



## **Parents' Day Out**

**Christ Church Grosse Pointe**

**"Help me to do it by myself."**

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### **1. Our Philosophy: Following the Child**

At Christ Church Grosse Pointe, our Parents' Day Out (PDO) program is rooted in the Montessori tradition. We believe that children possess an innate desire to learn and grow. Our role is to provide a **Prepared Environment**—a space where order, beauty, and purpose meet to support the child's developing independence, concentration, and sense of self.

We view your child not as a passive recipient of care, but as an active explorer. Our prayer is that through our "work" together, your child feels deeply loved by our community and by God.

#### **Our Prepared Environments**

Children are placed in communities based on their developmental stage as of September 1st:

- **The Cub Community (Toddler I): 14–23 Months**
- **The Bear Community (Toddler II): 2–3 Years**
- **The Panda Community (Primary Transition): 2–4 Years**

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### **2. The Prepared Environment: Policies & Procedures**

**Readiness for the Environment**

To ensure a harmonious community, we look for signs of readiness in our students:

- **Separation:** The ability to transition into the classroom (with the gentle support of our Guides).
- **Communication:** An emerging ability to express basic needs.
- **Safety:** A foundational understanding of physical boundaries and "Grace and Courtesy" (safety rules).

### **The Beauty of Order: Absence & Withdrawal**

Our environment relies on the consistency of the group.

- **Absences:** Because we carefully prepare materials and fresh snacks for each specific child, we cannot offer refunds or credits for missed days. Please notify the Director of any absences.
- **Withdrawal:** We require a **2 months' notice** for withdrawal to allow us to transition a child from our waiting list into the community.

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## **3. Financial Stewardship & Enrollment**

### **Investment in the Prepared Environment**

Our tuition structure is designed to provide stability for our staff and the high-quality materials within our prepared environments. By enrolling, you are committing to a full academic year of growth for your child. (September- End of May)

**Annual Registration Fee:** \$100 (Due at the time of enrollment to secure your child's placement; non-refundable). Make Check Payable to Christ Church

### **Tuition Tiers**

Tuition is calculated as an annual investment and, for your convenience, is billed in **equal monthly installments**. Payment will be made directly through the Christ Church payment website. Monthly reminders will be send 1 week prior to tuitions due date.

<b>Enrollment Option</b>	<b>Weekly Schedule</b>	<b>Yearly Tuition</b>	<b>Monthly Payment</b>
<b>5-Day Community</b>	Monday – Friday	\$8,800	\$978
<b>3-Day Community</b>	Mon / Wed / Fri	\$5,700	\$633
<b>2-Day Community</b>	Tue / Thu	\$3,900	\$433

**Please See Section 5 For Extended Day Options**

**Calendar:** We observe the Grosse Pointe Public School holiday schedule.

**4. The Daily Rhythm**

Our schedule follows a predictable "Work Cycle" that allows children to find deep focus.

<b>Time</b>	<b>The Work of the Child</b>
<b>8:45 AM</b>	<b>Arrival &amp; Entry:</b> Children hang their own coats to build autonomy.
<b>9:15 AM</b>	<b>Community Gathering:</b> Songs, stories, and the "Silence Game."
<b>9:45 AM</b>	<b>The Work Cycle:</b> Individual exploration of Montessori materials (Practical Life, Sensorial, Language).
<b>10:30 AM</b>	<b>Communal Snack:</b> A lesson in "Grace and Courtesy." We pray and eat together.
<b>11:00 AM</b>	<b>Freedom of Movement:</b> Gross Motor exploration in our shared space.

<b>Time</b>	<b>The Work of the Child</b>
<b>12:00 PM</b>	<b>Dismissal: Rejoining the family.</b>

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## 5. Extended Day Option: 12:00 PM – 2:00 PM

For families seeking a longer period of exploration and community, we offer an **Extended Day** program available all five days of the week. This extension allows children to transition from their morning "work" into a communal lunch and an afternoon of creative enrichment.

### The Afternoon Rhythm

The Extended Day follows the same Montessori principles of order and independence, with a special focus on social grace during mealtimes and artistic expression.

- **12:00 PM — Transition & Lunch:** Children practice "Practical Life" skills by setting their places and enjoying a packed lunch from home.
- **12:45 PM — Music Special:** Each afternoon includes a dedicated **Music Special**. This enrichment period introduces children to rhythm, melody, and movement, fostering auditory development and joyful expression through song.
- **1:15 PM — Reflection & Open Play:** A quiet period for children to "regain their center" and rest their bodies before the day ends. Children will not Nap during this time rather settle in for a circle time where they discuss the activities of the day. Following this reflection children will revisit our Gross Motor Room for continued exploration.
- **2:00 PM — Final Dismissal:** Rejoining the family.

### Extended Day Investment

Extended Day is available for an additional **\$20 per day**, billed monthly based on your child's weekly schedule. Extended Day is an optional addition

where your family has the flexibility to choose the extended days that work best for you monthly.

## 6. Independence & Practical Life

### Arrival & Separation

We encourage parents to say a quick, loving goodbye in the hallway. This builds the child's confidence that they are capable of navigating their environment independently.

- **Items from Home:** To maintain the order of the environment, please leave toys, and pacifiers at home. A "transitional object" (like a small blanket) is acceptable if needed.
- **Clothing:** Please dress your child in "independence-friendly" clothing (elastic waistbands, shoes with Velcro). **Close-toed shoes** are required for safety.
- **Backpacks:** We do not use backpacks inside the classroom to keep our floor space clear for "floor work." Please hang them on the designated hallway hooks.

### Pick-Up Grace Period

Pick-up is at **12:00 PM**. To respect the Guides' time for afternoon preparation, a fee of **\$1.00 per minute** is assessed after 12:05 PM.

### Extended Day Grace Period

Pick-up is at **2:00 PM**. To respect the Guides' time for afternoon preparation, a fee of **\$1.00 per minute** is assessed after 2:05 PM.

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## 7. Health & Peaceful Discipline

## **Wellness Policy**

A healthy body supports a focused mind. Please keep your child home for:

- Fever (99.5°F+), vomiting, or diarrhea within the last 24 hours.
- Contagious symptoms (discolored discharge, rashes, or "pink eye").

## **Positive Discipline (Grace & Courtesy)**

In a Montessori environment, we do not use "punishment." We use **Redirection and Logical Consequences.**

1. **Modeling:** We show the child the correct way to handle a situation.
2. **Redirection:** Inviting the child to a different "work" that meets their current need.
3. **Reflective Time:** If a child is hurting themselves or others, they may sit quietly with a Guide to "regain their center" before returning to the community.

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## **8. Our Guides**

Our staff is highly trained in First Aid, CPR, and the protection of children. More importantly, they are trained observers who respect the unique timeline of every child's development.

**We look forward to a year of discovery and growth with your child!**