



# PARENT HANDBOOK

April 2016

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Welcome to Little Way School. By God's grace, we run our school, grateful for His provision and protection. He is truly "guiding us where He would have us go and teaching us what is for our good" (Isaiah 48:17).

It is our mission and our passion to support, encourage, and help parents in their responsibility as primary educators of their children. We pray that you will find joy in the journey and grace for the duty of the moment. We encourage ongoing dialogue between parents and teachers. We can best serve your children by embracing their individuality and by closely communicating with parents. Honest and open exchanges between parents and teachers are invaluable, enhancing the education process and ultimately benefiting the child. Keeping staff informed of changes in a child's schedule, work habits, struggles, etc. will help to meet the child's individual needs in a more direct manner.

Thank you for your confidence in Little Way as you entrust your children to us. Please pray for us that we will be ever more sensitive to the leading and prompting of the Holy Spirit, choosing His Way over ours.

This school belongs to our Heavenly Father and His plan will stand for all time. May we be good stewards of His provisions as we press on in our service, with Jesus Christ as our Head.

In Christ,  
The Faculty and Staff of  
Little Way School

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## What is Montessori?

A Montessori school is an environment which embodies the educational principles established by Dr. Maria Montessori as she consistently and scientifically observed how children develop and learn. Dr. Maria Montessori (1870 - 1952) was an Italian physician whose vocation was dedicated to the study of children. She discovered that the characteristics at each stage of human development are unique, and that the foundation of the whole personality is laid during the early years of life. This discovery is now universally accepted in scientific circles. Maria Montessori referred to the child in the first six years of life, as the “*Absorbent Mind*”. It is this stage of development that is most critical and formative.

In a Montessori setting, interactive learning occurs in an environment carefully prepared by an educator trained to work with children of that specific age group. In a non-graded class of mixed ages, the children spontaneously and independently use materials designed by Dr. Montessori. They are guided to choose their own activities and develop practical and intellectual abilities through individual discovery and exploration of language, mathematics, geography, geometry, art and music.

The highly social atmosphere of this environment stems from a unique combination of freedom and structure, founded on respect. Montessori education aids the fullest development of a child's potential and provides each child with the foundation for a life of joyful learning.

## The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

A major part of the curriculum at Little Way is the spiritual formation the children will receive. Children will be participating in The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd. This is a unique religious experience designed for children by Sofia Cavaletti & Gianna Gobi in Rome beginning in 1954. It is based upon Maria Montessori's spiritual vision for children.

The purpose of the Catechesis is to proclaim the message of Jesus to children using the “Parable Method” for meditation on Scripture, while using Montessori methods to provide a learning environment conducive to the spiritual development of the young child. Children are especially attracted and are sensitive to the Good Shepherd's abiding love for His sheep. They in turn develop a special love for Jesus, who is the Good Shepherd even before they realize that they are the sheep. Materials usually accompany each presentation and are then left for the children to manipulate and meditate upon.

## Little Way Elementary Curriculum

Little Way Elementary is a multiage classroom, serving children in grades first through fourth. Although not Montessori in practice, the elementary classroom builds on the Montessori foundation from the younger classroom. Little Way strives to put God at the center of our day, our abilities, our relationships, and our school community. The elementary classroom fosters an independence and love of learning because of the child's awareness of his/her accomplishments in their work.

**Math:** Students develop a conceptual knowledge of why math works the way it does and why the answer makes sense. Knowing the procedures of how to solve equations is also important, but building the understanding of why is a key component of our math period. Math is taught specific to a child's grade level, in a guided math approach, but the opportunity to work with and be challenged by the older students is a benefit to our classroom.

**Reading:** There are a mixture of reading and writing abilities in the classroom; therefore, the children are placed in their appropriate groups. These groups contain many combinations of grades and are fluid throughout the year. Many components of literacy are incorporated in this time, guided reading instruction, spelling, phonemic instruction, writing, and grammar are the main components. Within each area of literacy, the children have the choice of their activity, but a challenge and standard of work are also expected.

**Religion:** Little Way is a Catholic school, and the beauty of that is the gift of prayer. We begin each day with prayer and continue to pray throughout the day. We dive into scripture to unpack the gift of God's love and God's words to us all. Together we encourage and support each other to strive to do God's will in all things. We turn to the saints to look at as example of an incredible way to give our lives to God, but we also study the sacraments, prayers, commandments, and promises the God has for us all.

