



Mindful Explorers Montessori Handbook

Education Through Connection

2018-2019

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Education Through Connection

Growing up in a home that was also used for an in-home daycare ignited my passion for children and a genuine interest in their well-being. As a young child, I discovered I could connect with babies easily. As a nanny, it became clear working with children would always be a part of my life. When I began my teaching career in Colorado and then continued in China and Hong Kong, I felt inspired by young children and teenagers from all over the world. The privilege of living abroad for eight years and working in international schools allowed me to understand what all children need no matter their ethnicity or country of origin: a connection with others. When I started working with families in a therapy setting, I continued to grow as a counselor and child advocate. I began to educate parents on the social and emotional well-being of their children before addressing the problematic behaviors. Starting a preschool seemed the natural next step on my journey to combine my love of learning with my mental health skill set. I am dedicated to providing a mutually respectful and educational environment for toddlers to continue their development into kind and independent problem-solvers. We will teach them not only to care for themselves but also each other. I am committed to doing my part in creating a world where children are valued and respected from birth, and given the space they need to grow at their own pace. Imagine a world where toddlers are taught they can think for themselves, their feelings matter, they are valued and respected, and experience a genuine connection with others. How different would our world look when they are adults?

Why Montessori?

The Montessori method was created by Dr. Maria Montessori, an Italian physician (psychiatry), educator, and innovator. She carefully designed her curriculum based on a child's natural development. Montessori education focuses on independence and child-centered learning in a prepared environment. Each child works at their own pace and allows their own interests to motivate their learning. Montessori philosophy is rooted in the natural development of children, balances freedom with responsibility, welcomes the natural curiosity children have about the world around them, teaches collaborative learning and problem solving, prioritizes a collective sense of well-being, provides lessons in experience rather than presented, and instills a growth mindset. Teachers are observers and gentle guides in each method as opposed to dominating the classroom. After all, we are planting seeds for life.

Our Program

The Montessori learning environment is a student-centered environment designed to allow children to explore, discover, and learn independently as well as with others. Our classroom is responsive, prepared, and adaptive to the child's learning, not the teacher's teaching.

We have small group and individual lessons to meet each child's needs. Our thoughtful materials are rotated regularly to adapt to the child's interests, abilities, and potential. Dr. Maria Montessori brilliantly created materials so children may spot their own mistakes, solve their own problems, and realize their potential. A Montessori environment promotes collaboration, not competition, allowing children to experience a sense of community.

Within the mixed-age group, children also learn from each other to develop not only academically but also socially. Dr. Montessori believed learning is a social process. We encourage respect and support of one another in our classroom while practicing grace and courtesy.

Mindful Explorers Montessori is a place where freedom and responsibility are earned and given. Children develop self-discipline from the freedom and responsibility to appropriately choose their own activity. This fosters intrinsic motivation and the drive toward competence charged by the child's natural curiosity and interest.

The Montessori teacher models the values she would like to see the child. Special care is taken when the teacher prepares the environment, considering the child's cognitive, social, and physical development. The teacher quietly moves around the classroom during the work cycle and observes each child. When appropriate, the teacher respectfully engages the child and acts as a gentle guide. Children may turn to the teacher for help at any time.

Daily Schedule 8:30am-11:30am

8:25 - Drop off at front door

8:45 - Line Time with greetings, songs and finger play, group lessons

9:15 - Snack

9:45 - Work cycle

10:45 - Clean up, story time

11 - Outside sensory work and play (weather permitting)

11:30 - Pick up in backyard

Children may show parents any indoor or outdoor “works” at this time.

This schedule may vary depending on climate and any necessary circumstances. In the case of inclement weather, we will remain inside to play and do gross motor activities. Changes in the schedule will be made known to parents.

Toddler Curriculum

Mindful Explorers curriculum and environment were carefully planned to foster the growing toddler's emotional, cognitive, and physical development. Maria Montessori coined the term "absorbent mind" to illustrate the way children are able to absorb an extraordinary amount of information from their environment during this formative stage of development. Our classroom allows a toddler's independence, problem-solving abilities, social skills, concentration, respect and empathy for others, and gross and fine motor skills to blossom.

