**Essential Components of the Prepared Environment for Creating a**

**Peace Literate (PL) Culture of Respect and Belonging in a**

**Montessori Learning Community**

**4. The Child**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Essential Components**  | **Details for your grade band** |
| **Needs and characteristics of the child** are recognized and centered, including their:9 non-physical needsNeed for uninterrupted work cyclesNeed for collaborative work in age-mixed cohorts**Four fundamental freedoms of the child** are respected:* What to work on
* Where to work
* With whom to work
* How long to continue with a chosen work

c) **Independent learning and internal motivation of the child** is cultivated, e.g.,* “Ask 3 before me” is a common Montessori practice, reminding children to ask three others before going to an educator with a need or question
* Self-directed learning is supported by choice of work with manipulatives, requests to educators for lessons and choosing to work with peers
* Children are given jobs to care for classroom nature
* All materials, activities and new objects are introduced with a lesson so that children are proactively taught the expectations for handling an object or completing a task or activity
* They demonstrate their competence by showing an adult they can do it
* Then they are free to do it independently
 |  |