signs of illness, which would prevent your child from being allowed to attend school (or which would lead us to call you to pick up your child from school):

1. A fever of 100 degrees F or more.
2. An obvious infection for which the child has not been on an antibiotic for at least 24 hours.
3. Child complaining of severe headaches or vomiting
4. Diarrhea.

Certificate of Health and Immunization

There is no requirement for a certificate of health before a child may register. However, after a child has had a communicable disease, such as chicken pox, impetigo or hepatitis, a letter from your pediatrician stating that the child is fully recovered is required.

Immunization dates must be presented at the time of admission. Periodically, all records are reviewed, and state law requires that your child be "up-to-date" on all immunizations. Please let us know when your child receives additional immunizations by providing us with a copy of their record to be kept in their file.



Little Angels Montessori School, Inc.

Medicine

Little Angels Montessori School has the right to refuse to give any medication. State law prohibits schools from dispensing *any kind* of medication (including Tylenol and aspirin) unless all of the following rules have been observed:

1. Medication must be in the original container.
2. We must have a properly completed request form including the name of the child and medication, the dosage, and the hours the medication is to be given.
3. Non-prescription medication (including Tylenol and aspirin) may not be dispensed unless specifically ordered by the physician and submitted on a prescription form.
4. A medication log must be kept for each child receiving medication including the name of the child, the name of the medication, the dosage, the time the medication was given, and the signature of the staff member giving the medication (this log is kept as part of the request form).
5. All medications are stored in a closed and locked container in the refrigerator.

Should your child need medicine, please follow these guidelines and inform our staff of the needs. Medication Consent Forms are available in the office. Please do not ask us to dispense any medication except in accordance with the above regulations. Thank you!

Health Habits and Safety

Good health habits, such as hand washing, brushing teeth, good luncheon manners, and toilet habits are taught and strongly encouraged by all staff member. Cleanliness is an important aspect of our daily routine.

Our building is equipped with smoke detectors, fire alarms, and fire extinguishers. Fire drills are held regularly. Emergency lighting is provided in case of power failure. The water heater is kept at or below 100 degrees F to prevent any accidental scalding of hands.

Safety rules are enforced. Our staff is certified in First Aid and CPR.

State Law



Little Angels Montessori School, Inc.

Our staff members are advocates for children. We must, by law, report child neglect/endangerment/abuse.

Accident Policy

If a child has a minor injury while in school, he/she will be treated with First aid. If a more serious injury occurs, 1st aid will also be given and the parent notified. A written incident report will be filed. Accidents of a very serious nature will be handled as a 911 Emergency call. Thereafter the parents will be notified immediately.

If a child needs to be transported to a hospital, he/she will be taken to the one the medical professionals decide upon.

HELPFUL HINTS FOR PARENTS

We believe in the Montessori approach to learning. Montessori is a separate discipline and represents the study of the formation of the individual from birth to maturity. It is only a method of education as far as education is part of the formative process. It is a unique complex of psychology, philosophy and educational theory.

The Montessori goal is to arouse the child's interest, to stimulate, and to provide a learning atmosphere. This is the "Prepared Environment" that invites a child to get involved and puts the mind in gear.

Listed below are some helpful hints, which will help your child be more comfortable in the school environment.

Food

We believe that children deserve good, wholesome, nutritious food. Many of our children are hyperactive; studies show that this condition is aggravated by the intake of foods involving high sugar content, artificial food coloring and preservatives. We recommend no candy, pop or any type of food using artificial sweeteners or preservatives. *Because chocolate causes special problems, the child will be asked to take it home to eat rather than eating it at school.*

Clothing

Simple clothing, which allows your child to be free and relaxed, should be worn to school. **Our program stresses independence and clothes that allow a child to dress and undress without help are of great benefit in this regard.**



Little Angels Montessori School, Inc.

We ask that all children bring an extra set of clothes including socks and underwear, all labeled with your child's name. In this way, if your child ever needs a change of clothing, it is available. If there are no extra clothes at school for your child, we will use clothes from a very limited supply owned by the school. Please wash these clothes and return them to the school the following day.

Please place name tags on *all* clothing, which might be removed, such as jackets, sweaters, caps, etc., to eliminate loss and confusion.

