

Discover our Nido program for children 8 – 18 months at entry.



Discover the rewards and security of our intimate Nido community, just for our youngest learners! This program opens late summer 2021 inside of First Lutheran Church at our new Strathcona learning campus, 7102 14th Ave. SW in Calgary. Our Nido environment is a intimate, unique environment with limited enrollment of students. As with all Montessori, independence and freedom to explore within age-appropriate limits is important. The Nido program begins the foundation for this by fostering freedom of movement, fine motor development, early socialization, and language.



In the Nido, patient and loving caregivers support your child with careful observation and patience throughout their day. We provide the necessary space, time, and materials as your child develops hand-eye coordination, grasping skills, fine motor skills, gross motor skills, language and coordination of their body through movement. Your child's care and support is our only focus. Young learners in our Nido program find opportunities for movement and safe exploration while spoken language skills unfold naturally in the social, nurturing environment.

Leaders in COVID safety and sanitization.

At Aspen Hill Montessori, the safety of our students isn't the NEW normal... It has always been one of our core values! As one of the first childcare centres to reopen in March 2020 under request from Alberta Health Services and Childcare Licensing during the heart of the pandemic, we go Above and Beyond to keep your children safe, healthy, and attending care:

- Individual holding spaces for personal items
- Restricted access to non-essential visitors
- Weekly commercial cleaning and disinfecting of all classroom spaces
- Immediate sanitization and disinfecting of all learning materials immediately after use and before use by the next child
- Strict 'No illness' policy at the Centre for staff and children
- Frequent handwashing; face washing (sanitizers used by caregivers, but not on children)
- Health and temperature screening at check in, plus mid and end-day screenings
- Daily symptoms screening
- Cohort limited to 8 children
- Weekly child-safe disinfecting fog throughout all child spaces

Ask us about our approaches for your peace of mind and your child's safety.



Building trust with child and family.

Babies cry out and reach out to communicate their needs. When the caregiver responds the baby learns trust and feels safe. We continue this important serve-and-return process of trust building when the child arrives in the Aspen Hill Nido space. We work closely with your family to learn your child's preferences, schedule and habits to mimic the routines of home, while promoting growth and independence.

Sleeping, feeding schedules and diaper changes are individually tracked and recorded to share between care and home. We share information daily about your child so you stay up to date with their growth.



Freedom of movement.

Our infant environment is simple, clean and cozy. There are no high chairs, swings, or containers for restricting a child. All materials are placed on low shelves on the floor. Mats, rugs, low chairs and tables are available. Your child is can absorb the entire environment, having the freedom to move as desired.

Infant and early toddler sized furnishings are used within the room, diminishing hazards and providing access to the mobile child.

Developing language and communication.

Your child needs to hear and communicate with a loving caregiver throughout the day. This encourages strong language acquisition. Our caregivers spend their time focused on talking to, interacting with, and nurturing your child with eye contact and conversation. In addition, we provide books, objects and pictures to stimulate lots of one-on-one interaction between the caregivers and infants. There is often classical music playing for short periods of time and peaceful music plays in the nap and quiet area.



Sleeping and rest.

Each child has an individual crib, with a no-emissions mattress made of the highest quality all-natural fibre. A cozy sleeping space with fairy lights, soothing constellations and white noise allows children to nap according to their natural body rhythms of sleeping and awake hours. Our sleeping space is closely supervised by caregivers on a schedule right for your child.

Healthy relationships with feeding.

We support breastfeeding mothers who want to continue while in our program, and provide a separate space for feeding visits as your schedule allows. For bottle feeding, we support each child with a nurturing, in-arms meal by a caregiver.

Your Montessori guides will gently support your baby to learn to do things for themselves, striking just the right balance between making your little one feel safe and loved, and identifying the right moment to encourage them to try something new. As your baby learns to sit reliably, they sit at a tiny table on a sturdy chair, sized so that they can crawl in and out of the chair with minimal assistance.

Our optional meal program for transitioning toddlers can assist busy parents who want to know their child is receiving the best in nutrition. We provide real dishes, glasses and utensils, just their size, as soon as they are ready to learn to use them.

You can also send snacks and lunch for your child from home. The adult does as much as necessary but as little as possible at any given stage, helping your child to do it “all by myself”!



Book a personal interview to learn more about our Nido environment, and discuss your care needs.



Our enrollment is limited to eight children per day and is a non-parented program. We prioritize families who are looking for full-time care (9AM - 3:30PM) a minimum of two days per week, as the Nido program best benefits children when it is immersive. Before and after care is also available as early as 7:30AM and as late as 5:30PM at an additional fee; meal plans for growing eaters is available as an add-on option. Half-day enrichment programs, or half days for parental back-to-work transition may be available depending on available space; please inquire.

We look forward to meeting with you to review your care needs! Book today through <https://aspenhillmontessori.as.me> , e-mail to registrar@aspenhillmontessori.ca, or connect via 403-246-2794.



Aspen Hill
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www.aspenhillmontessori.ca