Toddlers are free to move around the room as they wish and discover works which interest them. They will detect a sense of order within the five learning areas: Language, Sensorial, Math, Cultural, Practical Life. Vocabulary cards, sandpaper letters, story books, a moveable alphabet, and objects to learn more about language and early literacy skills are just some of the items toddlers will find in our language area. In the sensorial area of the room, one may find smelling bottles, thermic tablets to refine identifying different temperatures, sound boxes, texture balloons for tactile input, and other objects to notice details like color, shape, texture, smell, sound, and weight. Patterns, object to number matching, sandpaper numbers, red and blue rods, and magnetic numbers are just a few things a toddler might choose to work with from the math area. Montessori cultural areas of the classroom include geography, history, science, art and music, botany, and zoology. Toddlers may see maps, globes, flags, story books, instruments, plants, and animal matching works. Mindful Explorers also includes gross motor equipment inside the classroom for assisting in the toddler's development of body awareness. A Pikler Triangle, Pikler Arch, and Rock-a-Boat/Steps are items which will improve balance, strength, and coordination.

Items to Bring

Daily

A water bottle (no milk or juice, please) (Please apply sunscreen before dropping off your child)

First Day

Two changes of clothing to be kept in the child's bin - A pack of diapers if applicable

Snowy Days

We will play in the snow on sunny days warmer than 32 degrees. Please provide your child with a coat, hat, mittens, and snow boots on these days.

Rainy Days

If it is sprinkling outside or rain has newly passed, we will often go outside to play. Please have your child wear a raincoat and rain boots on these days.

Please use a permanent marker or washable stickers to include your child's name on any personal items.

Any soiled clothing will be sent home in a plastic bag. Please replace these with new "back up" clothing upon return to school.

What Not to Bring

Toys from home unless previously discussed with Amy. Backpacks, purses, or bags.

Arrival and Departure

Parking

Please park on the street directly in front of the home or in the driveway.

Arrival

The drop-off window is from 8:25am to 8:35am. Children must be walked along the cement path to the front door of the home. Each child must be signed in with a full signature before parents/caregivers depart. Once inside, it is your child's responsibility to hang his/her coat and take off his/her shoes, then walk downstairs into the classroom. Amy will aid in this process as needed. Water bottles will be brought downstairs into the classroom.

Please keep goodbyes short and sweet. Amy will help a child say goodbye if needed. Tears may happen, but usually stop quickly after the parent or guardian leaves. If it is an especially sad goodbye, Amy will follow up with a call or text to let the parents know how their child is doing.

Late Arrival

Please call or text if you are running more than ten minutes late.

Departure

Children are picked up from the backyard. Please make sure to sign your child out and help him/her gather any belongings.

Children will only be released to persons listed on the enrollment form. Anyone not known to the provider will be asked to provide identification. If a person arrives for pick up who is not on the authorized list, verbal consent from a parent must be given beforehand.

If an unauthorized person attempts to pick up a child without previous consent, 911 will be called.

If an adult arrives under the influence of drugs or alcohol, an alternate authorized person will be called to pick up both the child and adult. If the adult will not allow another adult to safely transport the child and drives the child him/herself, police will be notified immediately by calling 911 for further investigation.

Late Pick Up

Please call or text Amy if you are running late. If an adult is not present to pick up a child by 11:45 am, a \$15 fee will be added for every fifteen minute increment to the following month's total.

If a parent or guardian has notified that they will be later than 12 pm, lunch will be provided to the child. If necessary, the child may rest or nap/sleep with clean blankets on a safe bed. The child may play and join Amy's family in whatever child-appropriate activities are taking place, including picking her daughter up from school.

If a child has not been picked up by 12 pm and a parent is not available by phone, emergency contacts will be notified to pick up the child.

If a child has not been picked up by midnight and there has been no communication with the parents, Child Protective Services will be called.

Court Orders

If there is a court order keeping one parent or guardian away from the child, a legal copy of the order from the court presented by the custodial parent or guardian must be supplied to keep on file. By law, without official court orders, Amy cannot prevent the non-custodial parent from picking up the child.