Shoes

We strongly recommend that soft-soled shoes be worn to enable the children to effectively participate in activities which will develop coordination. Hard leather-soled shoes and cowboy boots can be hazardous as well as defeat the purpose of these activities.

Classroom Enrichment

We encourage children to bring objects of educational value such as plants, flowers, nature and science objects, music and educational books (marked with your name) to school. It should be "understood" however, that these will have to be worked into the teacher's classroom plans and may not be able to be presented that day. Friday is usually set apart for "Show and Tell"

We ask you to cooperate, however, in seeing that toys, treasures, money, play jewelry, etc., be left at home. These items only cause trouble since the children cannot play with them during the school period and they are easily lost or damaged. *Gum and candy also fall in to this category.*

Parent Participation

Many parents have expressed a desire to participate as volunteers in the Montessori training of the children. This is welcomed and appreciated. Those willing to volunteer in the classroom should discuss this with the teacher. It is important that volunteers are consistent in the approach to discipline, philosophy and methods of instruction. If you sign up for a specific time, the schedule should be followed dependably. If you would like to speak to a class about your experiences in foreign countries, or teach a foreign language, music or art, please let us know. Parents can also speak to the classes about their occupations.



Little Angels Montessori School, Inc.

Birthdays and Special Holidays

Birthday celebrations at the Little Angels Montessori School are an excellent opportunity for parents and the child to recall and share highlights from the child's life. *School policy does not allow any food items such as cake or cupcakes.* As an alternative, parents may contribute to the Snack Menu or preferably, the school library, by donating a book inscribed with the event and the name of the child. We want birthday celebrations to highlight the child's life. Photographs (baby pictures, family pictures, etc.) together with a written biography of the child are appropriate and meaningful and convey to friends and teachers the child's very unique story.

Observations

We encourage parents to visit during the school term. We also welcome students, teachers and others interested in education to observe. Due to our limited space, an appointment is necessary. Should you be unable to keep your observation appointment, we would appreciate being notified so that someone may replace you. There is usually an opportunity for discussion with the administrator at the end of the session.

Before school begins and during class hours the teachers are very busy people. Please try not to hinder their work by asking questions about your child and his progress etc., before and during school hours. You are more than welcome to call after school hours, or make an appointment for a parent-teacher conference any time after school.

Conferences

We feel the Little Angels Montessori School will best serve the child if open communication is kept between staff and the parents. Conferences will be scheduled at your convenience to discuss your child's development. Any problems that develop at any time would be worked on at once. Therefore, should we note changes in your child we shall contact you, and hope that you will keep us informed of changes in your child. Although time during our classroom hours is limited for discussion of this type, a call to the school will be answered as quickly as possible by the staff.

Critique

The Little Angels Montessori School is established for the sole purpose of providing the very best care and education of young children, and to help parents achieve their highest goals in the education of their children and in their family life. It is our goal to follow the teachings of Maria Montessori to the best of our abilities. Parents are expected to become informed on these teachings through study and reading. A small



Little Angels Montessori School, Inc.

library is available for your use in the school office. Please feel free to consult these books and articles freely.

If you have any questions, disappointments or critique to offer the staff, we will be eager to listen to and discuss these ideas or needs with you. Please keep the lines of communication open with frankness and honesty, and we will reply with the same.

Your cooperation on the above will help your child adjust easily to the school environment and aid the staff in establishing friendly and easy rapport with each child.

DISCIPLINE POLICY

All discipline shall be of a positive nature, and have as the goal the safety of the child, the education of the child, the self-discipline and character development of the child, and the collective benefit of the classroom group and of the school.

Basic rules are explained to the children:

- Talk softly
- Walk slowly
- Do not disturb another's work
- Only touch your work
- Use a rug for floor work
- Walk around a rug
- Sit down to work
- Replace all materials as you found them
- Be polite always
- Care for your friends and school

At group time:

- Wait your turn to talk
- Listen to the speaker
- Watch the teacher

When a child first breaks the rules, it is assumed that the proper way to behave was not known. The teacher will demonstrate to the child how to behave and what to say in a particular situation.