**Writing:** Students write across a variety of genres (narrative, informational, fictional, myth, folktales, personal essay, literary essay, and poetry) learning the art of writing well. Through the study of quality literature and mentor authors, students are encouraged to discover their writing style while learning the nuts and bolts of written language.

## Our Mission

**The Little Way School aspires to educate the whole child; spiritually, cognitively, emotionally and socially.**

**Spiritual:** An authentic Catholic approach where the mystery of the Church meets the mystery of the child.

**Cognitive:** Age appropriate curriculum will foster the freedom to explore, create, and become a life long learner.

**Social/ Emotional:** The communal education which the child receives will foster personal dignity, independence, self- discipline, cooperation, and respect for others.

The underlying belief of Little Way is that all people are created in the image and likeness of God. They each have a combination of gifts, abilities, interests and learning style preferences, which make each of us a unique creation. It is therefore important to establish a system that provides educational opportunities to all of God's children.

We believe that all children are inquisitive, creative and have a natural desire to learn. They all move through successive developmental stages during which they pass through sensitive periods for learning particular skills or developing particular talents to their optimum level. For children, education is the process of providing the proper environment, tools, direction and encouragement, which helps them achieve the development of their talents. The child is actively involved in the learning process.

We believe that the parent is the primary educator of the child. Therefore the importance of the home environment and the teaching role of the parents throughout the child's life is very important. The responsibility and authority of the child's education rests primarily with the parent. Little Way is designed to assist parents in this major responsibility, cooperatively.

In order that children embrace their faith in a society which is so often self-centered rather than God-centered, they must be able to see the faith lived and loved by those around them. Little Way is an educational community centered in Eucharistic devotion. All aspects of the center are based on the fullness of Catholic faith and teachings in an atmosphere of praise, holiness and reverence.

## **Responsibilities**

### **Of the School**

1. To provide a warm, loving environment that is attractive, clean and safe.
2. To follow the teachings, doctrines and disciplines of the Catholic Church.
3. To maintain high educational standards.
4. To provide a stimulating educational program.
5. To provide an excellent and caring staff.
6. To maintain written records on each child.
7. To provide parent education and conferences.

### **Of Parents**

1. To understand and accept the Church's teaching that parents are the primary educators of their children.
2. To deliver and pick-up their children on time.
3. To read the school handbook.
4. To attend conferences and parent meetings.
5. To maintain realistic expectations about their children.
6. To keep informed about school policies and goals.
7. To become aware of the Montessori method in order to assist the child.
8. To fulfill financial and legal obligations to the school in a prompt and timely manner.
9. To volunteer and become active in their child's education.

### **Of the Child**

1. To "construct" the person God is calling him/her to be.

## Discipline Policy

Our philosophy for social and intellectual development is centered on respect: Respect for oneself, others and the environment. In order to develop the child's God-given gifts and talents to the fullest, the child is encouraged to cultivate a natural capacity for self-control. In addition, Little Way staff encourages the children to interact with others in a Christian manner as "brothers and sisters in Christ." The teachings of Jesus are our central focus and our guide.

When a child's behavior is inappropriate, the child is redirected to a more satisfying activity. If the problem persists and a positive resolution cannot be reached through discussion with the director, the child will spend with the director or be separated until he/she has regained proper composure and is ready and willing to return to work. The separation will usually take place in the same room as the other children. If the child is removed from the room, he/she will always be placed in a well-ventilated, well-lit area within sight and hearing of an adult. It is always our goal to "follow the child" in order to discover and guide them according to their needs, and toward those activities that will follow their interests and highlight their talents and abilities. Respect for the child's dignity is honored at all times.

### Unacceptable Behaviors

- Physical Harm- hitting and or pushing other-causing injury
- Verbal Abuse- teasing or inappropriate language
- Unwillingness to follow directions
- Refusal to complete chosen work
- Blatant disrespect
- Disturbing others at work
- Careless use of materials
- Constant verbal outbursts

### Parental Involvement

- Parents will be informed of behavior incidents with a phone call
- Director will attempt to consult with the parents to resolve and correct the child's behavior; a meeting may be necessary to discuss possible consequences to be set at home and at school.
- If there is willful aggression toward another person, the parent will be contacted to remove the child from school for the day
- Persistent willful misconduct, with no improvement, may warrant possible expulsion from the school.

### Social Skills Encouraged That Aid in "Inner Discipline"

- Care in our movements: walking slowly and deliberately
- Care in our speech: using words of kindness; deliberate articulation
- Waiting one's turn and sharing
- Awareness of the needs of self and eventually, the needs of others.