Transportation

Amy will not transport any child unless it is an emergency or extenuating circumstance, in which case, properly installed car seats will be used if available.

Snack

Snack is provided family-style each morning before the work cycle begins. A variety of healthy foods will be placed on the snack table allowing children to serve themselves as well as a pitcher of water for drinking. All food items will be posted on the calendar.

Students will be allowed to eat as much or as little as they desire during this time, as growth spurts may cause amounts to vary. I encourage them to eat what they choose, and to try a bite of a new food they may be reluctant to eat.

To promote grace and courtesy, we practice proper etiquette in eating by using placemats, napkins, toddler-sized glasses, dishes, and silverware. The children set and clear their place settings.

If a child has a food allergy, this food will not be served to the group. If a child has a food preference (ie vegan), that food may be offered to the group but the child with the preference will be given alternative food.

Hands will be washed before and after eating.

While we greatly support breastfeeding, we do not allow children to drink bottles or cups of breast milk during school hours.

Please voice any concerns regarding snack.

Birthday Celebrations

Montessori classrooms have a unique way of celebrating a student's birthday and each teacher has a slightly different variation. Celebrations at Mindful Explorers will be done immediately following drop off and will last approximately 15 minutes. The birthday child's family is welcome to attend but is not required. Parents are asked to provide a photo from each year of life on their child's birthday. So, if your child is turning three, they would bring a photo from birth, one year old, and two years old. Parents of the birthday child may also choose to bring in a small treat such as stickers, bubbles, or snacks to be shared during snack time. A treat is entirely optional and not required.

We will pay special attention to the birthday child throughout the day allowing him or her to have special jobs and choose songs, etc. Summer birthdays will be celebrated in May.

Celebration of Life

Children and teacher sit in a circle with birthday child in the middle. We will light a candle (fake candle) in the middle of the circle to represent the sun with months of the year laid out in a circle around the candle. The birthday child will stand next to the month of the year they were born while holding a globe. The child will walk one lap around the sun to represent the first year of life. While walking around the sun, the typical developmental milestones for that year is narrated and personalized for the child by the teacher. When the child finishes the first lap, a flower is handed to them to put into a vase for a visual representation of the years. This repeats for each lap around the sun. Once each year is accounted for, the birthday child may 'blow out' the candle and everyone sings "Happy Birthday."

Diapering and Toilet Learning

Parents are asked to provide a supply of diapers, training pants, or underwear, along with extra clothes that may be kept in the classroom. Please help your child in the process by ensuring he/she is “dressed for success” by wearing clothing and shoes he/she can take on and off independently, or with little help.

If diapering:

Diapers will be checked and changed hourly, and also as needed. The changing area will have a supply of your child’s diapers. In the occurrence of diaper rash, please provide your desired ointment with your child's name on the bottle. Wipes will be provided by Mindful Explorers.

The method of stand-up diapering will be used. The child will stand in a designated area of the bathroom and help in the process by removing his or her shoes and clothing if possible. The child will be asked if there is “pee” or “poop” in the diaper. If pee, the child may undo the diaper tabs. Wearing gloves for any soiled diaper, Amy will remove it and clean any mess. The child will then be offered to “clean his/her body” with a wipe before a new diaper and clothes are put on. The diaper and gloves will be disposed of in a wrapped bag. Both Amy and the child will wash hands. Staying vertical and being engaged in the diapering process encourages independence and will help the transition to potty training.

If toilet learning:

The potty and toilet with build-in toddler seat are available at any time, though children will be offered to use it every thirty minutes. They may accept or decline, but the reminder will help the training process. They are encouraged to be independent through this process but will be helped as needed. Please provide ample extra clothing, including socks and shoes. Accidents and regressions are a natural part of the process. Once a child starts wearing underwear, it is important to keep using them.

Pull-Ups or similar are not permitted at any time.

The provided wipes are Pampers Water Wipes.

Health and Safety

The utmost care of your child will be taken. Amy has been trained in CPR, First Aid, Universal Precautions, and Blood Borne Pathogens. All certifications are current.

