



July 2021

Dear Twos Parents:

We would like to welcome you to the morning and afternoon twos classes. The twos classes are designed to help facilitate a smooth transition into preschool for each family and to make each child's first year at preschool a happy one.

We require that an adult accompany each child to school for the first four (4) part-time days of Summer Camp and/or the regular school year (you will attend part-time, morning or afternoon only, for the first 4 classes). We have found that having parents present in the classroom helps the children feel more secure with the teachers and our routines, eliminating much of the separation anxiety usually associated with being in a new environment. Another benefit to having parents attend class with the children is that you will be able to speak with real confidence about the fun at school!

During this unprecedented time, we have slightly changed this transition policy for parents of the two-year-olds. In order to continue to provide the standards our parents have come to expect of Montecito School, and for your child's smooth transition, these first four (4) class sessions will be held outside only (in the Meadow Room playground and bike circle areas). All activities the children will engage in, including when the teachers talk to the parents about the classroom rules and procedures, will be outside with all the twos, parents and teachers together. This is so that we can partner with you to transition your two-year-old, but also so that we have open air and space for everyone for safety reasons (a natural social distancing environment). Prior to entering the classroom, all parents must wear masks, must answer the pre-screening questions to the teachers' satisfaction, must have their temperature taken, and must wash their hands upon entering the playground area. If your child needs to go potty during the class time, a teacher will take your child into the bathroom and help them (as well as to change their diapers as needed). If you need to go to the bathroom, a teacher will escort you to an adult bathroom on campus, and have you wash your hands before going to the bathroom. We appreciate your continued support of our preschool, our protocols and health and safety procedures, and helping your child transition by abiding by these requirements during your stay.

Beginning either this Summer 2021 or for the 2021/22 school year (on August 16th and 17th or your child's first day of attendance mid-year), the following transition process will apply to the twos classes listed below (for our two-year-old families only):

- Each two-year-old child attending classes and/or camps on T/TH (morning or afternoon) AND M-F (morning or afternoon) will be accompanied by one adult on either T/TH for the first 2 weeks of class (in the morning if your child attends only AM or F/T and in the afternoon if your child only attends afternoon) or Monday through Thursday of the first week of Camp/school (morning or afternoon); OR
- Each two-year-old child attending classes and/or camps on M/W/F (morning or afternoon) will be accompanied by one adult on M/W for the first 2 weeks of class (again, in the morning or afternoon, depending on when your child attends class).

- NOTE: For the week of June 22nd, the M/W/F children will be accompanied by adults on Wednesday and Friday of that first week (June 23rd and 25th) and then again on Monday and Wednesday, June 28th & June 30th). Since this time has passed, many of you have already successfully completed this transition for the summer.

Our drop-in programs are also available to your two-year-old child; however, we find it's best to wait until your child is transitioned into his/her twos class first, as your child will be more emotionally and developmentally ready for the additional hours and change in their routine once they have attended school for a few weeks. Our drop-in program is intentionally structured and staffed the same as your child's twos class, and will be held in the Meadow Room with your child's same friends and teachers. Your child is also welcome to participate in our drop-in Holiday Care (during our school breaks and summers – up to full-time care available) and any Parents' Night Out (offered based on parent interest one Saturday per month throughout the school year).

Please refer to the Parent Handbook for other two-year-old and school policies. Handbooks are given out on Orientation Day (August 16th and 17th). For Summer Camps, there is no Orientation Day. We really appreciate everyone's help and support in making the first days of school safe, fun and exciting for each child. We eagerly await the arrival of your children!

Thank you,

Erin K. Mobley and your Twos Teachers

Parent Copy
