

Parental Involvement is Essential

There are many ways parents can support both their child and the Montessori Program.

The Coquitlam Montessori Society was established as a non-profit charity in 1983 and serves as an important communication link and support service between the district, Montessori schools and parents. You can support the CMS through an annual donation and as a school liaison volunteer or as a member of the board. The society fundraises to purchase materials for Montessori classrooms and to support the program in School District 43 (Coquitlam).

All parents are encouraged to participate in the Coquitlam Montessori Society.

For more information contact:

Coquitlam Montessori Society
Email: cmschairperson@yahoo.ca

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Fax: 604-939-7828

District Website: www.sd43.bc.ca

What is Montessori?

The Montessori philosophy is based on the educational approach developed by Maria Montessori, a physician who combined an interest in child development and educational theory with her study and practice of medicine. The first Montessori-based classroom opened over one hundred years ago and since then the Montessori method has become well-established internationally.

Montessori Teaching Philosophy

- Emphasis on individual student choice in learning
- Balance between whole class lessons and individual lessons
- Students work independently with self-checking materials at times

How Does Montessori Integrate with the BC Ministry Curriculum?

The first Montessori class in Coquitlam was established in 1979. The Montessori classrooms in School District No. 43 (Coquitlam) differ not so much in “what is taught” but “how it is taught” and the materials used. At all grade levels, children follow the curriculum as prescribed by the BC Ministry of Education. The Montessori philosophy and curriculum will align with provincial learning outcomes. Montessori-trained teachers participate in district in-service as well as Montessori workshops.



“Inspiring a passion for excellence, nurturing curiosity and creativity, and helping to awaken the human spirit in the children of our community.” (Tim Seldin)





Guiding Principles of the Montessori Program

Individualization

The use of individualized materials in the Montessori classroom allows for a varied pace that accommodates many levels of ability. Children are continually challenged by the wide variety of material lesson presentations. The habits and skills emphasized in a Montessori class are lifelong: to work responsibly, observe carefully, and concentrate effectively. Independent learning is a goal for every child.

Citizenship

Children are taught to respect others, their classroom, and the school environment. They are provided with opportunities to participate in classroom, school-wide and community activities. In multi-age classrooms older children are given opportunities to be leaders, often teaching the younger ones. Children are encouraged to set goals and evaluate their work and progress.

Experiential Learning

The Montessori classroom stresses the importance of “learning through experience”, and the variety of materials used by the children satisfies this need to learn by doing. Children learn as they select materials and/or activities that interest them. The teacher observes the children at work and guides them to choose more challenging materials, as their skills develop. Many Montessori materials are made to be self-correcting so that the children may discover their own mistakes and learn from them.

When Can My Child Start?

School aged children can enter the Montessori Program in the September of the year they turn 5 years old. Official entry points include Kindergarten and Grade One. There is also an opportunity of Late Montessori Program registration in Grade 6 at Montgomery Middle School.

Registration for the Montessori program takes place in late January each year and is on a lottery selection basis. Parents may indicate a school preference, however school organization and student placement is determined by school and district administrators taking into consideration a variety of factors.

Registration information is available through the six elementary schools and one middle school offering Montessori, advertisements placed in the local media prior to registration, or email: information@sd43.bc.ca.

Schools Offering Montessori Program:

****FDK = Full-Day Kindergarten**

Aspenwood Elementary* (Gr. K-5)

available to Aspenwood in-catchment students only

2001 Panorama Drive

Port Moody, BC V3H 5G8

Ph: 604-461-7680 Fax: 604-461-7615

Email: aspenwood@sd43.bc.ca

Baker Drive Elementary (Gr. K-1) **FDK

885 Baker Drive

Coquitlam, BC V3J 6W9

Ph: 604-461-5323 Fax: 604-461-2894

Email: bakerdrive@sd43.bc.ca

Hampton Park Elementary (Gr. K-5)

1760 Paddock Drive

Coquitlam, BC V3E 3N8

Ph: 604-464-2549 Fax: 604-464-2571

Email: hamptonpark@sd43.bc.ca

Harbour View Elementary (Gr. K-5)

960 Lillian Street

Coquitlam, BC V3J 5C7

Ph: 604-936-1494 Fax: 604-936-1495

Email: harbourview@sd43.bc.ca

James Park Elementary (K-5) **FDK

1761 Westminster Avenue

Port Coquitlam, BC V3B 1E5

Ph: 604-942-6658 Fax: 604-942-9211

Email: jamespark@sd43.bc.ca

Miller Park Elementary (Gr. K-5) **FDK

800 Egmont Street

Coquitlam, BC V3J 4J8

Ph: 604-936-4208 Fax: 604-936-4209

Email: millerpark@sd43.bc.ca

Seaview Elementary (Gr. K-5) **FDK

1215 Cecile Drive

Port Moody, BC V3H 1N2

Ph: 604-936-9991 Fax: 604-936-9992

Email: seaview@sd43.bc.ca

Montgomery Middle (Gr. 6-8)

1900 Edgewood Avenue

Coquitlam, BC V3K 2Y1

Ph: 604-939-7367 Fax: 604-939-7930

Email: montgomerymiddle@sd43.bc.ca