## Arrivals and Dismissals

### Monday - Friday

#### Half-Day Session

Session Begins: 8:30am

Session Ends: 12:30pm

### Monday - Friday

#### Full-Day Session

Session Begins: 8:30am

Session Ends: 3:00pm

### Arrival Procedures

So as not to interrupt the teacher's preparation time, we ask that children not arrive at school before **8:15**. Class starts promptly at **8:30**. We ask parents to quickly drop off children in the carpool line or outside the door of the classroom so as not to disrupt classroom activities.

### Goodbyes

The way in which you say goodbye to your child is important. Pre-school children go through various adjustments in their separation from parents. Therefore, we recommend that you say goodbye outside the classroom with confidence and leave promptly. We discourage long, emotional good-byes as they often make the child feel unsure about staying. For example, the child may conclude that if you, the parent, feel fear about leaving him/her, there must be something about which to be frightened. We realize that this can be a trying time for parents of younger children, but we assure you that the staff is trained to handle any problems of this nature that may arise with your child.

### Dismissal Procedures

Please arrive promptly at 12:30 to pick up half-day students. The children will be using the playground, so please use caution. Please arrive promptly at 3:00 for full-day students. Upon release of the child to the parent, Little Way School is no longer responsible for them.

### Late Arrivals

Most of the time, days begin with prayer and Bible reading. When students come in late, it is disruptive to prayer time and they miss receiving the benefits of God's word. **"Thus faith comes from what is heard, and what is heard comes through the word of Christ"** (Romans 10:17). We understand that even in the most well planned mornings, "life happens" and when it does, please accompany your child into the classroom. Out of respect for the teachers, the students, and your child/children, please make every effort to arrive at school in enough time for your child to be in the classroom by 8:30 am. It is more than just being respectful; it is a life lesson on punctuality.

## **Carpools**

The basic responsibility for transporting your child to and from school rests with you, the parents. The school recognizes, however, that transportation can be a difficulty and has found that carpools are often the solution to that difficulty. If you need to form a carpool, we recommend that you read through the class roster, noting parent addresses close to you, and try to make your own arrangements.

## **Child Pick-up/ Change in Transportation Arrangements**

For the safety of your child, the staff will not release a child to anyone without prior arrangement or written permission from the parents. No child will be released alone or with anyone under the age of 16. Please use the "Consent to Release" form to let staff know when someone else will be authorized to pick up your child that is not listed on the emergency contact form. We will require proper identification (i.e. driver's license) from any person, other than the parent, who is picking up the child, so please be sure that the person is aware that he/she will be asked to produce such identification. No child will be released to anyone who is under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

## **Picking Up Your Child Early**

In the event that you must pick up your child early, please send a note or call the school informing the teacher of your arrival time.

## **Late Pick-Up**

Please be on time to pick up your child. As much as the children enjoy school, friends, and the work they are doing, they do look forward to seeing their parents at the appointed time and can become very upset when their parent is late. Also, they are learning their first examples of consideration from you. If you must be late due to an emergency or an unforeseen circumstance, please call the school. If we are momentarily unavailable to take your call, you may call the school (706-782-4400) and leave a message for us; this should only be done in emergencies. If late pick-ups become a habit, a late fee will be charged.



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## **Attendance & Reporting Pupil Absences**

Children are expected to have regular attendance. Each day of school is important to your child. Students who are ill, have doctor's appointments, or when a family emergency arises are excused from school. Attendance is taken and recorded daily. The total number of days a child is absent is recorded and becomes part of the child's file. Please make every effort to schedule appointments during after school hours. Parents should notify the school at (706)782-4400 before 8:30am if their child is to be absent for any reason.

## **Emergency Procedures**

### **Weather Emergency**

Little Way School will cancel school whenever Rabun County Schools cancel due to bad weather. Listen to WRBN radio (104.1 FM) for this announcement. Little Way may not be named specifically. If a storm begins while school is in session, you may desire to pick up your child early. Likewise, depending on how quickly a storm is developing, we may want to reach you to come early. It is important, therefore, that the contact information on your Emergency Form be kept current. If weather is looking ominous on a particular day, and you are going to be somewhere other than the phone numbers indicated as contact points on your Emergency Form, please let us know a number at which you can be reached on that particular day. Use your own good judgment when weather looks bad. Don't feel obligated to drive when safety is a factor, but please notify other parents if you are in a carpool.

