Thank you for your interest in the Malamalama Waldorf School Kinderhale Early Childhood Program. We hope that this information will help you to understand our unique program. Our Enrollment Coordinator is happy to help you with any other questions you may have.

The focus in the Kinderhale is on the social, emotional and physical development of the child. Each child's creative and imaginative capacities are allowed to flourish as they discover and learn about their world through their experiences and interactions with the world around them. In keeping with the Waldorf tradition, the Kinderhale values and protects the sanctity of childhood.

What our Kinderhale Early Childhood Program offers:

- Activities which help develop in the children capacities such as focus, concentration, intellectual flexibility, hand-eye coordination, and small-muscle skills are essential to their later academic work. We do not advocate accelerated formal academic learning in the early years, but rather safeguard imagination, the importance of play, and well-rounded, three-dimensional development engaging children emotionally, mentally, and actively. We lay a strong foundation for later academic-focused learning.
- Storytelling, verse and song nourish the imagination and stimulate the memory.
- Group activities and free-play allow children direct interaction with their world and the people in it.
- Playthings of natural materials, wet-on-wet painting, handwork, cooking, baking, creative movement, foreign language and gardening support further exploration and creativity.
- Our <u>Star Child Program</u> allows the oldest children (Kindergarten age children who will be entering 1st Grade the following year) to engage in larger handwork projects and attend Movement Education classes in the spring taught by our school's Movement teacher. Additionally, the Star Children, as leaders of the class, are given age-appropriate responsibilities including helping in the kitchen and leading activities.

Our daily schedule - Monday through Thursday 7:30am until 2:15pm; Friday until 12:15pm.

One class example (times are approximate):

- 8:00 Arrival & morning chores
- 8:20 Indoor play and activities (includes baking, veggie/fruit cutting & handcrafts, watercolor painting)
- 9:45 Circle time
- 10:00 Wash hands & snack
- 10:45 Outdoor play and activities (includes gardening, woodworking, nature walks & games)
- 11:45 Story time/puppet show/play & wash hands
- 12:10 Lunch
- 12:40 Lunch clean-up (children wash their own dishes and napkins); rest time set-up
- 1:00 Rest time
- 2:00-2:15 Goodbye circle & Pick up

What are we looking for?

The Kinderhale seeks for children and their families that are a good fit with our school and its philosophy of a play based, nature-oriented curriculum.

In order to apply, your child must be 3 years of age by the date of entrance and able to use the bathroom independently. Exceptions may be made for students who are 3 years of age after August 1st at the class teacher's discretion. This requirement helps us ensure child readiness and alleviates extremes in age variation and developmental stages in the classroom.

OTHER PROGRAMS & INFORMATION

<u>Ukulele Program</u>

Music is incorporated throughout the Waldorf Curriculum and includes music theory, singing and the playing of musical instruments including the pentatonic flute (beginning in grade one) and the recorder (beginning in grade two). At Malamalama Waldorf School we also offer ukulele as an additional specialty music class beginning in grade two.

Greek Pentathlon

Grade five students participate in a Greek pentathlon, where they travel to Haleakala Waldorf School, and with other Hawai'i Waldorf schools, re-enact the ancient games of foot races, long jump, javelin and discus throwing, and wrestling.

Medieval Games

Grade six students travel to Honolulu Waldorf School to participate in the Medieval Games, a three-day trip where they are joined by other Hawai'i Waldorf schools, and participate in challenge games, jousting, archery, and cross country races, in the spirit of the Medieval code of chivalry.

Grade Eight Graduation Trip

In grade eight, students travel together, often off island, to celebrate their graduation from Malamalama Waldorf School.

Extended Day Program: Afterschool Care

An early childhood Extended Day Program is available for Kinderhale students. There is a separate grades Extended Day Program available for children ages 6-12. The Kinderhale Aftercare program begins afterschool and ends at 5:00pm daily. The Grades Aftercare program begins afterschool and ends at 5:00pm daily.

Early Drop-Off for Kinderhale Students

Early drop-off at 7:30am is available for Kinderhale students. Families must make arrangements with the Kinderhale staff ahead of time.

Summer Explorations Program

The Malamalama Waldorf School Summer Explorations program is a Waldorf-Inspired summer day camp. The program was developed to provide a safe, healthy, and fun environment for children requiring day care during the summer months. The early childhood Keiki Camp is for children ages 3-5 and Camp Kukui is for children ages 6-12. A minimum enrollment amount is required for the summer program to be held.

Please contact the office for more information on any of these programs.