



kindred spirit space

• a montessori nature school •

Parent Handbook

2025-2026



Kindred Spirit Space, LLC is a nature-based Montessori learning pod nestled at the home of Rachel Rodriguez (Ms. Rachel). Rachel is a certified Montessori educator trained by the Center for Montessori Teacher Education in New York, a American Montessori Society accredited training center. Rachel has been working with children since 2002.

Kindred Spirit Space, LLC is a learning pod crafted for children 3-8 years of age. It is an intentional, holistic learning environment rooted in God's creation and follows the philosophy of Maria Montessori. Montessori pedagogy is a natural process carried out by the child that is structured on a philosophy of mastery and independence. Lessons move from concrete to the abstract at an individual pace when the child no longer relies on concrete representations. Practical life skills are built into our days as the children share in the care of their classroom space, play area, gardens, and care of themselves. The holistic approach that our pod will implement and integrate prepares the child to take responsibility for their own learning and to find joy in doing so. The role of the teacher serves as a guide as the child moves through the curriculum. Kindred Spirit Space LLC teaches God's creation and includes basic bible stories in the curriculum.

In our pod, we will develop an understanding of the interconnectedness of nature and care for God's Earth—your children will love being outdoors! Our days begin and end outside with unstructured play (including imaginative play), gardening, structured science lessons and activities that highlight the cycles of life, especially around the four seasons. It is vital to the development of children to have outdoor experiences in all safe weather conditions. Healthy risk-taking during these outdoor experiences and weather will be closely monitored.

Admissions Procedures

To schedule a tour of the learning space, please email at **kindredspiritspace@gmail.com**

Applications can be found on our website: **kindredspiritspace.com**

All applicants must be three years of age by September 30th of the school year for which they are applying. (2.10 year olds that are potty trained are considered) Students must be fully potty trained and able to care for basic needs such as dressing with little or no assistance.

Each February following re-enrollment, families will be contacted in the order that their application was received until our classes for the upcoming year are full. Priority is given to siblings of current students.

Interviews are scheduled for the children and their parents prior to school starting. These interviews are intended to: (1) determine the child's readiness for school and placement in the curriculum, (2) familiarize the child with the learning space, and (3) establish mutual understanding between the learning space and the family.

- When a student is accepted into our program, relevant paperwork will be emailed with a date by which they must be returned with your supply fee acting as tuition deposit.

Tuition and Fee Schedule for the school year.

Tuition may be paid in full or by 10 monthly payments. **The first payment is due by August 1, 2025.** August-May the payment will be processed the 1st of the month *with the last payment May 1, 2026.* You will be charged for any bank fees resulting from returned checks.

(checks payable to Kindred Spirit Space LLC)

Tuition

5 Day Program:

Full Day

\$7,600 tuition 8:00-3:00

\$760 monthly

Half Day

\$6,600 tuition 8:00-12:30

\$660 monthly

Full Day with After Care

\$9,500 tuition 7:45-4:00

\$950 monthly

3-Day Program

Full Day

\$5,900 tuition 8:00-3:00

\$590 monthly

Half Day

\$5,300 tuition 8:00-12:30

\$530 monthly

**Let's chat if there is a need outside the programs offered above.*

There is a 5% discount applied to tuition paid in full by Aug 1, 2025.

Drop in aftercare (3-4pm) is \$15 a day. *Let's chat if you have a need past 4pm.*

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Supply Fee for Year: (acts as deposit)

Primary 3 - Kindergarten	\$300
Lower Elementary	\$400

Tuition Refund Policy: If, for any reason, the student withdraws or is required to withdraw, the family shall be entitled to a refund of the unused portion of the annual fee (except for the first month's payment which is nonrefundable.) A 30-day written notice is requested before a child is withdrawn.

Sibling discount:

After paying full price for one child, there will be a 15% discount for siblings.

Kindred Spirit Space reserves the right to terminate the attendance of any student whose presence is detrimental to the best interest of either the student or the learning space.

Items From Home

We do not allow personal items from home come to school unless they are of educational value to be shown to the class or requested as part of their learning process—check with staff to verify. Toys, electronics, candy, gum, etc. all should stay at home. Neither phones nor smart watches are allowed at school. Ms. Rachel will check her own texts throughout the day should you need to reach your child.

