

## CONDITIONAL USE STATEMENT

**Name of Business:** Meadows Academy, Inc. dba Muirfield Village Montessori

**Mission Statement:** Muirfield Village Montessori is a private, independent preschool emphasizing both educational excellence and early character formation. The school's mission is to help each child grow in knowledge, build skills, and develop the right habits and attitudes to become well-balanced, responsible, and competent adults. The School works in partnership with parents through education programs that support them in their important role as the primary educators of their children's intellectual, moral, and spiritual lives.

**Program Overview:** Muirfield Village Montessori provides a classic Montessori environment for children from 6 weeks old to 6 years old. Students can have their Kindergarten year with us. Children in the Primary program (3 - 6 year olds) typically remain for three years. The culmination of the lessons in a Montessori classroom is seen in the child's third year in a Montessori program. The third-year child has the valuable experience of being a kindergarten leader in the classroom which gives him or her the self-confidence to go on to the next educational experience.

**Program Schedule:**

Half Day (5 days per week), Monday – Friday, 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. or 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Full Day (5 days per week), Monday – Friday, 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Early morning drop off starts at 7:15 AM. Aftercare program runs from 4:00-6:00 PM.

**Program Details:**

Infant (6 weeks - 12 months) - 1 teacher to 5 infants; Maximum group size: 5

Toddler (18 months - 36 months) - 1 teacher to 6 toddlers; Maximum group size: 6

Primary (3 year olds - 6 year olds) - 2 teachers to 24 students; Maximum group size: 48

Total projected enrollment: 59

Total projected staff: 6 (2 administrators, 4 Montessori-trained teachers)

**Business Model:** We intend to achieve our objective by fully implementing Montessori education for Infant (6 weeks to 12 months), Toddler (18 - 36 months), and Primary (3 - 6 year olds). The program is 5 days a week and parents have the option of sending their child either morning, afternoon, or all day. We will accommodate working parents by providing extended childcare services that are responsive to their schedules. We will offer morning (i.e., before school) and afternoon (i.e., after school) latchkey. This would allow parents to drop off their child earlier in the day and pick them up later at the end of the day and, thus provide greater flexibility in managing the household schedule. We will hire Montessori-certified lead teachers who are highly competent to lead the classes and teach the Montessori curriculum as designed. Adult-to-child ratios will be in line with the standards set by the State of Ohio to ensure that the best possible care and instruction are provided.

A key component of the Muirfield Montessori business model are programs centered on parents that educate, guide, and support them in their important role as the primary educators of their children and in raising their families. Such programs include the Parent Enrichment Program, Mother's Exchange Program, and Family Exchange Program. It is in this sense that the school is focused not just on the child but, more importantly, centered on the growth of the family and the overall community.

**Rationale for Use of Space and Location:** How does Muirfield Village Montessori fit the dynamics of the area?

Although the focus of Dr. Maria Montessori's work was on the individual child, the goal of her work encompassed the whole of society. She viewed the spirit of the child as the world's greatest resource and felt if we wanted to improve the world, we must start by supporting the natural development of the child.

The Muirfield Village Montessori location is ideal in the Muirfield Square office complex which is in the heart of Muirfield Village. It is within a relatively upscale area and highly convenient, safe, and secure for those who live not just in Muirfield Village but the neighboring communities of Tartan Fields, Jerome Village, Hawk's Nest, Riviera, Shawnee Hills, Tara Hill, etc. The School is thus easily accessible to parents residing in the Dublin and Powell areas.

Convenience is a key consideration since working parents will need to drop their children off on their way to work or pick them up on their way home from work. Muirfield Square is close to other businesses (e.g., grocery, gym) which is beneficial since parents and/or relatives do not have to drive far to attend to some errands while dropping or picking up their children. There is ample parking around the building and throughout Muirfield Square. Sufficient entry and exit points to and away from the school premises are very important to ensure that traffic flows easily and without difficulty. Parents need to get in and out very quickly. A location near other preschools (e.g., Dublin Learning Academy) and complementary businesses (e.g., Hand in Hand Pediatrics, Meeder Investments, Muirfield Eye Care) will work to our advantage since we would get the residual traffic and generate awareness among a similar set of target customers.

**Building Location:** A suitable location for Muirfield Village Montessori has been identified as of this writing. It is a one-story building located at 6065 Memorial Drive in Dublin, OH. The building is situated within Muirfield Square which is bounded on the east by Muirfield Drive, the main thoroughfare that bisects Muirfield Village. The building has 4,900 square foot of space and is ready for occupancy with no alterations needed for the interior space. There is an outdoor grassy area on the southeast side of the building that will be used as an outdoor play space by enclosing it with landscaping to create a private space. The use of the grassy area for play space has been approved for conditional use by the board of the Muirfield Square Owners Association.