

The Innovative School - Parent Survey Request

Potential Nido Environment

Maria Montessori teaches us that the First Plane of Development (Birth through age 6 years) is an important time in the life of a young child. As the child is in the sensitive period for the Absorbent Mind the environments to which they are exposed are imperative and essential to the formation of the being.

As an authentic Montessori Program The Innovative School is in the process of considering the viability of adding an environment for infants and parents as they begin their journey together. This important part of our program would be named the Nido (Italian for nest) Environment.

Pre-Natal Introduction Program

This program would begin with parents who will be bringing an infant into the world. This brief overview would include discussions of Montessori philosophy and how it applies to the infant, appropriate environment design for the infant, and preparing to welcome this new being into the world.

Infant/Parent Exploration Program (4 weeks through 12 weeks)

This 6 week program which consists of one hour per week is designed with the family unit in mind. Parent and child will be invited into the environment for a brief discussion on infant development, Montessori application, and practical ways to support the family during this time of transition. Infants will also be allowed to explore the environment with their parents in a safe, protected co-op with the guides. This allows the families to personally visit and trust the guides, as well as allows the guides to understand family dynamics, the child's personality and needs, and gently shift into the supportive environment for the infant away from home.

Nido Program

This program will be designed for children aged 8 weeks through 18 months (or mobile). An environment designed to support the infants ever changing development, allow for individualized schedules, and provide expert guides who observe and allow exploration and learning to take place. Nine infants will be uniquely cared for by a MACTE accredited certified Montessori Infant and Toddler Teacher along with 2 assistants. As Montessori outlined all furniture will be designed for freedom of movement, for even the youngest child. Floor beds, weaning chairs, and spacious areas for movement will be included. Understanding that learning takes place through the five senses as well as a need for freedom of movement the guides will create opportunities and work that meets the developmental needs of the infant.

The most important task of the guide is to support, share knowledge, and work with the family to implement the Montessori philosophy throughout the child's experiences both at school and at home.



sample "Nido" Montessori environment

Nido Environment Survey

Please answer the following questions as we look at the potential for a Nido Program within The Innovative School

1. Would you consider providing a unique experience as outlined above for your infant aged 2 months through 18 months?

Yes

No

Maybe

2. As a pre-requisite to entering the Nido program, families will need to attend the Infant/Parent Exploration Program as part of the transition process. Do you view this as a unique and valuable tool to building a support network between family and guides as well as a successful transition?

Yes

No

Maybe

3. Do you know of other families who would benefit from this type of program?

Yes

No

Maybe

4. If yes to question #3, would you be willing to share the information about our Nido program?

Yes

No

Maybe

5. With a tuition of approximately \$1,300 - \$1,400 (monthly) to allow for the program to be sustainable would it be a valuable investment for the future of your child?

Yes

No

Maybe

6. A commitment of at least 6 children will allow for this program to move forward for the coming school year. At this time are you wanting to save a space for your infant in The Innovative School's Nido Environment?

Yes

No

Maybe

For Commitment only:

First Name _____ Last Name _____

Child's Name _____ Current Age _____

Phone Number _____ Email _____