Illness

To prevent illnesses from spreading, children must be kept home – and parents will be called for the child to be picked up – under these circumstances:

Fever above 100 degrees

Fever accompanied by a rash, sore throat, or irritability

Fifths Disease

Hand-Foot-and-Mouth

Vomiting

Diarrhea*

Bronchitis

Chicken Pox

ImpetigoHead Lice

Measles

Meningitis

Pink Eye

Pneumonia

Ring Worm

Roseola

Scabies

Shingles

Staph or Strep skin infections

Strep Throat

Tuberculosis

Whooping Cough

*Note: Children must have a medical note to return to school after having diarrhea that contains blood or mucus.

Parents will be notified of these detections, but do not need to go home:

Minor cough

Runny nose

Canker or cold sores

Rash without fever

Urinary Tract Infection

Diaper rash

Medication

The State of Colorado requires written permission from a physician to allow a Child Care Home to administer any drugs to your child. These regulations apply equally to both prescription and over the counter drugs. Written permission from the doctor may be sent to Mindful Explorers via email. Until the written authorization to give medication is received, no medication will be given, per Colorado Law. Prescription medication shall have the child's name, name of medication, physician's name, name of pharmacy, prescription number, date, and directions for administering. The medication must be in the original container as dispensed by the pharmacy.

Any empty or expired medication bottles will be returned to the parent. The provider will store medications per manufacturer guidelines. Medication is stored in a lock box that is out of reach of children.

The provider will record all medications given to a child on a medication log.

Children who are on daily medication must get a medical health plan from their doctor for the childcare provider to keep at the childcare home.

Do not place medication and over the counter drugs in the child's backpack. Hand them to Amy directly.

The provider will use sunscreen and diaper rash medication for prevention only. Once the child's body has open wounds or rash, no medication may be applied without written doctor permission.

Sanitation and Cleanliness

All materials are cleaned and disinfected regularly. Children wash hands before eating and as needed throughout the day. Gloves are worn by Amy when changing diapers.

Smoking

Smoking is prohibited in both the home and outdoor play areas during the business hours for all providers, parents, guardians, volunteers, substitutes, employees, and household residents in an effort to protect children from second hand smoke.

In case of injury An injury report will be sent home detailing the incident and actions taken. Parents will be called if the injury requires medical attention or awareness. In case of a medical emergency, 911 will be called and parents will be immediately notified.

Emergencies

Contact Information

Amy must have numbers where parents can be reached, plus the number of a personal physician or clinic. It is extremely important that these numbers be kept current so that she may reach you when necessary, not just during emergencies. The numbers may be checked from time to time to verify their accuracy.

Emergency Medical Authorization Form:

Parents must sign an emergency medical treatment form. This form must be notarized. In the event of a medical emergency concerning your child, I will perform CPR and any other life saving technique available to me to save your child's life, call 911, then I will make every effort to contact you. If you cannot be reached, or time does not allow an attempt, the release form will be used for paramedic and/or hospital staff. Expenses incurred for medical treatment and transportation are the responsibility of the parent/guardian.

Emergency Drills:

The childcare home will practice fire drills monthly. Other emergency drills for severe weather, lockdown, reverse evacuation and shelter-in place must be held 2 times each year. Emergency drills will be conducted at varying times of the day and week with all children and adults participating. Drill logs will list the names of all children and adults who participated, the date, time and type of drill. We feel that with the adequate advance preparation and safety conscience forethought, that accidents will be minimal and hopefully avoided.

In case of fire a fire extinguisher is kept within reach of the adult and a smoke detector is in the classroom. We will exit using the stairs and out the front door. If a fire is unable to be extinguished, we will wait outside of the house, next to the garage, until containment.

In case of tornado warning children will wait out the tornado in the basement bathroom next to the classroom in the center of the building. This room is secure and does not have any windows. Parents will be informed of any drills or alarms.

Emergency Evacuation Process

Evacuation Procedure In the event that Mindful Explorers must be evacuated, Amy will account for all children, our emergency “go pack,” and the binder with all information pertaining to the children.

Evacuating Children With Special Needs

Children with special needs will be ensured that their needs are met. Any necessary medication, dietary needs, or other items pertaining to their need will be brought with us and administered as usual.