Food/Lunches

For optimal learning, brain development, and support of growing bodies, we encourage parents to support their child in packing a well-balanced lunch with protein and complex carbohydrates like wheat crackers or bread with peanut butter, tofu, meat, hummus, or cheese along with fresh fruit and vegetables.

We do not allow candy or sugary drinks. The children will be provided a mid-morning snack. Refrigeration is not accessible for your child's lunch. If you have something that needs to stay cold, please use a cold pack in their lunchbox. If you need something warm, please use a thermos.

Celebration of Life

We look forward to celebrating every child's birthday or "half birthday". This is your child's first history lesson. They can see how time passes as they travel around the sun. A special snack may be provided. Please be mindful of sugar snacks.

Family Fridays

Each child has an innate need to contribute to the care of their home and family. Family Fridays give children the opportunity to prepare the home for the weekend of family time. This also gives days for travel to see family and friends.

Holidays

Our community will follow the changing of seasons and *only celebrate national holidays*. (Thanksgiving, MLK Jr. Day, President's Day, etc.)

Health Policy

Kindred Spirit Space LLC is responsible for providing and maintaining every reasonable safeguard for a healthy environment for your children. Parents should inform Kindred Spirit Space LLC if a student is taking medication that would give the appearance of illness.

Parents should inform Kindred Spirit Space LLC if a student has a condition, disease, or infection that may be spread by casual contact (contagious).

Children should be kept at home or away from school if:

1. The child has a condition, disease, or infection that may be spread by casual contact (contagious).
2. The illness prevents the child from participating in school activities.
3. The child requires more care than the school staff can provide.
4. Fever is at or above 100.4 degrees F.
5. The child is showing signs and symptoms of severe illness: lethargy, irritability, persistent crying, difficulty breathing, pain, aching of muscles or joints, severe headache, nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea.
6. The child is showing signs and symptoms of infection: persistent cough, colored nasal drainage, sore or red throat, earache, redness of eye (with or without drainage), or skin rash of undetermined source.
7. The child has any open sore, lesion, or wound with weeping or drainage that may be spread by casual contact, that cannot be covered with a bandage, or that a bandage cannot contain the drainage.

Your child should be free of fever, pain, nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea for 24 hours without medication before returning to school.

Return Slip Signed

I have read the parent handbook for Kindred Spirit Space LLC for the 2024-2025 school year.

Family: _____

Date: _____

Please print and sign the forms on pages 6 & 7

Kindred Spirit Space, LLC

Medical Consent, Release, and Acknowledgment of Parent Responsibilities

Medical Consent:

In the case of a medical emergency, I understand that every reasonable attempt will be made to contact the Parent(s)/Guardian(s) or another designated emergency contact. However, if I cannot be reached, I give my permission to the staff of Kindred Spirit Space LLC to help my child, render first aid, and secure emergency medical

Treatment.

____I understand and agree to the terms of the medical consent above.

(initial above)

My Child's Doctor: _____

Doctor's phone: _____

Date:_____

Release, Acknowledgment, and Acceptance of Risks:

I acknowledge that there are risks inherent in any youth activity and that activities related to nature and exposure to an outdoor environment involve unique risks. I fully understand that enrollment in Kindred Spirit Space, LLC exposes my child to certain hazards and risks which are beyond the control of Kindred Spirit Space, LLC. These risks include serious personal or fatal injury due to unpredictable environmental conditions/hazards including, but not limited, to lightning and extreme weather conditions, insect and animal bites and stings, heat or sun-related injuries or illnesses, and any hazards present in the wilderness such as, but not limited to, low lying branches, sharp objects, uneven ground, slippery surfaces, and irritating/prickly bushes and plants. As a condition of my child's participation in Kindred Spirit Space, LLC I agree to assume responsibility for all the risks that such participation may entail and agree to release and hold harmless Kindred Spirit Space, LLC and its staff from any harm or damage that might befall my child. I acknowledge and take responsibility for making sure my child is dressed appropriately for outdoor activities and is in good health.

Child Name: _____

Parent Name _____ Date _____

Parent Signature _____