

mint school

Enriched Bilingual
Montessori



Discover
Mint.



A fresh take on
Montessori.



Childhood is short. But what a powerful time it is.

In swift, astonishing years, a child begins to shape their own story – their sense of self, of strength, of where they belong in the world. Questions spark like wildfires. Ideas crackle. Curiosity takes flight, an unstoppable force, pulling them forward, beyond what they know. The right environment makes all the difference. A place where teachers truly listen. Where classrooms pulse with possibility.

Where wonder is never on the clock but waits at the door, patient, abundant, ready.

At The Mint School, we hold these years with reverence. We teach with thoughtfulness. With deep attention and quiet belief that childhood deserves our best. Because when we shape a child's beginning with intention, we give them something unshakable. The roots to stand tall, and the wings to rise.

THE MINT SCHOOL

4 La Rose Avenue,
Etobicoke, ON M9P 1A5
416.246.9896
MintSchool.ca

The Philosophy Behind the Promise

At The Mint School, education begins not with memorization or measurement, but with belief. Belief in the quiet brilliance of childhood and the boundless potential within every child. Here, curriculum is only the starting point.

Our philosophy guides learning, intentional and enduring, grounded in purpose and expressed through thoughtful, daily practice. We focus not only on what a child learns, but on how they grow physically, socially, emotionally, and cognitively.



OUR VISION

To redefine what early education can be with our world-class *Enriched Whole Child Curriculum* program blended with a bilingual learning environment, minting young minds into confident and capable leaders.

OUR MISSION

Cultivate the qualities that define lifelong success.
Support the development of the whole child by nurturing:

Capability.

Our Enriched Whole Child Curriculum and bilingual learning environment provide each child with a well-rounded early educational foundation.

Character.

Fostering empathy, respect, and resilience in every interaction and experience.

Curiosity.

Our rich materials, hands-on experiments, and environments invite discovery.

Confidence.

Inspiring independence, celebrating effort, and empowering each child to trust their own voice and abilities.

OUR VALUES

The guiding principles that shape how we nurture, inspire, and grow every child.

Passionate.

We act with purpose and heart, knowing that the early years shape a child's lifelong love of learning and sense of self.

Holistic.

We nurture the whole child through a world-class curriculum that evolves with their needs, inviting exploration, movement, and meaningful engagement through purposeful, child-led experiences.

Nurturing.

We lead with care, fostering each child's physical, emotional, social, cognitive, and language development through gentle guidance and deep connection with their school community.

Refined.

We model grace and intention, creating spaces of quiet beauty and teaching through calm, thoughtful actions.



Our School

A FRESH PERSPECTIVE ON EARLY EDUCATION

Tucked away on a quiet stretch of La Rose Avenue in Etobicoke, The Mint School offers a rare combination of calm, clarity, and purpose. Sunlight fills our newly renovated classrooms.

Children move with quiet focus, while educators guide them with careful intention. Here, order isn't imposed but absorbed, and a gentle joy threads through the steady rhythm of each day.