When a child willfully disobeys, disrupts, injures or destroys, we immediately but gently remove that child to a place apart from the group, but within the same room. This enables the child to observe other children behaving in a positive way. The group



Little Angels Montessori School, Inc.

or activities may be joined again when the child feels ready to conform.

When a child repeatedly has problems with behavior, the parents are called to be informed and a conference is scheduled. Consistent methods of discipline are discussed. Parents are encouraged to always avoid spanking or abusive methods of discipline.

When no apparent progress is made with unacceptable behavior, professional counseling with a psychologist is recommended.

If all efforts fail to help the child and there is a negative influence in the classroom, parents are asked to remove the child from the school. Alternative placements may be suggested.

TRANSPORTATION

Little Angels Montessori School, Inc. does not provide transportation for its students.

Inspections

State Inspection Reports are available, upon request.

Regulations

Little Angels Montessori School, Inc. is regulated by the:

Arizona Department of Health Services,
Bureau of Child Care Licensing,
150 N 18th Ave # 410
Phoenix, AZ
602-364-2539

Student Withdrawal Policy

Two week advance notice is given to LAMS in writing and approved by the Director. Fees once paid for the month is non-refundable.

Pesticide Application



Little Angels Montessori School, Inc.

If, at any time pesticide is going to be applied, Parents will be notified in advance of the Pesticide application at School.

SNACKS AND LUNCHESES

We are a tree nut, peanut free school.

The Staff at the Little Angels Montessori School encourage and appreciate your participation in the snack program. Children help to prepare and serve a nutritious snack daily. Parent-made snacks provide a greater variety than would be possible if left entirely to the staff. You will be sent sign up genius every month to sign up for snack item(s) to be provided for the classroom.

Examples of foods provided in the morning and afternoon will consist of the following:

- Fresh fruit in season
- Fruit juices
- Raisins
- Cream cheese
- Whole wheat bread/Bagels/Flour tortillas
- Whole wheat crackers
- Graham crackers
- Fresh vegetables
- Cheese sticks

Plenty of cold water is always available. Generally, all cake, candy, cookies and sweets are avoided.

Lunch for Students

Each student will need to bring a lunch box or bag marked on the outside with the child's name. Lunches can be stored in the refrigerator and warmed up if needed. *Do not send either ring-top or flip-top cans such as soft drinks or pudding cans. These are dangerous for young children. Please don't send prepackaged Mac and Cheese that needs cooking at school.* In your child's best interest, we encourage you to send the most nutritious meals possible. Some suggestions and guidelines can be found on the following pages.



Little Angels Montessori School, Inc.

Rest for Full Day Students

During the day each child will have a rest or sleep time. Please provide 1 blanket or sheet and a travel-size pillow, all marked with your child's name, which will be sent home every Friday to be washed and brought back on Monday.

Guide to Packing Nutritious Lunches

The food that children eat affects their growth and development, learning and health. Therefore, nutritious and delicious ideas are offered here for use in packing the child's "Bag Lunch".

For good health, a variety of foods should be eaten each day. In "Bag Lunch Language" this means vary the type of sandwich, use different fruits and vegetables, be alert to new nutritious ideas. Lunches with variety are seasoned with surprise—they are fun for children to open and eat.

General Rules for Packing Nutritious Bag Lunches

1. Choose foods that are low in fat.
 - a. Choose lean meat, fish, poultry, dry beans and peas, low-fat cottage cheese, low-fat cheeses as protein foods.
 - b. Examples of high fat foods to avoid when packing lunches for young children include bologna, salami, excessive use of butter, margarine or mayonnaise, potato chips, taco chips.
2. Choose foods that are low in sugar, especially when packing lunches for young children:
 - a. Select fresh fruits or fruit canned in its own juice or water packed
 - b. Keep all sugars, to a minimum.
 - c. Read food labels for clues on sugar content- if the names sucrose, glucose, maltose, dextrose, lactose, fructose or syrups appear first, there is a large amount of sugar in the product
 - d. Examples of sugar-containing foods that children should eat only in small quantities: jams and jellies, sugar-sweetened cereals, flavored milk, ice cream, candy, cookies, soft drinks, fruit drinks, Kool-Aid, cakes, pies. No Go-Gurts please, they are too messy for children to handle.
3. Encourage fruit for dessert and do not send desserts that include: pudding,



Little Angels Montessori School, Inc.

cake, “Twinkie” types of items, pie, sugary fruit roll- ups, or carbonated beverages. A treat in the lunch could be raisins, sunflower seeds or fruit-sweetened yogurt.