### **Home**

If a family emergency occurs which may affect your child, you may call the school. If the phone is not answered immediately, leave a message on the voicemail and we will return your call as soon as possible.

### **Utility Failure, Power Outage, or Emergency**

In case of a power outage or in an event of a utility failure (heat, water and sewer) parents will be notified to pick up their children. This will also apply to dangerous weather conditions.

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## School Attire

Children should come to school dressed in clothing that is modest, simple, comfortable and appropriate for the weather. Children must be toilet trained prior to entering school. Clothing should be easy for the child to manage himself/herself so that he/she become independent and use the toilet with a minimum of frustration. Please be sure that your child wears clothing that is completely washable. It helps the staff a great deal if all sweaters, coats, boots, shoes, hats and other outerwear are labeled. It is difficult to remember who wore what and even more difficult if things are left behind.

If possible, try to allow time for your child to dress himself/herself prior to departing for school. This promotes independence. A good approach is to first make two suggestions to your child, i.e. "would you like to wear this or this?" thus allowing your child to learn to make choices. Next, encourage your child to lay out clothes the night before that he/she wants to wear on a table or chair, thus teaching your child a good lesson in responsibility. It is difficult and frustrating sometimes for parents to allow time for their child to dress himself/herself, especially if the child happens to be a "dawdler". Hopefully, the approach outlined in the preceding paragraph will keep that frustration to a minimum.

## Possessions Of the Child

**Toys** -- Toys should remain at home. Please assure your child that he/she will have special work to do at school and that his/her toys are for use at home.

**Candy and Gum** -- Candy and gum may not be brought to school.

**Special Items** -- Children are permitted to bring items to the school that relate to classroom activities, especially books, science objects, geography items, or other religious articles. If you have questions about what is permissible, please discuss it with us. Please remember that there is a possibility that things may get broken or lost. Therefore, don't send anything too valuable and please label all possessions.

**Books and Music** -- Children often like to bring books or musical CDs to school. This is fine. CDs will be played and/or books read only if time permits, so this should be explained to the child beforehand.

## **Possessions Of the School**

Small Montessori items such as tiny cylinders, beads, cubes, bottles, etc. may look insignificant but are often vital to a piece of classroom equipment. Children are often fascinated with these things and sometimes inadvertently take them home in their pockets. If you should notice any of these things at home, we would greatly appreciate it if you would see that they get returned to school.

## **Health Procedures and Policies**

### **Illness**

Regular attendance is important to your child's development. Call the school if your child is sick and will not be attending school. If a child becomes ill at school, we will attempt to notify the parents. If the parents cannot be reached, the "alternate" names on the emergency card will be notified. In the event none of the persons listed can be reached and the child is not seriously ill or injured, the child will be cared for in a designated area allocated for sick children. This child will be placed in an area where an adult will be in attendance. Sick children will not be required to be with the class or participate in activities. Please notify the school if your child has a contagious illness. In case an infectious or communicable disease appears in the classroom, parents will be notified by a written notice.

### **Emergency Form**

It is mandatory that we have this form on or before the first day of school. During the school year, should there be any changes to the information that you provided on this form, please let us know immediately. The safety of your child is our primary concern in requesting this information.

### **Medical Information**

A health care summary and immunization record of each child is required upon admission to school, following the guidelines mandated by the state. Before a child is admitted to school or within 30 days of admission a current physical examination of the children signed by the child's source of medical care must be turned in. For children already admitted to the school, a physical examination form signed by the child's source of medical care, whenever any child 24 months or older advances to an older age category, must be submitted to the school. When a child is enrolled in the school, the school must obtain documentation of current immunizations, a signed notarized statement of parental objection to the immunization or a medical exemption.

## **Medication Administration**

Please make every attempt to give medication at home before and after school. We will dispense medication only if absolutely necessary.

## **Child Exclusion Policies**

Your child will be excluded from school because of the following:

1. A reported illness or condition determined to be contagious and there has not been sufficient treatment to reduce the health risk of others.
2. A temperature of 100 degrees Fahrenheit, or more, and should stay home for 24 hours after the temperature returns to normal
3. Vomiting within 24 hours
4. Three abnormal loose stools or diarrhea in the last 24 hours.
5. Contagious pinkeye or has pus draining from the eye
6. A bacterial infection such as strep throat or impetigo and has not completed 24 hours of an antibiotic treatment and has been symptom free for 24 hours
7. Chicken pox until no longer contagious. Usually about 6 days after the first sign of vesicles
8. Unexplained lethargy
9. Lice, ringworm or scabies that is untreated or contagious to others
10. An undiagnosed rash or a rash attributed to a contagious illness
11. A significant respiratory distress
12. Unable to participate in the school with reasonable comfort
13. Requires more care than our staff can provide without compromising the health and safety of the other children
14. If your child is too ill to go outside and play

## Communication

### School Calendar

The calendar will keep you informed of important dates, such as conferences, programs, school Masses, fund raisers, etc. Please keep this calendar in a convenient place for reference throughout the year. If there is a change in the calendar, we will notify you as soon as possible with the changes.