Nearby Evacuation Location

In emergencies where evacuating the immediate premises is needed, children will be walked across the street to Kara Johnson’s house:

4021 S Dahlia St., Englewood, CO 80113.

Farther Evacuations

In extreme emergencies where evacuating more than a mile is mandated, children will be driven to Virginia Spielman’s house:

6837 S Hudson St., Centennial, CO 80122

Reuniting Families

Parents and emergency contacts will be notified of our evacuation and new location by whatever means is available – first by phone call, followed by text and email. Children may be picked up at this new location as soon as possible.

Reuniting During Power Outages

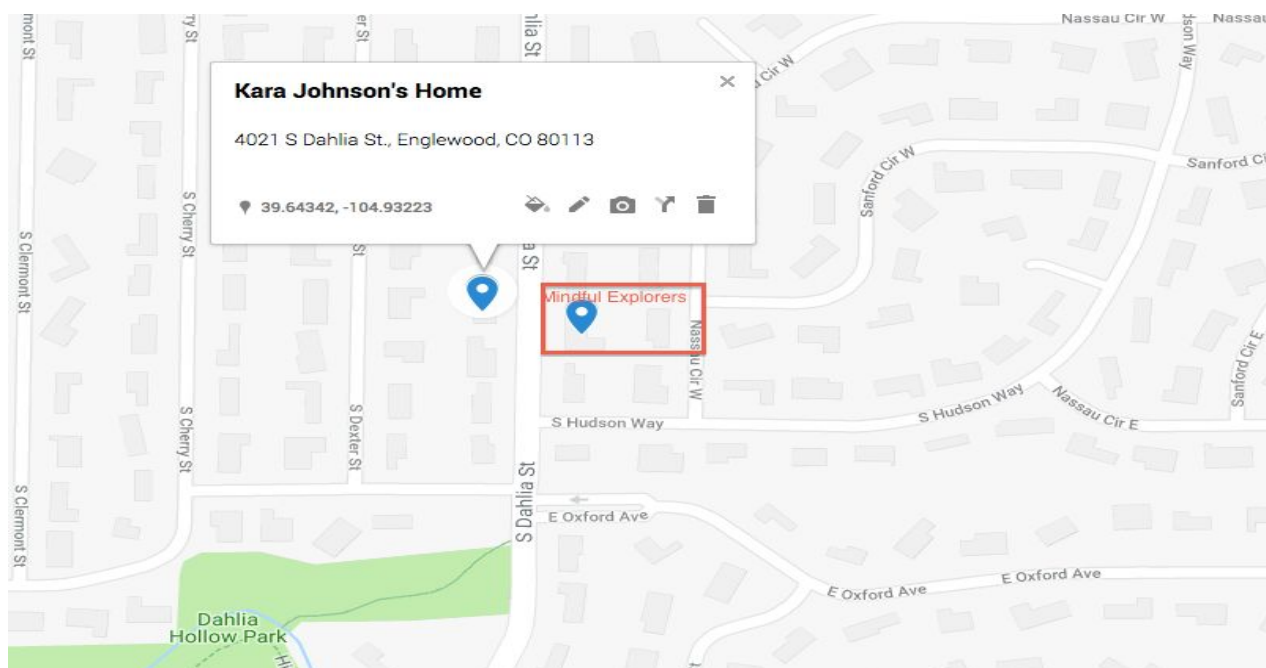
In the rare case that evacuation is necessary and power is out in the area, notification by phone, text, or email may not be available. In this case, parents can first come to Kara Johnson’s house to see if we are there. If not, we will be at Virginia Spielman’s house.

Please keep in mind that if power goes out across the city for any reason, you will not have access to the internet to look up these evacuation locations. I recommend writing them down or printing them in case you need to reunite with your child in such a circumstance.