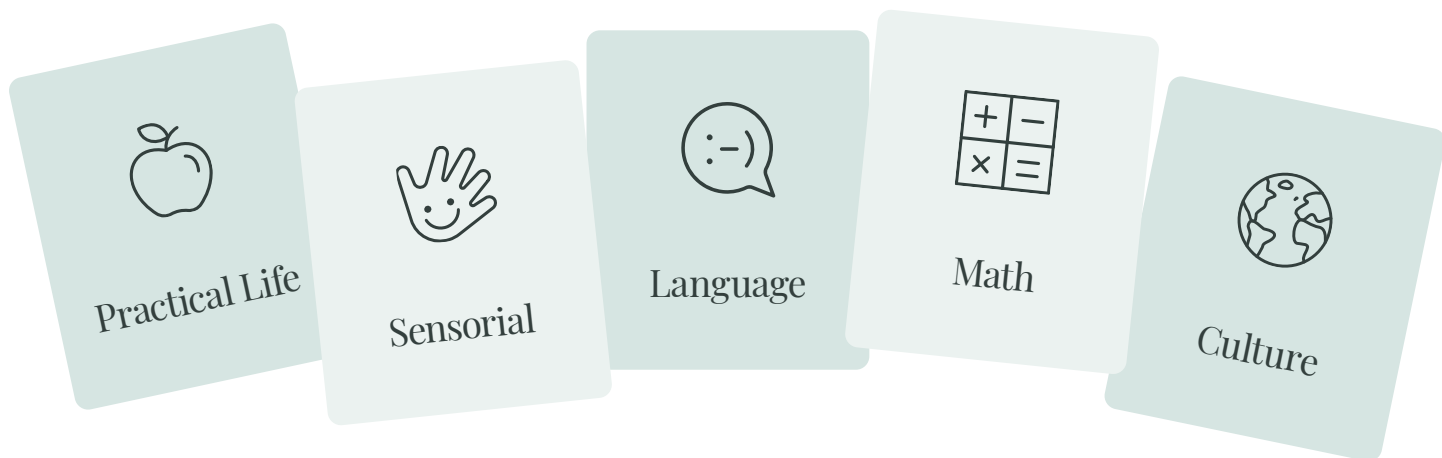
A Longstanding Legacy. A New Name.

For thirty years, the school operated under the name Etobicoke Montessori School, earning the confidence of local families and full accreditation from Montessori Canada. In 2025, we reopened as The Mint School with a new name, a new identity, and a renewed sense of purpose. This change reflected a thoughtful and deliberate evolution.

The Most Formative Years

The Mint School serves children from 18 months to six years old, a critical period when the brain develops more rapidly than at any other stage of life. These years lay the foundation for future growth, and at The Mint School, we approach these years with the care they deserve.

Our approach is rooted firmly in authentic Montessori principles. But what sets us apart is how we build on that foundation, placing greater emphasis on enriching our curriculum, and fostering a culture of harmony that feels natural, not contrived.