### Messages

Many of our communications will be attached to your children's bags. Please check for newsletters, calendars, tuition payment envelopes, etc. every day. You may also return notes, payments, etc on the bag to the classroom the following day.

Our staff welcomes and appreciates communication from the parents of children enrolled at the school. We are open to ideas and suggestions and enjoy getting to know the parents as well as having the parents get to know them. We encourage you to communicate with us as often as you feel necessary. Please also respect the teachers need to prepare, clean-up after school and allow for evening personal family time.

### Special Information from Home

In the event that a significant change occurs in your home, please consider informing the staff. We will accept your judgment as to which changes may affect your child's behavior and security. Common causes for stress include moving, a new person living in the home, either or both parents being away from home, illness in the family, any hospitalization, accident or death in the family, new guardian, and death of a pet. All information is regarded as strictly confidential.

### What Did You Do At School Today?

"Oh...nothing." Please do not be dismayed when your child responds to your question in this manner. Almost all children answer in this way. Typically, children consider school their world and often do not like to be questioned about it. Imagine yourself, from an adult point of view, coming home tired from a work-filled day and having someone demand: "Tell me everything you did at work today." We adults would get quite tired of such questions, perhaps even resent them. A child may feel the same way. Please remember that the work the children do in the classroom varies with their ages. Therefore, so will the type of

work each child brings home. Please do not pressure your child to bring home lots of papers. Most of the work in the Montessori classroom goes on in the child's mind, with the use of manipulatives; thus, pressure to bring things home could have a negative effect on your child.

## **Parent Participation**

Little Way School firmly believes that the parents, child and teachers all interact to form the environment from which your child ultimately constructs himself/herself. We recognize that education is most effective when the environments of both home and school are working together to provide a consistency in which your child can grow and develop.

### **Volunteers**

Volunteering is vital to the success of Little Way School and we welcome and encourage your ideas and efforts. There are many opportunities to volunteer and as each family's time constraints/availability vary, we offer a choice regarding the level of volunteerism that is right for you.

### **Orientation Meeting-Adults Only, Please**

Just prior to the beginning of the school year, a Parent Night is held for all parents. The primary purpose of this meeting is to briefly explain the methods of each classroom and school policies. You will be given ample time for questions and discussion. This is also an opportunity to meet other parents/guardians.

### **Conferences**

It is a parent or guardians responsibility to attend two conferences during the school year. These conferences are held in October and March. Sign-up sheets will be posted on the bulletin board outside the classroom at least one week prior so that you can choose a convenient time. If you have a problem in scheduling, please let the teacher know so that they can do their best to arrange another appointment. At these conferences you will be given a written report on your child's progress intellectually, physically, socially and emotionally. The staff will be happy to arrange special conference times anytime during the year if there is a need. Simply make the request verbally or in a written note.



## **Observations**

A parent is allowed to visit their child at any time. Observing in the Montessori class is an ideal way to get better acquainted with the application of the Montessori philosophy. We invite and encourage all Montessori parents to take advantage of this opportunity. Parents of returning students may begin observing in October and parents of new students may begin after Christmas. This is to assure that the first-year children will have had enough time to adjust to the classroom so that they will not be too distracted when their parents come to visit. It is important that you make an appointment to observe ahead of time, so we can plan appropriately for your visit.

## **Special Days for the Children**

### **Birthdays**

Montessori- We enjoy celebrating your child's birthday with a very simple candle lighting ceremony. A birthday tradition that we have is to read to the class one or two things that have happened in each year of the child's life. The children particularly enjoy this if pictures from each year of their life attached to a poster board accompany the reading. Parents are invited to join us for this celebration.

Elementary- If a child in the elementary class would like to celebrate their birthday with classmates, they are welcome to bring in a treat to share at lunch time.

### **Others**

We will send out updates, plans and calendars announcing how we will celebrate holidays and Holy Days in a liturgical manner. There will be several special fun days throughout the year.

