



Fiddlehead

MONTESSORI

2020/2021 Family Handbook

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Welcome

By enrolling your child at Fiddlehead Montessori Elementary, you and your family have joined a caring, dedicated community of students, families, teachers, and staff.

In the following pages, you will find the answers to many of your questions about the school. More information can be found at www.theFiddlehead.org, including our school calendar. If at any time you have a question or concern about your child or the school, please call your child's teacher or the director at (360) 588-4699.

School Procedures

Enrollment Procedure

(Please see complete enrollment information at <http://www.thefiddlehead.org/enrollment-and-tuition/>).

To ensure personal attention for each student, we have two teachers per class. This low student-teacher ratio is optimal for elementary-aged students, when so much academic and social development takes place.

Please call us to schedule a time to visit our school. We welcome observations on Tuesdays, Wednesdays or Thursdays at 9:30am. During this visit you can view our classrooms, observe our teachers, and find out more about classroom openings. The visit usually takes about 45 minutes. We recommend that parents or guardians first observe the school alone, without their child. Then the child is invited to "try out" Fiddlehead for a day. After that, the parents or guardians, student, and teacher will sit down to discuss the possibility of enrollment.

Next, Fiddlehead teachers will contact the current or past school to discuss educational matters. We screen students for indicators that they will be successful and independent learners. This might take the form of discussing learning styles with former teachers, observing, or reviewing documentation of special needs. Children with documented or suspected special needs that may interfere with their ability to learn in the Montessori setting will be redirected to a more appropriate academic setting. (See "Special Needs" section.) Together, the teacher and Director decide if the child is a good fit for Fiddlehead and vice versa.

If it is a good match, families will be asked to submit an application for enrollment. Please submit the following:

- An application (request an email or paper application)
- \$50.00 nonrefundable registration fee
- A copy of your child's most recent report card

Completed enrollment packets are held until we do our internal re-enrollment process in February. We value students from diverse environments. We allot a certain percentage of spots to children from non-Montessori backgrounds each year. As much as possible, we balance each class by gender, grade level, and need. We will sometimes suspend our priorities to achieve this. For example, even if there are many Montessori-experienced boys enrolled, we may accept a girl with no Montessori experience to provide gender balance.

After our internal re-enrollment is complete, we contact families who have submitted all their application materials to inform them of openings. We also contact families for whom we do not have room at the time to ask if they still would like to be on the waiting list in case a family withdraws before the start of the school year or for a possible mid-year entry.

It is not unusual for families to submit applications a year ahead of time. If you know of a family interested in Montessori elementary school, please advise them to register early. If a family applies and cannot be accommodated in September, we do not automatically keep the application on file for the next year unless instructed to do so.

COVID Protocol for Visitors

At this time we will outside visitors or observations will be put on hold until further notice from the Washington Department of Health. Parents of attending children are allowed to observe for 30 minutes, twice a school year.

Before Your Child's First Day of Class

1. Submit all forms, nonrefundable fees, and the first month's tuition payment.
2. Parents or guardians attend a school orientation.
3. New students attend a school orientation/meet and greet.

Immunizations and Communicable Diseases

Each family must complete the required immunization and information forms found on the Enrollment Checklist.

To ensure a safe environment for our children and families, if your child has been exposed to a communicable disease, please keep him or her at home at the first sign of any illness. Our school community asks you to immediately inform the Director of any virus or disease you or your child may have encountered. Fiddlehead will do its best to ensure confidentiality in this situation.

COVID-19

At Fiddlehead we strive to be an in person school and community. We will do our best to keep a small community (bubble) so we can continue to attend in person. We ask that each family does their best to keep their outside bubble small and that you practice social distancing with others. We ask that you wear your mask when you are away from your home and around others. We ask that you communicate with us if your child, anyone in your family or anyone you have been in contact with have cold-like symptoms, loss of smell, dry cough, difficulty breathing, muscle pain, sore throat, vomiting or diarrhea.