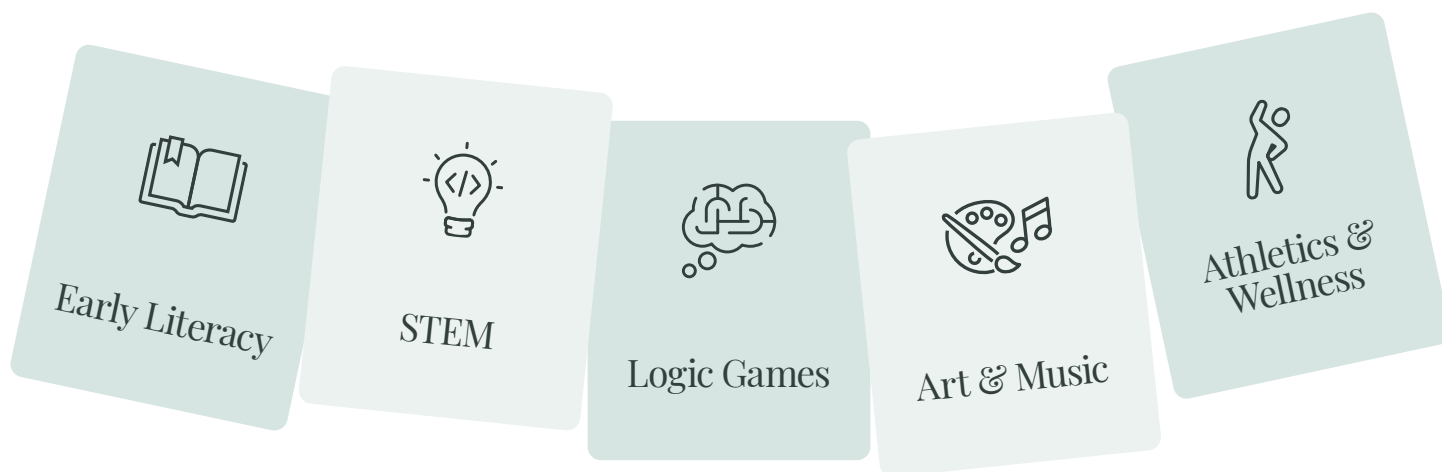


AN ENRICHED CURRICULUM

Our signature *Enriched Whole Child Curriculum* brings greater emphasis to early literacy, STEM, logic games, music, art, athletics, and wellness. We teach each element with care to deepen learning, spark creativity, and nurture the full range of a child's developing abilities. Children explore language through phonetic play and storytelling, build scientific thinking through hands-on discovery, and strengthen problem-solving through logic games and structured challenges.

Art and music encourage self-expression and imagination, while movement-based activities, from yoga to outdoor play, support coordination, balance, and emotional well-being.

All of this unfolds in a bilingual setting, where English and French are not simply taught, but lived. The children absorb both languages naturally through songs, stories, conversation, and daily routines, during the years when their minds are most open to rhythm and structure.



CONFIDENCE. CAPABILITY. CHARACTER.

The result is more than academic readiness. It's a foundation of confidence, curiosity, and quiet capability, supported by beautifully designed classrooms, attentive educators, and an environment that sees, hears, and empowers every child to thrive. At Mint, children do more than learn.

They grow into capable, confident people. Each day builds real habits: asking good questions, helping without being asked, speaking with kindness, listening with focus. We don't rush them. We guide them. Here, education isn't a race, it's the steady, deliberate shaping of character, curiosity, and care.



Why Families Choose Mint

- ☐ Rigorous, individualized academic, rooted in an accredited Montessori program
- ☐ Seamless bilingual learning in English and French
- ☐ Enriched curriculum – rich blend of early literacy, STEM, arts, and wellness
- ☐ Light-filled, thoughtfully designed spaces that spark wonder
- ☐ Educators who lead with heart, purpose, and patience



Our People

THE HEART OF MINT

The spirit of The Mint School resides in its faculty. They are more than just teachers; they are mentors and guides. Highly trained, deeply observant, and quietly transformative. Many of our educators graduated from the Montessori Teachers College, and all draw on years of thoughtful practice. They act with intention, responding not just with instruction but with presence, patience, and trust.

The educators at Mint don't rush children toward answers. They create space for the pause, the question, and the second try.

Their steady support gives children the confidence to take risks and the freedom to grow. This is intentional work, guided by the belief that development matters more than performance. What makes our educators unique is how they lead with compassion, patience, and always by example.

Their aim isn't perfection. It's to nurture capable, curious, and compassionate individuals. This is what gives The Mint School its heart and its strength.

Meet Our Executive Director: Saarah Shivji, J.D., Certified Montessori Curriculum Specialist, Harvard Graduate School of Education

Saarah Shivji leads The Mint School with both heart and vision. A trained Montessori educator, Harvard Early Education Leadership alumna, and former lawyer, she brings a rare blend of intellectual depth, strategic thinking, and heartfelt warmth to her role.

Passionately committed to educational excellence and fluent in French, Saarah shapes every aspect of the school's culture, from curriculum to classroom tone. Her leadership reflects the values the school holds most dear: trust, refinement, purpose, and care. Under her guidance, The Mint School continues to evolve, staying true to its Montessori roots while embracing new ideas that support children and families in thoughtful, lasting ways.



Community is Everything

At The Mint School, community is more than a concept, it forms the very foundation that surrounds every child from their first day.

Here, belonging doesn't wait to happen, we build it deliberately, quietly, every hour of every day. Children don't just enter as students; they step into a family, one that listens, supports, and celebrates them consistently, not occasionally.

From the moment a family crosses our threshold, they join a network woven with trust and kindness. Our community extends beyond classrooms to include parents, grandparents, alumni, caregivers, and partners. Teachers know younger siblings by name. Parents linger at drop-off, not out of obligation, but because they choose to.