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## **Tuition, Withdrawals, and Schedule of Refunds**

### **Tuition**

As stated and agreed upon by you in your Enrollment Contract, tuition is assessed annually. If a ten month payment plan is chosen, tuition is due on the first of each month starting in the month of August. Your cancelled check will serve as your receipt.

Prompt payment of tuition, as well as compliance with all other general terms and conditions as contained in your Enrollment Contract, is the basis for continued enrollment of your child at Little Way Montessori School. If you are unable to make the monthly tuition payment on time, you are asked to contact the school immediately. Late payments will be subject to a \$25 additional fee if other arrangements are not made.

Tuition for late enrollees will be pro-rated on a semi-monthly basis. A full month's payment is due from the first of the month through the fifteenth of the month of enrollment. A half-month's tuition is due from the sixteenth of the month through the end of the month of enrollment.

### **Withdrawals**

Full annual tuition for any child withdrawn from enrollment in the school after the date this agreement has been signed is the responsibility of the parent or guardian entering into the agreement. There is no distinction among various causes of withdrawal, unless it is requested by the school. In case withdrawal is requested by the school and confirmed by the administration, the annual tuition obligation and normal refund policy does not apply, i.e., payment of the full annual tuition will be waived and a pro-rated refund will be made.

## **Snacks**

The Montessori classroom does not have a regular, daily snack time. However, we do offer a snack each day and your child may choose to prepare their own food project from the practical life area. Our beverages will be water and/or milk. Most of the children find it quite exciting when they are ready for one or all of the individual snack preparation activities. These include cutting an apple, orange, carrot, banana, or celery. Please be certain that you have included all food allergies on your Emergency Form. Discuss with the teacher if these allergies can be life threatening.

The elementary class has a specific snack break each day. Each elementary student is responsible for bringing their own snack. We do ask that children's snacks are healthy in order to sustain their energy until lunch. Elementary students may also bring a water bottle.

## **Other Policies and Procedures**

### **Public Relations**

The enrollment contract contains a clause giving permission for any photos that might be used for a Little Way public relations activity or event.

### **Non-Discrimination**

Little Way Montessori School admits students of both sexes and of any race, color, national or ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, color, national or ethnic origin or disability in administration of its educational or admission policies.

### **Grievance**

If you have any questions or concerns regarding your child at Little Way Montessori School, you may contact your child's teacher. If satisfaction is not realized or a mutual remedy not arrived at, administration may be contacted for additional discussion. Further escalation may include consulting Little Way Executive Committee for mediation.

### **Drugs and Alcohol**

Any parent/guardian attempting to take their children from school when it is apparent they are under the influence of drugs or alcohol will be asked to make arrangements to have their children picked up by someone else.

### **Disclosure of Records**

No photos or any information from children's records will be disclosed unless a parent or guardian has given written consent.

### **Maltreatment of Minors Act**

Any person working or volunteering at Little Way Montessori School who knows or has reason to believe a child is being neglected or physically or sexually

abused, shall immediately report the information to the Department of Family and Children's Services at 706-782-4283. Reports regarding incidents of suspected abuse or neglect of children occurring within a family or in the community should be made to the local county social or local law enforcement.

### **Weapons Policy**

Little Way Montessori School upholds a zero tolerance regarding weapons. Weapon is defined as a knife or a gun or any other device or instrument which is utilized in such a manner so as to threaten, intimidate or produce bodily harm or the fear of such. No weapons are permitted on school property at any time.

## **Recommended Readings**

### **Books on Montessori**

MARIA MONTESSORI by Rita Kramer  
MONTESSORI: A MODERN APPROACH by Paula Polk Lillard  
THE MONTESSORI METHOD by E.M. Standing  
MARIA MONTESSORI: HER LIFE AND WORKS by E.M. Standing  
THE SECRET OF CHILDHOOD by Maria Montessori  
THE ABSORBENT MIND by Maria Montessori  
THE DISCOVERY OF THE CHILD by Maria Montessori

### **Psalm 23**

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.  
In verdant pastures he gives me repose;  
Beside restful waters he leads me; he refreshes my soul.  
He guides me in right paths for his name's sake.  
Even though I walk in the dark valley  
I fear no evil, for you are at my side  
with your rod and staff that give me courage.  
You spread the table before me in the sight of my foes;  
You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.  
Only goodness and kindness follow me all the days of my life;  
And I shall dwell in the house of the Lord for years to come.