JP MARKETING

GUIDE + DIRECTORY LIST

The Best Backlinks & Directories for Montessori Schools

Where to get listed, which links matter, and how to get them

Free resource from JP Marketing · jpmarketing.co · Updated November 2026

What's a backlink? (the simple version)

A **backlink** is when another website links to yours. Google sees it like a vote. If trusted sites vote for you, Google trusts you more.

A **directory listing** (also called a **citation**) is a place online that lists your business name, address, and phone. Even without a link, these help Google and AI tools know you're real.

For Montessori schools, the best links come from 3 places:

1. **Industry sites** (associations and directories made for Montessori schools)
2. **Local sites** (your town, chamber, schools, news, partners)
3. **Big trusted directories** (Google, Bing, Apple, Yelp, BBB, Facebook)

AI tools like ChatGPT and Google's AI answers also read these sites. Being listed on the right ones helps you show up there too.

Words to know

Word	What it means
SEO	Search Engine Optimization: doing things so Google shows you more.
Map Pack	The 3 businesses on the map at the top of a local Google search.
Service page	A page about ONE thing you do.
Backlink	A link from another website to yours. Like a vote of trust.
AI search	Tools like ChatGPT, Gemini, Perplexity, and Google's AI answers.
Schema	Hidden code that labels your info for computers.
Citation	Your Name, Address, and Phone listed on another site.
N.A.P.	Name, Address, Phone.

Rule #1: Make your info match everywhere

Your **N.A.P.** is your **Name, Address, Phone**. It should be exactly the same on every site.

Looks small	But causes problems
Suite 100 vs. Ste 100	Usually fine
Old phone number	Bad: calls go nowhere
Old address	Bad: Google gets confused
Two different business names	Bad: looks like two businesses

Write down your official N.A.P. and copy-paste it every time.

Step 1: The core listings every business needs

Site	Why it matters
Google Business Profile	Maps and the Map Pack
Bing Places	Bing, and it feeds some AI tools like Copilot
Apple Business Connect	Apple Maps and Siri
Yelp	Reviews; often shows up in AI answers
Facebook page	Trust and reviews
BBB	Trust
Nextdoor	Neighbor recommendations
Data aggregators (Data Axle, Foursquare)	They send your info to lots of other sites

Step 2: The best industry links for Montessori Schools

These are the sites that matter most for Montessori schools. Start at the top.

Site	Type	How to get it
American Montessori Society (AMS) school directory	Montessori association	Member schools can be listed. Keep the website link right.
AMI / AMI-USA	Montessori association	If you're AMI recognized or a member.
Montessori Census	Montessori directory	Free listing for Montessori schools in the U.S.
Your state Montessori council or alliance	State association	Many have member directories.
Niche.com and Private School Review	School directories	Claim and update your profile.
GreatSchools	School directory	Check your private school listing.
Winnie and Care.com	Childcare directories	Good for toddler and preschool searches.
State childcare license lookup	Government listing	If you're licensed for childcare, make sure your info is right.
Local parenting blogs and moms' groups	Local	Offer an open house invite or guest article.
Local libraries and children's museums	Community	Host a free story time or Montessori-at-home talk.
Teacher training center	Education	If your guides trained at a center, ask to be listed as a partner school.
Chamber of commerce	Local	Member link.
Local news	PR	Pitch stories like a school garden or kids running a mini farmers market.
Summer camp directories	Seasonal	If you run camp, list it on local camp guides.

> **Tip:** Some of these are paid. Start with the free ones. Then try one paid listing at a time and see if it brings real calls before you add more.

Step 3: Local links (the secret weapon)

Local links are hard for competitors to copy. Ideas that work for Montessori schools:

- **Sponsor something local:** a youth team, school event, 5K, or festival. Ask for your logo + a link on their site.
- **Partner pages:** businesses you work with often have 'trusted partners' pages.
- **Host a free event:** a workshop or class at the library or community center. They usually list it online.
- **Local news:** offer helpful tips on timely topics. Reporters need experts.
- **Chamber of commerce:** join and get a member listing.
- **Local 'best of' lists:** find blog posts like 'best Montessori schools in Cary' and ask how to be included.
- **Give back:** charity drives and volunteer days often get written about.

Step 4: An email you can send

Use this to ask a partner or local group for a link:

> **Subject:** Quick question about your website
>
> Hi [Name],
>
> I'm [Your Name] with Little Oaks Montessori here in Cary. We love working with you on [event/partnership].
>
> I noticed you have a [resources/partners/sponsors] page on your website. Would you be open to adding us there? Here's our link: [your website].
>
> Happy to share your info on our site or social pages too.
>
> Thanks so much! [Your Name] | [Phone]

Links to stay away from

- Buying links from strangers ("500 backlinks for $50!")
- Link farms and fake 'blog networks'
- Spammy foreign directories
- Fake scholarship pages made only to get .edu links
- Paying for reviews or 'review links'

These can hurt you. Google is good at spotting them.

