

## Sibling considerations before you register - CURRENT FAMILIES

Parents often look for opportunities for their children to attend the same childcare centre for ease of drop-off, and/or because their previous attending child enjoyed the experience. However, it is important to understand - especially with methodologies like Montessori - that children are each unique learners, with different ways to process information.

In most sibling pairs and groups, you will have a variety of personalities - and learning styles!



The best way to honor the guiding principle of the Montessori approach is to follow EACH child on their individual path, and to meet them where they are now for their personality, needs, and learning process. *Yes, sometimes this will mean that you have children in two different centres for care / future schooling.* However, it will also mean that you have two happy children who are succeeding and learning in a way that is meaningful to their needs.

At Aspen Hill Montessori (AHM), we guarantee pre-registration for current students siblings. ***However, to ensure the best experience for your second child, please consider the following **specifically with your next student in mind as a unique individual** BEFORE pre-registering them for next fall.***

- The Montessori approach at AHM is best-suited to children who enjoy structure and order.
  - Children who seek order (i.e. enjoy putting items away once they are done using them), tend to wake up at the same time, want food at the same time each day, and take a nap at the same time each day will often enjoy the structure in a Montessori space.
- AHM toddler classrooms offer fine motor experiences, with most activities being done seated at tables or at floor mats.
  - Children who gravitate naturally towards puzzles, books, coloring, and seated activities like Playdough at home will usually enjoy the types of activities in our classrooms.
- Bambini classrooms at AHM promote and encourage independence from students.



- Children who are able to play by themselves at home or care for 8-10 minutes without direct adult support are ready for the more independent space of a Montessori class.
- AHM toddler classrooms are best for children who are able to quiet their bodies and focus on an activity of choice for 8-10 minutes at a time.
  - Children who routinely seek a lot of physical movement throughout their day (running, climbing, jumping), and/or who have a hard time doing seated activities without one-on-one adult support, may not enjoy the AHM approach.

If you feel a Montessori approach would also suit your second child, we encourage you to pre-register! If you are not sure if a Montessori methodology is right for your second child, we encourage you to book an interview so we can meet your child and chat about their learning style. To book for early in December, e-mail [admissions@aspenhillmontessori.ca](mailto:admissions@aspenhillmontessori.ca).