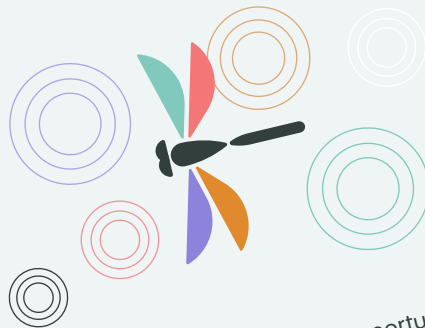
Throughout the year, we come together in ways both lively and heartfelt:



Curriculum Nights deepen parents' understanding of child development and Montessori values.



Mint & Mingle events where parents connect while kids play nearby.



Celebrate at Mint events are opportunities for the students and families to celebrate seasonal concerts, holiday traditions, and special events.

These moments do more than mark the calendar, they stitch the fabric of connection. At The Mint School, community isn't an afterthought. It forms the ground beneath every child's feet. Because a child who feels rooted grows to stand tall.

The Strongest Foundations Begin Here

The first six years of life shape more than school readiness, they shape the way a child sees the world and their place in it. At The Mint School, we honour this pivotal chapter with two thoughtfully designed programs:

Toddler Program (18 months to 3 years) & Casa Program (2.5 to 6 years)

Each program is rooted in time-honoured Montessori principles and enhanced by our signature *Enriched Whole Child Curriculum*, a distinctive, interdisciplinary approach that nurtures every part of a child's development. In calm, bilingual classrooms, children build practical life skills, explore sensorial materials,

and grow in early literacy, math, STEM, logic, art, music, athletics, and wellness. Every material is intentional. Every moment has purpose.

Children are free to explore at their own rhythm, guided by attentive educators and materials that invite curiosity, independence, and joy. These are the years when confidence takes root, curiosity ignites, and the joy of learning becomes second nature.

At The Mint School, we don't just prepare children for school, we help them grow into capable, compassionate human beings, ready to thrive in a world that needs exactly that.

MONTESSORI ALUMNI WHO CHANGED THE WORLD

Béyonce, Jeff Bezos, Taylor Swift, Mark Zuckerberg, and Nobel laureate Gabriel García Márquez all started in Montessori classrooms, where curiosity and independence ignite lifelong success.

ENRICHED WHOLE CHILDHOOD CURRICULUM

Our *Enriched Whole Child Curriculum* blends Montessori's proven principles of independence, hands-on learning, and respect for the child, with the latest research in child development. We don't just prepare children for school. We build their mindset, habits, and confidence to thrive in a fast-changing world.

Rooted in tradition, driven by innovation, our curriculum unfolds in a lively bilingual setting where discovery, creativity, and connection happen every day. Every experience is intentional, guided by expert educators, and designed to nurture confident, curious learners ready to embrace the future.

At the heart of it all are the five core pillars of our accredited Montessori program that shape everything we do:



Practical Life

Routines that build confidence through meaningful tasks



Sensorial

Materials that refine perception and invite focused observation



Language

Spoken and written language woven into daily life



Mathematics

Hands-on tools that lead to deep, intuitive understanding



Culture

A window into nature, geography, and the wider world

Building on this base, our enriched curriculum inspires curiosity and creativity through:



Early Literacy

A gentle introduction to phonetics, and the pleasures of reading and writing



STEM

Space to question, experiment, and solve



Logic Games

Exercising the child's reasoning and problem solving skills



Art & Music

Opportunities to create, move, and express



Athletics & Wellness

Daily habits that support balance and wellbeing

Two Languages. One Seamless Start

The Mint School offers something no other Montessori in Toronto does: a truly bilingual learning environment combined with our *Enriched Whole Child Curriculum*. This mix not only sets us apart but also gives your child a lasting advantage.

We weave language into every part of the day at Mint. Children sing in French, solve problems in English, and switch between both with ease. From the moment they step into the classroom, children absorb English and French naturally, through stories, songs, conversations, and play, not rote memorization or repetition.