Track your progress

Keep a simple sheet:

Site	Status	Login/email used	Date done	Link to listing
Google Business Profile	Done	admin@...		
American Montessori Society (AMS) school directory	Applied			
AMI / AMI-USA	To do			

Checklist

- [ ] Wrote down my official Name, Address, Phone
- [ ] Google, Bing, and Apple listings done
- [ ] Yelp, Facebook, BBB, Nextdoor done
- [ ] Top 5 industry listings done
- [ ] 2 local link ideas started this month
- [ ] Sent 3 partner link emails
- [ ] Checked old listings for wrong info

Step by step: your top 8 industry listings

American Montessori Society (AMS) school directory

Type: Montessori association

How to get it: Member schools can be listed. Keep the website link right.

1. Search Google for: American Montessori Society (AMS) school directory Montessori school listing
2. Look for a button like Claim, Join, Add your business, or Get listed.
3. Use your exact Name, Address, and Phone.
4. Add your website, logo, photos, hours, and services.
5. Save the login in your list.

AMI / AMI-USA

Type: Montessori association

How to get it: If you're AMI recognized or a member.

1. Search Google for: AMI / AMI-USA Montessori school listing
2. Look for a button like Claim, Join, Add your business, or Get listed.
3. Use your exact Name, Address, and Phone.
4. Add your website, logo, photos, hours, and services.
5. Save the login in your list.

Montessori Census

Type: Montessori directory

How to get it: Free listing for Montessori schools in the U.S.

1. Search Google for: Montessori Census Montessori school listing
2. Look for a button like Claim, Join, Add your business, or Get listed.
3. Use your exact Name, Address, and Phone.
4. Add your website, logo, photos, hours, and services.
5. Save the login in your list.

Your state Montessori council or alliance

Type: State association

How to get it: Many have member directories.

1. Search Google for: Your state Montessori council or alliance Montessori school listing
2. Look for a button like Claim, Join, Add your business, or Get listed.
3. Use your exact Name, Address, and Phone.
4. Add your website, logo, photos, hours, and services.
5. Save the login in your list.

Niche.com and Private School Review

Type: School directories

How to get it: Claim and update your profile.

1. Search Google for: Niche.com and Private School Review Montessori school listing
2. Look for a button like Claim, Join, Add your business, or Get listed.
3. Use your exact Name, Address, and Phone.
4. Add your website, logo, photos, hours, and services.
5. Save the login in your list.

GreatSchools

Type: School directory

How to get it: Check your private school listing.

1. Search Google for: GreatSchools Montessori school listing
2. Look for a button like Claim, Join, Add your business, or Get listed.
3. Use your exact Name, Address, and Phone.
4. Add your website, logo, photos, hours, and services.
5. Save the login in your list.

Winnie and Care.com

Type: Childcare directories

How to get it: Good for toddler and preschool searches.

1. Search Google for: Winnie and Care.com Montessori school listing
2. Look for a button like Claim, Join, Add your business, or Get listed.
3. Use your exact Name, Address, and Phone.
4. Add your website, logo, photos, hours, and services.
5. Save the login in your list.

State childcare license lookup

Type: Government listing

How to get it: If you're licensed for childcare, make sure your info is right.

1. Search Google for: State childcare license lookup Montessori school listing
2. Look for a button like Claim, Join, Add your business, or Get listed.
3. Use your exact Name, Address, and Phone.
4. Add your website, logo, photos, hours, and services.
5. Save the login in your list.

3 more emails you can copy

Sponsorship ask

> Hi [Name], Little Oaks Montessori would love to support [team/event] this season. Do sponsors get listed on your website? We'd be happy to help. - [Your Name], [Phone]

Local news tip

> Hi [Reporter], with [season/event] coming up, I can share 3 quick tips for Cary families on [topic]. Happy to do a short interview or send a written quote. - [Your Name], Little Oaks Montessori

Partner swap

> Hi [Name], we send a lot of families your way, and we'd love to keep doing it. Would you add us to your 'trusted partners' page? We'll do the same for you. - [Your Name]

Common questions

How many backlinks do I need?

There's no magic number. 10 great local and industry links beat 500 junk links.

Are paid directories worth it?

Sometimes. Try one at a time and track calls from it for 90 days.

Do links help with AI search?

Yes, in a way. AI tools often trust and cite the same sites that link to you or list you.

Want us to do this for you?

JP Marketing helps local businesses show up on Google, Google Maps, and AI search tools like ChatGPT. We build the websites, write the pages, run the ads, and set up the follow-up.

Book a free strategy call at jpmarketing.co. We'll look at your site and your Google profile, and show you the 3 fastest wins for your business.

Rules on Google, Meta, and AI tools change a lot. This guide was last updated November 2026. It is general marketing info, not legal advice.