



What is Children's House:

The Children's House 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 a quality 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 Children's House 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 Children's House 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 Children's House 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 for classrooms to 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. Much peer learning takes place between and within the age groups, and children progress at their own rate.

Why is tuition charged for Children's House:

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 Children's House Information:

Tuition

Full-Day Tuition is \$10,750 with 10 payments of \$1,075 (Sept-Jun)

Half-Day Tuition is \$6,250 with 10 payments of \$625.50 (Sept-Jun)

Hours

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

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

Enrollment

We are now accepting children into the Children's House program. A 5% deposit is required for all applicants who are accepted to the program. Full-day is \$537.50 (5% of \$10,750) and half-day is \$312.50 (5% of \$6,250). 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 Children's House:

To register your child for Children's House, you must bring a copy of your child's birth certificate and a copy of their most recent immunization records. You will be provided with an Immunization Card to transfer your records onto and keep on file here in our office.

Does the Children's House program start the same time as LCMCS:

While the Children's House program does follow a traditional "school year", the students are phased in over the first few weeks of school so that we can give more attention to each child as they are making this transition, therefore your child will "visit" for a few days as part of their phase in. Outlined below is an **EXAMPLE** schedule:

Tuesday, September 4th, first day of school for all public charter students

On Monday, September 11th, bring your child for a brief (15 to 20 min.) visit at 3:45 PM

On Tuesday, September 12th, 8:00AM to 10:00 AM

On Wednesday, September 13th, 8:00AM to 12:15PM

On Thursday, September 14th, full day 8:00AM to 3:30 PM

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

Please bring the items listed below for your child's first day of school. 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 November and March, 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 Children's House are welcomed and encouraged to attend parent education nights and other events hosted by LCMCS.