



LEWIS & CLARK MONTESSORI CHARTER SCHOOL

What is the Primary Program:

The Primary Program is a fee-based program affiliated with Lewis & Clark Montessori Charter School. Enrollment is open to children ages 2 ½ yrs. to 6 yrs. (who are fully potty trained). The program provides an authentic Montessori early childhood education and allows students entering LCMCS, to experience Montessori greater than one year's time (for those who enroll for the first time via Lottery at the kindergarten level). This is also a natural path of progression for students interested in pursuing Montessori for elementary (grades 1-6) and adolescent (grades 7-8).

What if my child is eligible for the Public Charter program but has not been cleared via the Lottery:

Those Primary Program students who are eligible for the public charter program can matriculate throughout the school year as charter space becomes available. This would only involve a change in paperwork, not a change in classroom for the student. The option to remain in the Primary Program while awaiting space in the public charter program is only available to children who are 6 yrs. and under. Note: If your child will **not** turn 5 by September 1, they are not eligible for the public charter program until the following year (per OR Dept of Education). Enrollment in the Primary Program does not guarantee admission to the LCMCS public charter.

Why is it ideal for my child to stay in the same class for a three-year period:

The norm for Montessori education is classrooms which have a three-year age span. This allows for an entering child to remain with the same class/teacher/peer group for a full three years. Peer learning takes place between and within the age groups, and children progress at their own rate.

Why is tuition charged for the Primary Program:

LCMCS is a charter school sponsored by the Gresham-Barlow School District (GBSD). Since GBSD does not offer an early childhood program, but rather begins at the kindergarten level, this necessitates that the younger children would need a fee-based program.

Tuition, hours, enrollment and other Primary Program Information:

Tuition

Full-Day Tuition is \$11,870 or 10 payments of \$1,187 (Sept-Jun)

Half-Day Tuition is \$9,750 or 10 payments of \$975 (Sept-Jun)

Hours

Full-Day is 8:00 AM to 3:30 PM Monday through Friday

Half-Day is 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM Monday through Friday

Enrollment

We are now accepting children into the Primary program. A 5% deposit is required for all applicants who are accepted to the program. Full-day is \$593.50 (5% of \$11,870) and half-day is \$487.50 (5% of \$9,750). The full deposit is refundable within 30 days of receipt.

Fees

There is a resource fee of \$300 due at the beginning of each year. If the child qualifies for NSLP, this fee is waived.

What paperwork is required for my child to attend the Primary Program:

To register your child for the Primary Program, you must bring a copy of your child's birth certificate and a copy of their most recent immunization records.

Does the Primary program start the same time as LCMCS:

While the Primary program does follow a traditional "school year", the students are phased in over the first week of school so that we can give more attention to each child as they are making this transition, therefore your child will have an abbreviated schedule for a few days as part of their phase in. Prior to the first day of school, you will have the opportunity to bring your child for a brief (15 to 20 min.) visit to meet their teacher. Outlined below is an **EXAMPLE** schedule:

Tuesday, September 4th, first day of school

On Tuesday, September 4th, 8:00AM to 12:15 PM

On Wednesday, September 5th, 8:00AM to 12:15PM

On Thursday, September 6th, full day 8:00AM to 3:30 PM

Will I need to provide any additional items for my child:

Please ensure your child has the items listed below available for their first day of school. We recommend bringing these during the visit to meet the teacher.

It can be a wonderful experience for your child to be involved in choosing the items below with you! Please permanently label all items with your child's name. Please note: all items are to be character/ media-free and left at school:

- A pair of non-skid, rubber-soled, tennis shoes to be worn indoors and for gym time. **(please no slippers or flip-flops).**
- A pair of waterproof rain boots, waterproof rain pants and rain coat your child can manage independently.
- A complete change of clothes including socks and underwear (please place these in a gallon-sized Ziplock bag with your child's name clearly & permanently marked on the clothing and the bag).
- A sweatshirt or sweater
- A small, porcelain or ceramic, child-sized mug, with child's name permanently marked
- Please note: no backpacks - our cubby space is very limited.

What defines "fully potty trained":

Your child must feel confident and be comfortable with using the bathroom independently. We understand accidents happen, however our school is not able to accommodate the use of pull-ups or frequent accidents, unless specified by a documented medical condition. Your child must be fully toilet trained and this includes during rest time.

Parent Education and Community:

Parent and teacher conferences are scheduled for October and April, dates and sign-up to be announced. However, you may request a time to meet with your child's teacher throughout the school year. It is highly encouraged that parents observe their child and the classroom at work – these opportunities typically begin after the Thanksgiving Holidays. Families of the Primary Program are welcomed and encouraged to attend parent education nights and other events hosted by LCMCS.