

# 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.*