



## About Heather and Alycia

Heather Vinci has been in the field of education for over 22 years, 14 of those years as a Primary Lead Teacher at The Riverbend School in Natick, MA. In addition to teaching full-time, Heather wore many hats including leading her fellow Primary Children's House colleagues through AISNE accreditation, a Head of School search, and as a Primary Level Leader. Heather also steered the RVBS summer program for five years and created the popular Forest Friday program which still runs at Riverbend to this day!

Heather most recently served as the assistant director and forest teacher at a small Montessori School in Metrowest MA and is beyond thrilled to be continuing her Montessori Journey alongside her friend and colleague, Alycia Clutterbuck, with the opening of South Shore Montessori School.

Heather is a passionate advocate of the Montessori Method and teaching methods of sustainability to young children. She loves spending time with children in nature's playground and has led school-wide recycling, Terracycling, gardening, and composting programs, has written curriculum and continues to initiate outdoor nature explorations with young children.

Heather began her teaching career as an ESL teacher for ELS Language Centers at the University of New Haven then as a middle school English teacher in Canton, CT. Heather completed a Masters in Leadership and Policy in Early Education through Wheelock College.

She received her AMS Montessori credential through Northeast Montessori Institute and Certificate of Completion from the Shelburne Farms Education for Sustainability Leadership Academy in Shelburne, VT where she worked with other educators from

around New England on issues of School Sustainability. She more recently earned 50 + PD Hours completing the FFEC program in 2024 also at Shelburne farms.

Heather is EEC Lead teacher and Director II certified and also works as an Independent contractor for Northeast Montessori Institute as an educational consultant.

She lives with her husband, their two, sporty teenagers and dog in metrowest MA. In her spare time, Heather enjoys reading, gardening, hiking, traveling and spending time with family. She is beyond excited to be fueling her passion for teaching young children with co-owning a school alongside her good friend and fellow educator, Alycia.

### About Alycia

Alycia Clutterbuck's journey intertwines her lifelong passion for children with a vibrant tapestry of experiences. Since childhood, Alycia has been enamored with the magic of nurturing young minds, even turning her playtime into elaborate school scenarios.

Graduating from high school in 1998, Alycia embarked on a journey of self-discovery at Suffolk University, delving deep into the realm of Psychology. Her academic pursuits, however, merely set the stage for her real-world education. During her college years, Alycia's path led her to the role of a nanny for a family whose daughter attended a Montessori School. Witnessing the profound independence of the children in this environment sparked a newfound curiosity within Alycia. Upon earning her Psychology degree, Alycia ventured into a role at a DSS home for adolescent girls. Yet, she soon realized her heart yearned for a different calling.

Driven by a relentless pursuit of her passion, Alycia enrolled at NEMTEC, the American Montessori Society training program, where she honed her skills at Walnut Park Montessori School. Fate intervened when a job opening emerged at Natick Montessori School, where Alycia's journey had initially intersected with the Montessori philosophy. This serendipitous reunion marked the beginning of a transformative six-year chapter in her career.

During her tenure at Natick, Alycia's creativity blossomed as she introduced children's yoga, infusing the school with mindfulness and movement. Her dedication to yoga extended beyond the classroom, leading her to teach Red Sox players' children during games and hosting yoga sessions for families.

As life's chapters unfolded, Alycia embraced motherhood and transitioned into enriching local schools with her yoga expertise while nurturing her growing family. Now, settled in Scituate, Alycia finds solace in beachside adventures, family hikes, literary journeys, and

global exploration. Fuelled by an unwavering dream, Alycia's next chapter unfolds in downtown Cohasset as she embarks on her most ambitious venture yet: founding South Shore Montessori School. With a heart brimming with excitement, Alycia eagerly anticipates weaving her passion for education into the fabric of the community, shaping young minds with boundless possibilities.