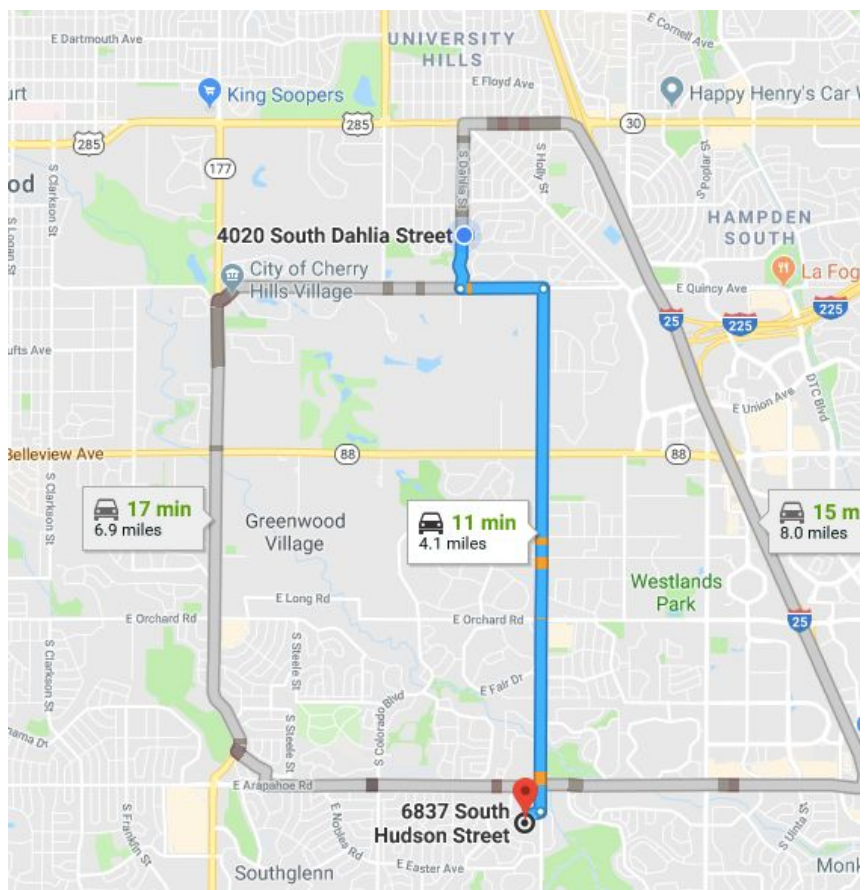
Maps of Evacuation Locations

I recommend you print these off in case the internet is not working during an emergency.

Immediate Proximity Evacuation Location – 4021 S Dahlia St., Englewood, CO 80113



Over a mile evacuation location – 6837 S Hudson St., Centennial, CO 80122



← from 4020 S Dahlia St, Englewood, CO 80113
to 6837 S Hudson St, Centennial, CO 80122

11 min (4.1 miles)



via S Holly St

Fastest route, the usual traffic

4020 S Dahlia St

Englewood, CO 80113

↑ Head south on S Dahlia St toward S Hudson Way

0.3 mi

↶ Turn left onto E Quincy Ave

0.5 mi

↷ Turn right onto S Holly St

3.2 mi

↷ Turn right onto E Briarwood Ave

446 ft

↶ Turn left onto S Hudson St

 Destination will be on the right

230 ft

6837 S Hudson St

Centennial, CO 80122

Progress and Behavior

Progress Reports

Each family will receive a progress report once a semester, full of details regarding the child's growth and challenges. These will be available in December and May.

If you have any questions about your child's progress at any time, please don't hesitate to contact Amy to discuss your concerns.

Observations

Parents are encouraged to spend some time in the classroom to better understand what takes place during our mornings together. Sign up sheets will be posted once a semester, though parents are welcome to visit anytime. Observations generally last about twenty minutes and are silent, so as not to disturb the hard work that is taking place. There will be designated stools for observers to sit on and be a "fly on the wall."

Discipline / Guidance

Generally, behavioral guidance and discipline include logical and natural consequences, redirection, substitution, and role modeling. If a child begins acting out in a way that harms himself, others, or our classroom environment, Amy will first try to calm and redirect the child to more positive behavior and acknowledge his or her feelings, along with ways to rectify the situation. Empathy and validation are used to support the child. If the child is unable to calm down, he will be moved to a place within the room where he is visible, but unable to do harm, until he is ready to work toward a solution.