At school, we will teach the children how to socially distance and keep clean hands and work areas. The students will be required to wash their hands, for 20 seconds, after entering and before exiting a building, before and after working on a lesson and before and after eating. If students assist with laundry or trash, they will be required to wear gloves. Students will be required to sanitize their own learning or working areas and place all their used materials on the "sanitizing station." Teachers will sanitize the materials and place it back on the shelf. In order to maintain a safe distance (6 feet apart) from one another, students will choose an area to work (table or floor) and use the same work rug and sitting mat each week. Work rugs and sitting mats will be sanitized on Wednesdays and Fridays. Teachers will sanitize the backs of chairs, faucets, and door knobs hourly.

Students will all have their personal items this year. We will not have a community shelf this year.

Students and staff will be required to wear a face mask and/or face shield while indoors. We understand that breaks from face masks will be needed and students can go outside, one at a time, to take off their face mask and rest. Students will be allowed to go outside and take off their mask to work in the tented area, as long as they can socially distance. Recess is subject to alternate, so smaller groups can share the outside space more efficiently. Face masks can be taken off during recess and while playing outside as long as the children can socially distance. Students can wear a face mask outside if they choose.

Lunch and snacks will be eaten on a placemat, plate, or table, 6 feet away. Students will eat inside and outside. Students will be required to sanitize their own area after eating.

Field trips and going outs will be limited. We will mostly plan walking field trips. If we get the chance to go on our “normal” field trips, parents will be required to drive their own child. Fiddlehead will not be able to drive this year and parents will need to drive.

Parent meetings and conferences will be on Zoom, unless otherwise notified. As of now, school potlucks and gatherings will have to be canceled.

If a family travels outside Washington state, we have the right to ask you to quarantine for 14 days and return to school with a negative COVID test result.

Medications

If your child needs to take any prescription or over the counter medication at school, please provide us with your child’s medication *in its original container* and fill out the required paperwork. The State of Washington requires all schools to have this information on file before we can administer medication. Please provide completed forms and the medication so it can be properly administered. Find the two-page document on our website at thefiddlehead.org.

Arrival and Dismissal

Drop off and pick up are conducted on the north side of the building on 27th Street. Please arrive on time and pick up on time. Please stay in your vehicle, stopping at the stop sign and pull forward as the cars move in front of you. Do not let your child out of the vehicle until you have reached the curb between the mailbox and the stop sign. All children need to exit their vehicle independently on the passenger side, carrying their own items. Please do not get out of the vehicle to assist them. If your child needs to bring more than they can carry on their own, please drive the items around to the parking lot and leave it by the gate for your child to get it after they are inside the classroom. Throughout the year, we will transition from having a teacher present to children moving between vehicles and classroom independently. Students are dropped off between 8:40 am and 9:00 am. Our work cycle begins promptly at 9:00 am. Due to Covid, dismissal can be as early as 2pm, with the latest being 3:10 pm. At dismissal, please stay in your car and your child will walk to your car.

** COVID-19 Arrival and Dismissal Protocol **

On arrival, please pull forward toward the stop sign on R Ave. Stay in your vehicle and let your child exit independently one at a time, making sure that the child in front of you has walked through the front gate. A teacher will be there to greet them. All children need to enter with a face covering (mask or shield). Each child will be subject to a screening: temperature taken, questions regarding if they have cold-like symptoms, loss of smell, dry cough, difficulty breathing, muscle pain, sore throat, vomiting, diarrhea or have been around anyone that has these symptoms. If your child has a temperature above 99.6 degrees Fahrenheit, you will be called, they will be sent to the office area and you will need to come pick them up. At dismissal,

pull forward as much as possible and wait in your vehicle. Children will be released one at a time, after they have washed their hands.

