

Montessori Quality Assurance

Committed to Principles of the
Association Montessori Internationale

Checklist for Parents

This checklist is designed for parents to take with them when visiting potential Montessori environments for their child(ren).

Essential Characteristics of Association Montessori Internationale (AMI) environments in support of the full development of the human being:

- **Mixed-age groups with full range for each level**
 - Nido: 2 months to walking 12-15 months
 - Infant Community: walking 15 months–2 ½/3 yrs
 - Primary: 2 ½ /3- 6 years
 - Elementary: 6-9 years, 9-12 years or 6-12 years

- **Class Size**
 - Nido: 2 months to walking 12-15 months: enrollment up to 6 children
 - Infant Community: 15 months – 2 ½ /3 years: not intentionally less than 12 children (except where due to establishing a new class or government regulations)
 - 3-6 years and 6-12 years: enrollment numbers per class not intentionally less than 28 children (except where due to establishing a new class or government regulations)

- **The Teacher and Assistant**

One trained AMI teacher per class and the minimum number of non-teaching assistants as allowed by government regulations

- **Materials**

A full set of Montessori materials as per the training albums

- **Program**
 - 0-3 years: minimum of 4 consecutive days per week
 - 3-6 years and 6-12 years: program runs 5 days per week;

- **Uninterrupted Work Cycle**
 - 0-3 years: minimum 2 hours per day;
 - 3-6 years: minimum 3-hour uninterrupted morning work cycle and 2-3 hour uninterrupted afternoon work cycle;
 - 6-12 years: minimum 3 hour uninterrupted work cycle in one half of the day and 2-3 hour uninterrupted work cycle the other half of the day. *One 2-3-hour work cycle per week may be used to accommodate special subjects such as foreign language.*