

MONTESSORI DECALOGUE

1. NEVER TOUCH THE CHILD UNLESS INVITED TO DO SO BY VERBAL OR PHYSICAL CUES.
2. NEVER SPEAK ILL OF THE CHILD, IN THEIR PRESENCE OR ABSENCE.
3. CONCENTRATE ON STRENGTHENING AND HELPING THE DEVELOPMENT OF WHAT IS GOOD IN THE CHILD BY FOSTERING THE PATH OF NORMALIZATION.
4. BE ACTIVE IN PREPARING THE ENVIRONMENT. TAKE METICULOUS AND CONSTANT CARE OF IT. HELP THE CHILD ESTABLISH CONSTRUCTIVE RELATIONS WITH IT. SHOW THE PROPER PLACE WHERE THE MEANS OF DEVELOPMENT ARE KEPT AND DEMONSTRATE THEIR PROPER USE.
5. BE EVER READY TO ANSWER THE CALL OF THE CHILD WHO STANDS IN NEED OF YOU, AND ALWAYS LISTEN AND RESPOND TO THE CHILD WHO SEEKS YOU.
6. RESPECT THE CHILD WHO MAKES A MISTAKE AND WORKS TO CORRECT THAT MISTAKE IN TIME OR IMMEDIATELY, BUT STOP FIRMLY AND IMMEDIATELY ANY MISUSE OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND ANY ACTION WHICH ENDANGERS THE CHILD, PHYSICALLY OR DEVELOPMENTALLY.
7. RESPECT THE CHILD WHO TAKES REST, OR WATCHES OTHERS WORKING, OR PAUSES FOR REFLECTION. NEITHER CALL NOR FORCE THE CHILD TO OTHER FORMS OF ACTIVITY IN THESE MOMENTS.
8. HELP THOSE WHO ARE IN SEARCH OF ACTIVITY AND CANNOT FIND IT.
9. BE UNTIRING IN REPEATING PRESENTATIONS TO THE CHILD WHO REFUSED THEM EARLIER AND IN HELPING THE CHILD ACQUIRE SKILLS THAT ARE STILL IN PROGRESS TOWARDS OVERCOMING IMPERFECTIONS. DO THIS BY ANIMATING THE ENVIRONMENT WITH CARE, WITH RESTRAINT AND SILENCE, WITH MILD WORDS AND LOVING PRESENCE. MAKE YOUR READY PRESENCE FELT TO THE CHILD WHO SEARCHES, AND HIDE FROM THE CHILD WHO HAS FOUND.
10. ALWAYS TREAT THE CHILD WITH THE BEST OF GOOD MANNERS AND OFFER THE CHILD THE BEST YOU HAVE IN YOURSELF AND AT YOUR DISPOSAL.