Tardiness

- If you arrive *past* 9:15 am, please drop off your child on the south side near the blue building and parking lot. Please have your child come through the gate by themselves and go to the classroom where the teacher will greet them.
- When school is dismissed, our staff start preparing for the next day and are not available to supervise children. If you pick up your child *past* 3:10 pm, a \$1-per-minute fee will be added to your invoice.

If you need someone on your pick-up list to pick up your child

When you are unable to pick up your child and you send someone on your pick-up list to do so, please let us know. The names listed on the pick-up list will be allowed to pick up your child. As you make friends with other families throughout the year and make after-school play dates, please consider adding those individuals to your list.

If you need someone to pick up your child who is NOT on your list

In the case of an emergency when neither you nor the people on your list can pick up your child, please call the school. We will **not** release them to that person without written consent from you (via email, if necessary). We require identification for anyone who picks up your child.

Parking

Parking spots on the south side of the school are reserved for handicapped parking and for families with a scheduled meeting.

Communication

Fiddlehead Montessori strives to use less paper; therefore, most of our family communication will be online. In non-emergency situations, if you would like to communicate with the Director or teachers during school hours, please email so we can continue to nurture and educate your child without interruption. Email will be checked periodically throughout the day, and we will reply within 24 hours. **ONLY** if an emergency arises, you may text the Director. .

This year we will use an online app called Seesaw to send you updates and pictures. We will also use this program for any last minute reminders or announcements. You can download the app on your smartphone. Each student will also have a Monthly Folder. It will keep you informed about monthly events, specials, birthdays, field trips, etc. These folders will be passed out on the first Monday of the month. Please sign the sheet in the front of the folder and send it back with your child the following day; that way, we know you've received the information.

Family Education Nights and Events

Throughout the school year , we create an opportunity for Fiddlehead families to get together.

- At the beginning, middle, and end of the school year there are school potlucks.
- In addition, we offer “Back to School Night” as a time for your child to show you what they have been working on in class.
- Family Nights provide an opportunity to learn about a variety of topics relating to education or parenting.
- We occasionally host guest speakers or hold workshops.

**Covid Protocol for Family Education Nights and Events **

All family gatherings are subject to be on Zoom, rescheduled or canceled. We will do our best to provide you with ample time to plan and make these changes.

Your participation in all of these is strongly encouraged. Babies in arms are always welcome, but we request that you leave your older children at home to enable a focused, productive, and timely meeting. Please visit our website (www.thefiddlehead.org) and go to the “Forms” tab to find the calendar. This will give you a month-by-month view of upcoming events.

You may wish to organize your own all-class or all-school potlucks, play dates, or family excursions. We want to encourage any social events that build a stronger family community. If you wish to organize an all-class or all-school event, email us to put out a schoolwide email and/or for publication in the newsletter.

Media and Electronics

Fiddlehead strives to use electronics as little as possible, and only for research. We ask teachers, family members, volunteers, and students to follow these guidelines when using electronics.

- Cell phones: Please...
 - Switch ringer to vibrate at school at all times.
 - Do not use a cell phone with children present. If making or accepting a call is urgent, please place the care of the children with another teacher or classroom helper before removing yourself from class.
 - Take pictures only after asking permission from the classroom teacher.
 - Always use discretion.
- Electronic or battery-operated toys stay at home.

Lunch, Snacks, and Bringing Food to School

When bringing food to school, please keep in mind that organic, homemade/grown foods are strongly preferred and highly valued at Fiddlehead. If possible, snacks and lunches, as well as any other food brought to share at school or during events, should follow these guidelines.

If your child has allergies to food or other things, please let us know so we can make arrangements around what would be safest for them.

You may notice, especially during the first few weeks of school, that your child does not eat much lunch. Sometimes socializing is more exciting than eating. Rest assured, however, that your child does sit with their lunch for twenty to thirty minutes every day. If your child needs more time, they are welcome to bring lunch out to eat during afternoon recess. If you notice that your child is coming home with a lunch box that looks untouched and you are concerned that they are not eating enough, please let us know.