4. Pack foods with adequate starch and fiber.
 - a. Children should eat fruit and vegetables, whole grain breads and cereals, beans, peas.
 - b. Substitute starches (like bread, fruits and vegetables) for fats and sugars.



Little Angels Montessori School, Inc.

A Tentative Daily Schedule

Schedule may change for field trips, guests or special occasions.

| Time | Activity |
|-------------------|---|
| 7:30 - 8:05 am | Preparing the environment, greeting students |
| 8:05 - 10:30 am | Work period: Individual & group lessons given. Work at indoor/outdoor environment. Snack provided |
| 10:30 - 10:45 am | Clean up, Lunch set up/ Circle time |
| 10:45 - 11:15 am | Lunch Time |
| 11:15 - 11:50 am | Playground |
| 11:50am - 12:30pm | Quiet Time and get ready for Nap |
| 12:30 - 2:30 pm | Nap |
| 2:30 - 3:00 pm | Group time |
| 3:00 - 3:15 pm | Afternoon dismissal |
| 3:15 - 5:00 pm | Extended Care – Children in classroom OR Attending Extra-curricular activities |



Little Angels Montessori School, Inc.

SUGGESTED OBSERVATION GUIDELINES

To Parents and Others visiting the Little Angels Montessori School:

So that you may better benefit from your visit, we have prepared the following guide for observations...

Please remain at your place and refrain from talking with teachers or children or other observers. If a child approaches you or talks to you, respond briefly but do not engage in any extended conversation or activity.

If you want to arrange for follow-up discussion with the teacher or administrator, please leave a message for her.

As you probably know, while you are in the classroom, your child may not behave as usual. We would, therefore, like you to first watch the group as a whole.

1. Notice how the children initiate activities.
2. Note the different lengths of time the children are involved in their work. Notice that different children have different abilities to concentrate and be absorbed in their work. Notice, too, how some children, even when distracted, return easily to their work.
3. Are some of the children working in small groups? Observe the level of interaction between and among children.
4. Notice the different types of activities in which the children are engaged
5. Notice how the teacher presents lessons. You will see that the individual reactions to the presentations are different. Generally, observe for individual differences of many kinds in the children relating to age, experience, motivation, and interest, etc.
6. Observe your child in relation to the above points.



Little Angels Montessori School, Inc.

IN HARMONY WITH LIFE

An Introduction to Montessori Education

Children enter the world as unformed beings. While born only with potentialities, they possess amazing powers that will allow them to complete the difficult work of their own construction- developing into fully formed, fulfilled and responsible individuals.

Unlike adults, they cannot accomplish this task in an immobile state but rather through purposeful movement, exploration and discovery. The adult's crucial role is to foster and protect this all-important endeavor.

Dr. Maria Montessori, the first woman to graduate from the University of Rome, College of Physicians and Surgeons, began her work with children as a physician. In later years, she became an educator and anthropologist. Studying children in all conditions throughout the world, she discovered universal principles underlying the development of all children.

Special Powers for Construction

Nature has given children special forms of mental powers, which aid in their self-construction.

The Absorbent Mind

The first of these powers is the Absorbent Mind. The Absorbent Mind is the ability to absorb all aspects of one's culture and civilization without effort or fatigue. This mental approach is indiscriminate, incorporating both good and bad, and disappears by the age of six.

The Sensitive Periods

Children also experience Sensitive Periods in their development. During these periods they seek certain stimuli with immense intensity, to the exclusion of all others. These are transitory periods in which they develop specific mental functions, such as movement, language, order, refinement of the senses and social awareness. They occur universally at approximately the same age in all children. If a child's need for specific stimuli is not met during the sensitive period, he loses this opportunity for optimal development.

The Human Tendencies



Little Angels Montessori School, Inc.