Research supports what we see in practice. The first six years are the brain's most vital period for language development.

When immersed in two languages during this time, children pick them up naturally. They develop fluency effortlessly.

The benefits extend well beyond communication. Bilingual learners develop stronger memories, sharper focus, and greater flexibility in how they think. They demonstrate deeper empathy, broader perspectives, and increased confidence in expressing ideas in any language.

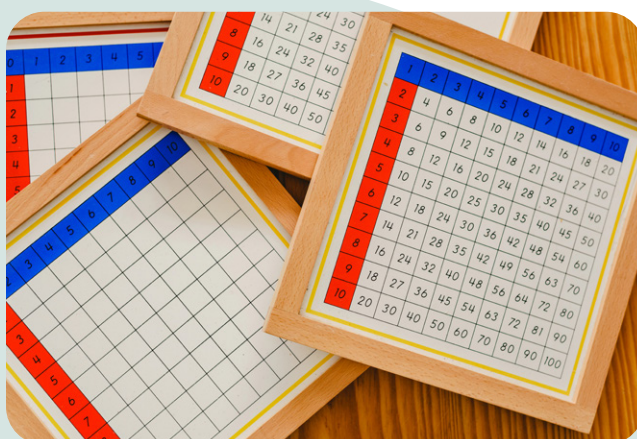
At Mint, we don't just teach French. We give children two languages to think in and the confidence to thrive in both.



Children at The Mint School
receive 30 minutes of dedicated
French instruction daily.







Toddler Program: 18 Months–3 Years

LAYING THE FOUNDATION FOR LIFELONG LEARNING

The first six years of a child's life form the most critical window for cognitive, emotional, social, and physical development. Our Toddler Program is thoughtfully designed to harness this period, combining authentic Montessori

principles with an enriched curriculum that addresses the whole child. The program nurtures independence, curiosity, and foundational skills across multiple domains, setting the stage for confident, engaged learners.



AUTHENTIC MONTESSORI PRINCIPLES



Practical Life

Toddlers take on real-world tasks, dressing, pouring, sweeping, building independence, focus, and fine motor control.



Sensorial

They explore colour, sound, texture, scent, and taste, sharpening perception through hands-on discovery.



Language

With songs, stories, and conversation, toddlers expand vocabulary and speech. We introduce phonetics and lowercase letters when each child is ready.



Mathematics

Using tactile materials like sorting trays, toddlers grasp quantity, order, and one-to-one correspondence through playful repetition.



Culture

Nature objects, stories, and seasonal themes spark curiosity about the world, fostering global awareness and care for the environment.

ENRICHED WHOLE CHILDHOOD CURRICULUM



French

Toddlers absorb French naturally through songs, stories, and playful repetition, encouraging early bilingual development.



Early Literacy

Storytelling, songs, and phonetic play connect spoken language to print, preparing toddlers for reading and writing.



STEM

Simple experiments, such as colour mixing and water play, introduce basic science and engineering in joyful, hands-on ways.



Logic Games

Puzzles, sequences, and cause-and-effect toys build focus, persistence, and early reasoning skills.



Art & Music

Music, movement, and sensory art provide space for self-expression, rhythm, and imagination.



Athletics & Wellness

Movement, stretching, and outdoor play support coordination, balance, and emotional regulation, establishing lifelong healthy habits.



Casa Academic Program: 2.5–6 Years

LAYING THE FOUNDATION FOR LIFELONG LEARNING

Between the ages of three and six, children experience an extraordinary period of growth, marked by a deep drive to explore. Our Casa Program channels this energy into purposeful learning using

a rich Montessori framework, enhanced by whole-child enrichment. Here, children build independence, master foundational academics, and grow into confident, thoughtful learners.



AUTHENTIC MONTESSORI PRINCIPLES



Practical Life

Children build confidence by caring for themselves and their environment, pouring, sweeping, polishing, cutting, and learning social graces. These tasks develop independence, focus, and responsibility.



