

AMI Orientation for Ages 3-6 – Course Information

The **Montessori AMI Orientation Course for Ages 3–6** is an introduction to the developmental characteristics and needs of children ages 3–6. It supports understanding of this developmental stage for parents, caregivers, school staff, or any individual seeking general knowledge about Montessori developmental theory and education. Successful participation in all Orientation Course Requirements leads to award of the AMI Orientation Course ‘Certificate of Completion’ at the 3–6 level.

Focus of the AMI Orientation Course for Ages 3-6

- To gain general knowledge of the Montessori approach to childhood development and education
- To explore how an adult can best support optimal development for this age group in any environment and as needed, to identify and remove obstacles to optimal development
- To understand the unique nature of the 3–6-year-old child’s mind, the powers for development active at this stage, and the needs and characteristics of children at this stage of development
- To understand the general importance of Observation as a basis for providing developmental support of 3–6-year-old children in any environment

Duration and Structure of the AMI Orientation Course for Ages 3-6

- The course requires sixty hours of student engagement plus nine hours of child observation
- Three live online sessions will be held over the period of 6 weeks on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays 6:00pm – 8:30pm (UK time – excluding UK Bank Holidays) plus 4-6 hours of directed study per week
- Nine hours of Observation of children aged 3-6
- Successful completion of the course requires a minimum of 90% attendance for student engagement, the 9 hours of child observation and required course work

Further Requirements to be Completed by the Student

- Submission of three essays (500 words each)
- Observation Report

Course Programme

- General Introduction to Montessori Theory and Education, to include an overview of the Four Planes of Development and the Human Tendencies
- The Child’s Self-Construction and Cultural Adaptation, to include:
 - The Absorbent Mind
 - The Sensitive Periods
 - The Importance of Order
 - The Development of Movement and its significance for the Child
 - The Development and Refinement of Language
 - The Development of Independence
 - Social Development
 - The Montessori concept of Freedom and Discipline and its relationship with self-regulation
 - The Montessori concept of the Development of Character

- The Role of the Environment
- The Role of the Adult
- Observation and its importance

Required Reading

- Citizen of the World
- Education for a New World
- The Secret of Childhood
- The Child in the Family
- All texts by Maria Montessori