Please emphasize that it is your child's responsibility to remember to bring snack and lunch every day. However, if your child forgets their snack or lunch, we will call you at home or work and you may bring one. We ask that you place it on a hook (on the inside of the south gate, near the blue building). Please do this quietly, without coming inside and disrupting the class.

Sharing food during snack and lunch is not allowed, with the goal of eliminating trading food and the increased risk of exposing a student to an unknown allergen. We explain that parents or guardians packed that snack and lunch just for their child, and they expect their child to be the only one to eat that food. Since we cannot check all ingredients, Fiddlehead's policy is to allow each child to eat only the snack and lunch brought from their home.

- Snacks and lunches should not include chips, chocolate, sugar, soda, juice, or cookies.
- Please save sugary foods for after school.
- All families will be notified of food allergies of any student.
- Candy and gum should not be brought to Fiddlehead.
- Food will be eaten on a placemat while seated 6 feet away from others. .

Dress Code

We request you send your child to Fiddlehead in clothing and accessories (including lunch box, backpack, and school supplies) **free of media characters, commercial images, and logos**. We do not encourage or promote media play or discussion.

There is a simple, solid-color dress code at Fiddlehead Montessori.

- Cloth mask and/or a face shield
- Shirts: solid white, collared, either long- or short-sleeved
- Bottoms: solid navy blue jeans (no holes or rips), pants, shorts, skirts, jumpers, leggings or athletic pants
- Dresses: solid navy blue with collar
- Sweaters/sweatshirts: solid white, heather gray, or navy short- or long-sleeved cardigans, pullovers, vests, or hoodies
- Tights: solid white or navy blue
- Shoes: closed toe; no high heels

Every Wednesday is School Spirit Day. Children may choose to wear their Fiddlehead shirt. The last Wednesday of every month is free dress.

As your child outgrows these clothes, we encourage you to donate them to our clothes swap, where we collect an assortment of clothes for families to donate and take.

Each student removes their outdoor shoes at the doorway. , A teacher will hand them their rubber-soled indoor shoes and after placing them on in the entrance each student is to place their outside shoes in their personal cubby. Adults spending time in the classroom should follow this guideline as well.

We suggest the following clothing items be left at school:

- Complete change of clothes
- Indoor slippers with rubber soles (Croc style shoe)
- Jacket or sweater
- A warm wool hat and gloves

Items from Home and School

Lost and Found

Fiddlehead's Lost and Found bin is located in the entryway. It is the responsibility of the student and parent to locate missing items. Please label all outerwear and personal items with your child's full name. Items not claimed by the end of the school year will be donated to a local charity.

Clothing and Shoes

Independence is the foundation of good self-esteem. For this reason, please send your children to school in shoes they can take off and put on by themselves. Practice tying shoelaces at home, and we will practice at school. When children can successfully tie their own shoes, they can wear them to school with a great feeling of accomplishment.

Please send your child to school in sturdy, weather-appropriate, closed-toed shoes that are comfortable for walking and playing. Also, please send a sweater or jacket on all but the hottest days, as the weather changes quickly in our region.

We will be going outside everyday. Therefore, if it is raining or going to rain, please have your child wear waterproof clothing and shoes.

In cold weather, we ask children to put on their jackets or sweatshirts before going outside. However, with all the running they do, they can become quickly overheated. We do not insist that your child wear their coat the entire recess. The exception is in rainy weather. We will not allow children to play outside without some second layer of clothing if it is raining. This is to prevent children from sitting in wet clothing for the remainder of the day.

In Montessori schools, we do a lot of work on the floor. We remove our shoes before entering to keep outdoor dirt and mud to a minimum. As stated above, please have your child bring a pair of rubber-soled indoor shoes. Indoor footwear will stay in their cubbies at school.

Indoor Plants

To create a more natural and pleasant environment, we ask each family to send a houseplant to school the first week. The children will be the caretakers. A plant that can stand over-watering would be ideal! We will send these plants home in June. Please mark your student's name in permanent ink on the bottom of the plant's pot and saucer.