Meeting Milestones

If Amy notices a child not reaching typical developmental milestones, she will inform parents then offer to contact Child Find for an evaluation. Child Find is part of Colorado's system for identifying children suspected of having a delay in development. If a young child is not meeting typical developmental milestones, or someone is concerned about the child's growth or learning, Child Find teams will evaluate how the child plays, learns, speaks, behaves and moves. The purpose of the evaluation is to determine if there is a significant delay or if there is a need for early intervention or special education services. Evaluations conducted by Child

Find teams are at no cost to parents.

Tuition and Fees

Payment is due on the first day of each month. Invoices will be sent prior to the due dates. For your convenience, you may pay in person via cash or check, or online with a credit card or debit card via Zelle.

Please use amy@themindfulexplorers.com or phone number 720.224.7299 for Zelle payments.

For payments made by cash or check, the drop box is located next to the parent sign in sheets at the front door.

Initial Deposit

Upon enrollment of new students, a \$100 deposit is due with the signed contract to secure your child's place. Checks may be made out to Mindful Explorers.

Absences

Please let Amy know of any expected absences in advance. If last-minute circumstances arise and your child will be unable to attend, please call or text Amy at 720.224.7299. Payment is still due during absences.

Snow Days

We will follow the Cherry Creek School District Snow Day closings. Cherry Creek School District will announce on their website and through new sources. Mindful Explorers will post it on Facebook as well as send out text messages. Payment is still due during these days.

Unexpected School Closings

If school is unexpectedly closed for any reason other than snow days, you will not incur any costs. There will be no substitute. Any prepaid days will be credited toward the following month.

Late Pick Up

If an adult is not present to pick up a child by 12:15pm, a \$15 fee will be added to the following month's total for each fifteen minutes the adult is late.

Late Payments

A \$20 fee will be added to any payment beyond the 15th of the month.

Admission and Withdrawal

Admission Process

Amy will begin the admissions process with an email or phone call to give a brief overview of Mindful Explorers. Interested families may schedule a time to come for a tour and learn more about the program. If both parties feel this is a good fit, Amy will send an email to the family with all necessary documents included. A \$100 admissions fee and immunization form must be included with the returned documents.

Children must be immunized prior to admission. **With each update of a child's immunizations, records must be provided. Amy's state licensing specialist will review at each visit.**

As a licensed provider, Mindful Explorers shall not discriminate against any person or family on the basis of race, creed, color, national origin, religion, family structure, gender, or physical/mental challenges.

Mindful Explorers accepts children with special needs in compliance with the American Disabilities Act. Services for each child will be determined on an individual basis. Any excessive costs incurred by the provider to care for this child will be reimbursed to the provider by the child's parents/guardians.

IEP Children who have an IEP plan need to give the childcare home a copy at enrollment and each time the IEP is updated. A health plan is required on the first day of care.

Withdrawal

A child may be withdrawn by providing a month's notice in writing without accruing any further fees.

Suspension and Termination of Contract

Mindful Explorers is committed to providing every opportunity for children to feel comfortable and supported in this environment. However, certain instances may arise in which suspension or dismissal are necessary.

Suspension

A child may be suspended from attending Mindful Explorers if extreme behavior is displayed. The child may not attend again until a face-to-face meeting with the parents has taken place and the issue has been resolved. There are no tuition adjustments for absences due to suspension.

Dismissal/Termination of Contract

A child may be dismissed and contract terminated for the following reasons:

- a. If a child is having behavior difficulty or is causing excessive disruption in class, the parents will be notified and asked to meet for a parent/teacher conference. The goal is to work together to develop a strategy to address the areas of concern. If these strategies do not improve the behavior, it will be recommended to the parents to have the child evaluated by a child behavioral/mental health professional (Child Find or an alternative). Any financial responsibilities will belong to the family. If the family is unwilling to cooperate in seeking professional guidance, the family will be dismissed.
- b. If Mindful Explorers is unable to support the needs of the child after determining a strategy to best serve the child and family.
- c. If the child is having extreme emotions regarding drop off and participation in activities. Each child is on a trial basis for the first month.
- d. If the child or family is not compatible with the mixed methods of education, as determined by the teacher. This includes a failure to support respectful principles at home or efforts to subvert respectful principles at school.
- e. Parents do not supply emergency medication for children with medical conditions that require it.
- f. Parents engage in inappropriate, dangerous, or disrespectful behavior.
- g. Teacher and parental issues or concerns are not resolvable after

suspension and/or parent meeting. h. Failure to pay tuition as stated in enrollment contract.

