PARENT CODE OF CONDUCT

Dr. Maria Montessori integrated a code of conduct into her curriculum, emphasizing grace, courtesy and respect for yourself and others. Parents play a formative role in the development of their child's sense of justice, equity, and the dignity and worth of all members of our school community. As one of the most influential role models in a child's life, one of the best ways for a parent to teach is to lead by example.

As members of the school community, parents are expected to conduct themselves in a lawful, ethical, safe and responsible manner that recognizes and respects the rights of others and the expertise, experience and qualifications of staff. Accordingly, Downtown Montessori Academy expects the behavior of each parent and responsible adult with children enrolled at our school to adhere to the standards of conduct set forth below.

1. Members of the DMA community should ensure that everyone within the school community is treated with respect, fairness and dignity. Respect and treat others fairly, regardless of race, ancestry, place of origin, color, ethnic origin, citizenship, religion, gender, sexual orientation, age or disability.
2. When visiting or volunteering at the school, parents should observe all rules of the school, including checking in at the office.
3. You may not act in a threatening manner (i.e., gross disrespect, threatening, using loud or offensive or profane language, swearing, or displaying temper, or causing disruption to professional or academic climate) toward any staff member or student; injure any other person or threaten to do so; or damage or destroy school property or the property of a teacher, administrator, other school employee or any other person lawfully on school property, including graffiti or arson.
4. Parents shall not send abusive, harassing, or threatening emails or text/voicemail/phone messages or other inappropriate written communication. In addition, avoid social media posts denigrating other students, parents, or staff at DMA.
5. Parents may not record or videotape any interactions within the school building where there is an expectation of privacy (classroom instruction, conversations with teachers, students, staff), unless all participants to the conversation have given their permission for the recording or videotaping.
6. If a parent feels that the actions of another child have infringed upon the rights of his or her child, under no circumstances shall the parent or guardian approach another child while at school to discuss or chastise them. The parents may approach the classroom teacher to seek a peaceful resolution to the situation. In addition, direct parent to parent contact should be avoided when there has been an incident at the school involving their child/children.
7. Bullying has no place within our community and as such will not be tolerated. This is as true for adult-to-adult interaction as it is for child-to-child. All interactions between members of our community must be in keeping with the school's values and policies. Instances of bullying must quickly be brought to the attention of the classroom teacher or Principal.
8. If a parent has questions or issues relating to the classroom or a class, they should first be addressed directly to the staff member in question. Parents are requested to set up a private meeting where their concerns can be discussed and the actions giving rise to such concern explained.
9. All communications regarding issues with other parents or staff at the school or school events shall remain respectful and address the issues at hand. Yelling, taunting, threatening or abusive behavior, cursing, foul language, or derogatory remarks are not acceptable means of communication. Parents are

expected to resolve issues through calm dialogue between the parties directly involved while respecting the dignity of others.

Parental Conflict Resolution Procedure

The following procedure is to help facilitate a positive learning environment in which good problem-solving skills are utilized and modeled for our students. When a conflict arises between a parent and a staff member of Downtown Montessori Academy, the following steps should be taken; the issue must not be discussed with other parents or staff in the school, but should be dealt with one on one. Most problems can be resolved in this manner.

1. The parent should arrange a meeting with the staff member to discuss his/her concerns and attempt to come to a mutually agreed upon solution.
2. If mutually agreed closure is not reached, the parent may arrange a meeting with the Principal or Executive Director of Downtown Montessori Academy. In this meeting the parent should discuss the attempts that have been made to settle the problem with the staff member. The administration, at their discretion, may invite the staff member to be present.

Possible Actions

Consequences of violations of the Downtown Montessori Academy Code of Conduct may include, but not be limited to, restrictions from access to the school property or to direct communications with the school.