Sensorial

Using all five senses, children explore texture, sound, scent, taste, shape, and colour, deepening perception and preparing the mind for abstract thought.



Language

Through daily phonetic work, reading, and writing, children connect sound to symbol. They write letters on chalkboards, and then with pencils, developing fluency, coordination, and self-expression.



Mathematics

Children explore numbers through tactile materials, progress as they master 0–10 work, then teens, and then eventually the decimal system with all four operations: addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division.



Culture

Hands-on lessons in geography and history help children explore ideas of time, place, and people. They study maps of continents, oceans, countries, and provinces, building global awareness from the start.

ENRICHED WHOLE CHILDHOOD CURRICULUM



French

In addition to a bilingual classroom environment, children enjoy 30 minutes of dedicated French instruction daily through songs, games, and conversation, so they naturally develop bilingual fluency and appreciation for French culture.



Early Literacy

Children work with sandpaper letters, movable alphabets, and phonetic objects to build sound-symbol connections. These joyful, tactile experiences pave the way for confident reading and writing.



STEM

STEM emerges through building, experimenting, measuring, and classifying. Whether they're constructing structures or observing nature, Casa children ask questions and think like young scientists.



Logic Games

Puzzles, matching games, and sequencing exercises strengthen focus, pattern recognition, and critical thinking, preparing children for more abstract problem-solving.



Art & Music

Regular art and music classes offer joyful outlets for self-expression. Children engage in visual and performing arts and learn about the basics of music – developing confidence as well as an appreciation for beauty and creativity.



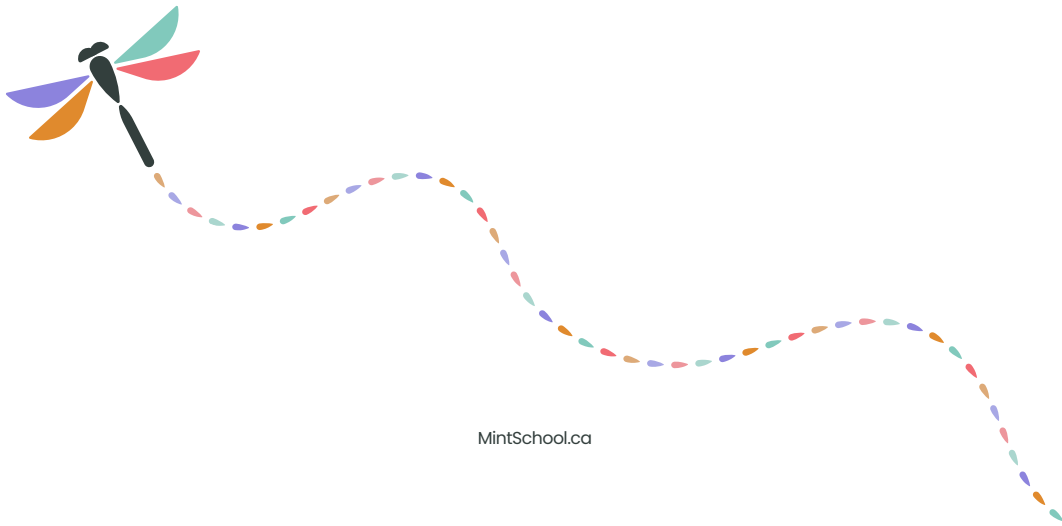
Athletics & Wellness

Structured movement, yoga, and outdoor play support coordination, balance, and body awareness. Mindful movement helps children build healthy habits and emotional regulation.

Good Food Served With Intention

At The Mint School, we treat nutrition as part of a child's education, not separate from it. Well-prepared food sets the tone for the day. It supports focus, boosts energy, and teaches children to slow down, share space, and enjoy the moment. Each day begins with a healthy snack and a hot, balanced lunch, prepared off-site by **Wholesome Kids Catering**. Known for fresh ingredients and meals children genuinely enjoy, they create seasonal menus built on whole foods, cultural variety, and thoughtful nutrition. We accommodate dietary restrictions with care.