Dr. Montessori was able to identify distinct human tendencies, the same tendencies that have accounted for man's survival since his first appearance on earth: *Exploration, Orientation, Communication, Work Activity, Manipulation, Order, Exactness, Repetition, Abstraction, Self-Perfection*. She built an environment for children based upon these tendencies and allowed them to explore within it. The Montessori environment enables children to discover the world for themselves, much as the first humans on earth must have done.

The Planes of Development

The metamorphoses of children, from birth to adulthood, occur through a series of developmental periods. The focus of Montessori education continually changes in scope and manner to meet the child's changing needs and interest

The first plane of development occurs from birth to age six. Children are sensorial explorers, studying every aspect of their environment, their language and culture.

From age 6 to 12, children become reasoning explorers. They develop new powers of abstraction and imagination. They utilize and apply their knowledge to further discover and expand their world.

The years between 12 and 18 see children becoming humanistic explorers, seeking to understand their place in society and their opportunity to contribute to it.

From age 18 to 24, as young adults, they become specialized explorers, preparing to take command of their own lives.

The Montessori classroom prepares its student for each successive developmental plane, allowing them to take responsibility for their own education-making choices, changing and becoming unique human beings.

The Montessori Classroom

The student's building of their mental lives is an arduous, ceaseless and delicate labor, which no one can do for them.

In the classroom, the Montessori teacher prepares an environment, which allows the children to come in contact with the qualities, and facts of the world as presented through the Montessori materials. The teacher is the link between each child and this prepared environment. The role alternates between a direct and indirect one, as the teacher closely and continuously observes each child and watches for the next



Little Angels Montessori School, Inc.

manifestation.

When a class first begins, all the children need continual help in their relationships with one another and care of the environment. Gradually, in response to their new environment and the teacher's careful guidance, the children develop into a harmonious, independent community. The teacher becomes a participant/observer in a community of children.

This environment enhances the children's discipline, concentration, belief in themselves and belief in each other. They develop a sense of responsibility and an appreciation for the world and the things and people within it, achieving harmony with life.

"WHAT CAN I DO AT HOME TO HELP MY CHILD?"

In answer to this question, we suggest that you do some reading about this unique concept of childhood education into which you have placed your child - Montessori. Paula Lillard's Montessori: A Modern Approach is an excellent introduction to the subject. Permit yourself the thrill of discovering a miracle in your midst in the form of your child. What has seemed to be will fade away as you come to realize the deeper, true meaning of childhood.

Acquaint yourself more thoroughly with these *Sensitive Periods* that you may recognize them as they emerge and thus work in cooperation with them. Learn to understand the function of the *Absorbent Mind* that you might make use of it to assist your child's development. Montessori said if one must make a choice between the apparatus and the attitudes, let the apparatus go. "If I should desire to go and learn of the marvels of Rome, do I spend my time primarily with a study of the modes of transportation that will get me there or do I study the marvels of Rome?"

Let us look at some points about the child to see more clearly his unique nature.

1. His rhythm and pace are different.
2. Do not tell him but show him. Telling him to go and get his hands clean will never be as effective as showing him how.
3. He learns through the Absorbent Mind. It is this exposure and repetition rather than verbal instruction that will perfect his desires.
4. He absorbs his environment, so eliminate what you do not want incorporated and



Little Angels Montessori School, Inc.

adopt what will enhance his growth. Do not be indiscriminate. Montessori's success was linked to her prepared environment.

5. The child learns through his senses. Do not deny his fullest use of them. When he is ready to walk, please-no playpens. When he is ready to begin touching, give him much to touch rather than the barrage of no-nos. When he becomes aware of details, allow time for detailed observation. Arrange for the mind to be challenged. Here is where the ingenious creativity of Montessori gave us so many aids to implement the child's growth. These materials you see in the Montessori classroom.

As the child moves toward maturity, he should be moving toward independence. Teach him skills and activities that will facilitate this self-reliance and independence. Give him numerous practical life experiences, brushing, sweeping, cutting, polishing, folding, and pouring. Permit him a wide range of experiences that he might learn of his environment and thus come to master it.

Please cut here

I/We affirm that I/We have read the Parent Handbook of Little Angels Montessori School, located at 1908 W Parkside Ln, Phoenix AZ 85027 and understood the guidelines, procedure and practices and would follow them to the best of my/our ability.

Dated:

Signature of the Parent(s)