Toys from Home

Toys need to stay at home or in the car. Past experience has shown that the presence of toys from home disrupts the atmosphere of the classroom. Remind your child that school time is for school work. Save that special toy in the car for a pick-up time treat.

Money at School

Please do not send your child to school with money. If this is not possible, please give the money to a teacher for safekeeping.

Share Day/Show and Tell

We have sharing on Thursday. . If your child has a special book, object, project, or collection related to a unit of study, he or she is welcome to share it with the class. Dolls, toys, stuffed animals, movie or cartoon figures, and related merchandise are not appropriate objects to share. Pokemon cards, Transformers, battling robots, toy weapons, and similar toys fall in this category. Better choices include craft projects, objects from nature, books on a current topic of study, artifacts from a country, photos from a trip, etc.

The exceptions to this policy are toys related to an area of study. For example, realistic toy dinosaurs would be appropriate to share while studying dinosaurs. Objects constructed from building materials, such as Legos, are also fine if the design shows creativity. Sports equipment, cards, clothing or medals/ribbons are also acceptable. If you have any doubts about appropriate sharing items, please contact a teacher the day before your child's sharing day.

Each day, all children are welcome to orally share events or topics of interest to them at community circle. This is good speaking practice and often generates discussion among children who have had similar experiences.

School Supplies

You'll find a list of school supplies on our website www.TheFiddlehead.org/forms. . Please bring the items at the start of the year.

Snack Supplies

In addition to school supplies, please send a ceramic plate, bowl, and mug to school for your child to use at snack time. Please write your student's name on the bottom of each dish. Kindly avoid plates or mugs with cartoon, television, or movie characters.

Found Items

We have many small, appealing items on our shelves that may find their way home in your child's pockets. Often this is unintentional. If you find small items such as beads, cubes, play money, or unfamiliar objects, please call the school. The item may be a small but essential piece of very expensive Montessori equipment. Thank you!

Student Dismissal Policy

Our staff works with each child to fulfill the needs of that child, and every effort will be made to provide a positive learning experience. Special needs will be accommodated when possible.

Fiddlehead Montessori reserves the right to ask parents or guardians to make alternative arrangements for schooling if, after several conferences, it is determined that a child's needs cannot be met. In the event that behavior becomes disruptive in the classroom or becomes a problem that poses an unsafe situation for the child or other children in the class, the school may dismiss a student.

If families fail to pay tuition on time, fail to follow any state or county regulations, fail to complete and return forms, or fail to follow any of Fiddlehead Montessori's policies or procedures, their child may be dismissed.

Student Withdrawal Policy

There is a financial hardship to the school when a family withdraws mid-year. The time and resources spent with the withdrawing family, and then inviting and orienting a new family, taxes school resources. The board initiated a "transition fee" to help us with these situations.

Enrollment may be canceled by a parent or guardian with thirty days *written notice*. The family will be responsible for the payment of a transition fee equal to one month's tuition.

If the teacher believes that addressing the student's needs will be detrimental to the class as a whole, or if the student poses a threat to others or themselves, the Director may request the family to withdraw the student immediately. In this case, tuition will be refunded for days not attended, with no transition fee.

Tuition Policy

Tuition is based on the complete 10-month school year, which starts in September and ends in June. Tuition can be paid in a variety of ways: paid in full, which earns a \$100 discount; three months at a time; or monthly. Tuition cost does not represent the number of hours that your child is at school, but represents the costs of your child's education divided into 10 months.

You may pay tuition with check, cash or a credit card, although there will be a 5% service fee added to your transaction. Please place tuition in an envelope with your child's name on the front, and place it in our locked mailbox along 27th street. We check our mailbox on a daily basis and only Fiddlehead staff members have access.