Documentation of any of the above behaviors will be taken and discussed with families. A parent/teacher conference will be arranged to discuss the dismissal. Once a child's contract is terminated, no additional payments will incur. No refunds will be given if a contract is terminated mid-pay period.

Miscellany

Assistant

Our live-in nanny, Mary Jean Ancheta, will be assisting with tasks from time to time such as (but not limited to) helping your toddler walk up/down the stairs to the classroom at drop off, walking outside for play, assisting with serving snack, etc.

Media

Music is regularly incorporated into our mornings. Soft background music is played during the work cycle and a variety of fun music may be played for the children to dance or sing along.

Television, computers, and gaming systems will not be used.

Animals

Mindful Explorers has one animal. We have a ginger cat named Fulgrim. He is usually hiding in his room or wandering outside in the backyard. While he may make a rare appearance, he will generally not be present among the children. He have been certified as healthy by a veterinarian and are current on all immunizations.

Please do not bring your pets to Mindful Explorers unless otherwise arranged.

Field Trips

Mindful Explorers does not take any trips away from the home.

Property Loss or Damage

Each child will have a storage bin for extra clothing and supplies.

In the event that a child causes damage to property of Mindful Explorers, it is the parents' responsibility to replace the item or provide compensation.

Communication

At pick up, Amy will often check in briefly to let parents and caregivers know about their child's morning. Any parent with multiple questions is encouraged to call or email to discuss your child or concerns further. Parent/teacher conferences may also be requested by a parent or by Amy. Conferences take place on weekend mornings when both parents are able to attend. Childcare is not provided during

conferences.

In every form of communication, transparency and honesty within families is essential. If a parent asks Amy to withhold information from their spouse/partner, this may be grounds for suspension or termination of contract. All communication must be appropriate for maintaining a working relationship.

Vaccinations

Mindful Explorers Montessori requires all students to have up-to-date vaccinations. If your child does not have a current Colorado state vaccination record, they will not be permitted to apply to Mindful Explorers Montessori as per Colorado state licensing requirements.

Reporting

Child Abuse/Neglect

In compliance with the laws of the State of Colorado and the directives of the Colorado Department of Human Services, Amy has a legal and moral obligation to report suspected child abuse. Such a report is not to be construed as an accusation, but as a means to support a child who may be experiencing direct or indirect abuse.

If Amy or a parent suspects child abuse, it must be reported to the Arapahoe County Department of Human Services at 303.636.1750

Official Rules and Regulations

Mindful Explorers is licensed as a Family Child Care Home by the state of Colorado. The official Rules Regulating Family Child Care Homes can be obtained at the Division of Child Care, 1575 Sherman St. Denver, CO 80203, or at www.cdhs.state.co.us/CCR

Background

Education

NAMC Montessori Teaching Diploma, Birth - 3 years, 2019

Masters in Counseling, Monash University, 2015

B.A. Psychology, Metropolitan State University, 2009

Colorado State Certified Teaching License, K-12, 2009

Experience

Director, Mindful Explorers Montessori, Present Lead Teacher

Hong Kong Counseling, Director, 2017 - 2018

Psych Central Hong Kong, Counselor, 2015 - 2018

Sha Tin College, Hong Kong, Counselor, 2015 - 2018

Blurton Family Development Center, Intern, 2014-2015

The Harbour School International, Hong Kong, 2011-2015

Hau Mao International, China, 2010 - 2011

Private Tutor and Reading Interventionist, Lai Family 2010 - 2015

Nanny, Miga/Cadnapaphornchai Family, 2003-2008

Nanny, Brown Family, 2003-2006

Academic Year Calendar

Mindful Explorers Montessori (MEM) follows a local private Montessori school academic calendar for school holidays with the exception of staff days. Your family will receive a copy of MEM academic calendar upon enrollment.