We receive meals fresh and ready to serve. Children eat together in a calm, unhurried setting. They pour their own water, set the table, and clear their plates. In the process, they build independence, practice grace and courtesy, and learn that food isn't just fuel, it's part of a rhythm that values respect, routine, and community.





After School Enrichment Programs (After 3:00 PM)

A THOUGHTFUL END TO THE SCHOOL DAY

At The Mint School, learning carries on well past the final bell. It stretches, leaps, listens, and laughs its way into the late afternoon through carefully curated programs that shape not just skills, but character. Our After-School Enrichment Programs go beyond simple activities.

They build confidence, spark creativity, and foster connection. Families may register seasonally, choosing programs that match their child's interests and stage of development. Skilled instructors lead each session, balancing structure with joy, and challenge with encouragement.

Mint's current after-school offerings include:



Martial Arts

Builds discipline, focus, and resilience. Children learn coordination and self-respect through movement, practice, and mutual encouragement.



Multisport

Introduces kids to a variety of team games, soccer, basketball, ball hockey, baseball, and fosters fitness, teamwork, and the sheer joy of play.



Piano

Small group lessons offer a gentle entry into rhythm, melody, and musical thinking. Children gain early skills and early confidence at the keys.



French

A playful immersion in language through songs, stories, and conversation. This small group setting makes room for curiosity, courage, and connection.

These moments do more than mark the calendar, they stitch the fabric of connection. At The Mint School, community isn't an afterthought. It forms the ground beneath every child's feet. Because a child who feels rooted grows to stand tall.



Summer Camp Program

SUMMER, THE MONTESSORI WAY

Our Summer Camp brings together the richness of Montessori and the unhurried rhythm of the season. It's learning with more sunlight, more movement, and more wonder. The children continue exploring the thoughtfully prepared environment and hands-on materials that define the school year, now with even more time for art, music, and the simple joy of following their curiosity.

Each day, guided by trained Montessori educators, children grow through

practical life work, sensorial discovery, early literacy, math, and cultural studies. They ask questions through science experiments. They practice patience in the garden. They learn about botany and themselves on quiet nature walks.

Whether your child is new to Montessori or continuing their journey, our summer camp offers a seamless extension of the school year. Joyful, purposeful, and rooted in the child, it's summer the way it should be.





How To Apply

At The Mint School, we don't just see your child's potential, we nurture it with intention and care. Choosing the right school shapes a child's future, so we make the process straightforward, transparent, and welcoming.

Here's how to start your journey with us:

1. Visit Our School

Our admissions process is thoughtfully designed to give you a deep understanding of our signature Enriched Whole Child Montessori program and bilingual classrooms and to help us learn more about your child and your family's interests and aspirations. The most inspiring time to experience Mint is when our classrooms are alive with learning. Touring while classes are in session offers a true glimpse into the vibrant rhythm of our days and the joyful focus of our students.

2. Join Our Waitlist

After we have the pleasure of getting to know one another, we will invite you to join Mint's waiting list. At this point, our admissions team will be in touch to share your status and guide you through the next steps toward registration.

3. Online Registration

We invite families to enroll as soon as spaces become available. Enrollment to all programs is offered on a first-come, first-served basis, with priority given to returning students and their siblings. Children may be enrolled at any age, and no prior Montessori or French language background is required, only a readiness to thrive in a nurturing and thoughtfully prepared environment.

If you have any questions regarding our application process, contact us, and we will be happy to guide you.







“Investing in the early years
is one of the most precious gifts
we can give our children.”

SAARAH SHIVJI, J.D., CERTIFIED
MONTESSORI CURRICULUM SPECIALIST,
HARVARD GRADUATE SCHOOL OF EDUCATION
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, THE MINT SCHOOL



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