- If paid monthly, tuition is due the first calendar day of each month. A late fee of \$25.00 will be charged for payments received or post-dated after the 10th.
- If tuition is not paid on time, the Director will contact families to arrange a meeting, at which time a payment plan will be devised and signed by all guardians.
- If tuition is in arrears of two months, families will be asked to remove their child until the tuition is paid in full, at which time the student will be welcome to return.
- Tuition is not discounted for school or family vacations, illnesses, or holidays.
- By signing the agreement, you are agreeing to pay monthly or annually until the tuition is paid in full.
- There is a transition fee of one month's tuition for each student for all withdrawals.
- An unpaid tuition balance will prevent Fiddlehead from relinquishing academic files, re-enrolling, or continuing services to your child.

All fees (material, PE, and enrollment) are per student and are non-refundable.

Health and Safety

Emergencies

Fiddlehead Montessori has an Emergency Handbook available for review for anyone who would like to learn more about our classroom and staff procedures for emergency situations.

Emergency Items

We ask that families bring the following items at the beginning of the school to use so that we can better care for your children for up to 24-48 hours in the event of any major disaster.

Please place the following items inside a Ziploc bag labeled with your child's name.

- Two small, sealed bottles of water (8-12 oz. size)
- Two protein/power/granola bars
- One small package of moist wipes
- One small hand sanitizer
- One package of facial tissues in a travel-pack size (example: Kleenex brand)
- One poncho or large garbage bag with head and arm holes cut out
- One emergency blanket (available at Yeager's, Fred Meyer, or Target in the camping section)
- A reassuring note from family members
- A family picture
- A small working flashlight

We will return any unused items at the end of the school year.

Fire Drills

Fire drills will be conducted periodically throughout the year.

There are two exits in the Yellow House:

1. Front door facing east
2. Side door facing south

There are two exits in the Blue House:

1. Front door facing east
2. Side door facing north

Safety Drills

We practice three kinds of safety drills: earthquake, fire, and lockdown. We practice earthquake drills several times during the school year. We also address personal and physical safety, safety at home, and calling 911 in emergencies.

School Closures

You and your child's safety is our highest priority. The decision about whether your child will attend school always rests in your hands. We follow the Anacortes Public School District's decision to close school in the case of weather. They post their decision to close school on their website: <http://asd103.org/>. We will send a notification to all families by 6:30 am to report a school closure. When Anacortes Public Schools have a delayed start due to severe weather, if the roads are clear, Fiddlehead will start on time and have a regularly scheduled day.

- We close school if we believe that the weather presents considerable safety challenges for the majority of our families. We determine this by getting road conditions from different locations around Anacortes and Skagit County.
- We close school if there is enough snow/ice at school to make it dangerous for people to drive, drop off and/or walk to school.
- We close school if the weather has caused power outages for a period of time that prevents us from heating our school buildings.
- We close school if there are predictions of snowfall during the day that might pose a danger for pickup.
- We close school for at least 14 days if a student tests positive for COVID19.

If there is snow on the ground, we're going to want to play in it! Please remember to label gloves and hats ahead of time. A warm layer under a wind/ water-protective shell is ideal.

In case of a power outage, we have flashlights and lots of windows for natural light. If loss of electricity prevents us from keeping your children warm, or if snow falls so rapidly during the school day that we suspect cars will not be able to get to school by dismissal time, school will be closed early. Staff will stay with students until each one is picked up. We will use the emergency contact list to call people to pick up children if needed. Please make sure your emergency contacts sheet is up to date.

Covid Protocol for School Closures

If a student or staff member tests positive for COVID19 Fiddlehead will be **closed for at least 14 days**. If needed, Fiddlehead could be closed longer. If someone in your family test positive for Covid 19, we ask that your child/ren quarantine at home for 14 days. We protect the right to disclose what student or staff member contracted the virus. During this time the school will be deep cleaned and all materials will be sanitized. After 14 days the student or staff member will need two negative tests in order to return to school.

Student Illnesses

A fever, runny nose, diarrhea, vomiting, coughing, loss of smell, shortness of breath, muscle pain, sore throat or skipped meals are all indications that a child is sick and needs to stay home.

Kindly call or email us to report an absence and illness. If your child's fever or symptoms last 12 hours or longer, we suggest that you get them tested. Your child can return to school once they have been fever and symptom-free (without the use of fever-reducing medication) for 72 hours, along with a negative COVID test. This will prevent the spread of germs to other children and staff. If your child becomes sick at school and needs to go home, we will first attempt to contact parents or guardians at the phone numbers that you have provided in your student information packet. If there is no answer, we will call the emergency contacts.

If your child contracts chicken pox, lice, H1N1 influenza, pink eye, strep throat, measles, or any other communicable disease, please call the school so we can alert other families to the symptoms. In case of lice, we will send your child home and send a confidential email alerting everyone in the class. If your child has lice, please comb out nits daily before school for two weeks. The school may send your child home if more nits are identified, or may ask for a doctor's note stating your child is free from nits and lice.

At school, we teach the children to cough and sneeze into the crook of their elbows, rather than covering their mouths with their hands. This reduces the possibility that germs will be passed while handling materials. We have all children wash their hands with soap before lunch and snack. We do not have anti-bacterial soap at school, as it irritates many young children's skin. According to the health department, antibacterial soap may contribute to increased resistance to antibacterial drugs. However, if you would like to send a small bottle of hand sanitizer with your child's lunch, you are welcome to do so. Please explain to your child how to use it and that we will still ask your child to wash his or her hands.

Covid Protocol for Student Illnesses

If your child has or has been in contact with someone who has cold-like symptoms, loss of smell, dry cough, shortness of breath, muscle pain, sore throat, vomiting, diarrhea, or fever needs to stay at home for at least 72 school hours. If your child has or conducts any of the symptoms he/she will need to stay home for 72 school hours or 7 days, whichever comes first, and get a COVID test done. Students will be welcomed to come back to school after the required time has lapsed, along with negative COVID test results.

Student Accidents

The school staff strive to maintain a safe environment for students, families, and staff. If you see anything unsafe, please report it immediately to a staff member for correction.

The school has purchased student accident insurance. Students are covered during school hours, on or off campus during field trips, while engaged in school activities, and while traveling to and from school during field trips. The school has additional information on insurance available upon request.

Traumatic Experiences

Please let us know if your child experiences trauma, such as the death of a family member, relative, friend or beloved pet. Separation, divorce, or the move of a live-in partner, friend, or

relative can be traumatic for children as well. Exposure to physical or sexual abuse and other violent acts can create strong reactions in children.

Children who have undergone traumatic experiences may act in unexpected ways. The parents or guardians, teachers, and child can put together a plan for when the child feels overwhelmed at school. We will handle any behavior issues differently if we know the child has experienced emotional or physical trauma. Therefore, communication with the school is very important in these circumstances.

In Closing...

We hope to make your years here at Fiddlehead Montessori educational and joyful. If you have any remaining questions or concerns at any time of the year, please call or talk in person with the teachers. Together we will make school an exciting, rich experience for our children and develop a life-long passion for learning in them.

Useful Information

Our website: www.TheFiddlehead.org

School phone: (360) 588-4699

General email: fiddleheadmontessori@gmail.com

Heidi's email: heidi@thefiddlehead.org

Acknowledgement of Family Handbook and "Learning Together at Fiddlehead"

(Please print, sign, and submit to the Director.)

I, _____, acknowledge that I've received online access (at <http://www.thefiddlehead.org/forms/>) to "Learning Together at Fiddlehead" and the Family Handbook on this date.

I have read and understood both documents, and asked the Director any questions needed for clarification.

With my signature, I indicate my understanding of the expectations outlined above, and agree to abide by the guidelines set forth.

Parent or guardian's signature

Date

Parent or guardian's printed name