



## Acceptance Policy

Waldorf educational philosophy and practice seeks to develop and balance the needs of the whole child, working with the intellectual, spiritual, emotional, and physical development of the child within a social context.

In considering an application for grades admission, we review previous school records, letters of recommendation, interviews with the child and parents, and the results of a three-day classroom visit, to reach an admissions decision. During their three-day visit, children may have a limited assessment done. Other assessments may be required at the discretion of the school.

For early childhood applications, observing the child in a Parent-Child class, an Afternoon in Early Childhood visit, or during a Tea & Play meeting assists us in forming a picture regarding admissions and placement. A parent interview, without the child present, will also be scheduled as part of the admissions process.

The Waldorf School of Cape Cod, a non-sectarian, non-profit organization, welcomes children of all religious, social, and racial backgrounds.

## Placement Guidelines

### **Early Childhood** (Preschool and Kindergarten)

We offer 2, 3 and 5 day Early Childhood (EC) programs, each with morning only or full day options. Our Early Childhood program is for children who are at least 2.9 years by September. Children must be toilet-trained. Children who will turn five by June 1 will need to attend either the 5-day morning or full-day program. Three year-olds are evaluated on a case by case basis for eligibility to attend the 5-day program.

### **Grade One**

Children must be six years old by June 1 in order to attend first grade in September. Children born before April 1 are generally ready to begin first grade the fall after they turn six. Children whose birthdays fall in April or May are observed and evaluated to determine if first grade at six or seven will best suit their individual growth and development. Since we are not evaluating the children for their readiness relative to the next few months, but rather the next eight or nine years, age is not the only assessment criterion that we use.

### **Grades Two through Eight**

Children wishing to enter grades two through eight will be placed according to the results of developmental and academic assessments and observations made during the required three-day visit. Previous placement will be taken into consideration.



## Admissions Procedures

### Early Childhood

1. Applicants for our Early Childhood program first attend a Tea & Play meeting or participate in the Parent-Child program before being admitted. A Tea & Play meeting can be arranged according to your schedule.
2. Complete and return an application to the office with a non-refundable, non-binding application fee of \$75.
3. Early childhood faculty members collectively review the application and form an admissions decision.
4. A letter communicating the admissions decision and placement is sent to parents from the office. Parents have 14 days from the date of the admission letter to submit a signed enrollment contract.

### Grades 1-8

1. Complete and return an application to the office with a non-refundable, non-binding application fee of \$75.
2. Submit the Records Request form to your child's current school or return it to the Waldorf School of Cape Cod for processing. Records from previous schools must be received prior to the required 3-day visit.
3. Recommendations are required as follows:
  - First through fifth grade – Lead teacher. For those children home-schooled or not yet in a school setting, a non-family adult who knows the child (i.e. neighbor, religious leader, scout leader).
  - Sixth through eighth grade – Two recommendations are required. One should be from an English or language arts teacher. The second should be from a math teacher. When this is the same person, another subject teacher (e.g., science), counselor, or administrator should complete the form, so that there could be up to three recommendations.
4. Upon receipt of your application, you will be contacted for an interview.
5. Once we have received the school records, we will arrange a 3-day classroom visit for your child. The visit is scheduled for three consecutive days (usually Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday). The Director of Admissions will have more information for families applying during the summer who will not have the benefit of the 3-day visit.
6. Faculty members collectively evaluate the class visit and form an admissions decision.
7. A letter communicating the admissions decision is sent to parents from the office. Parents have 14 days from the date of the admission letter to submit a signed enrollment contract.

### **Policy on Testing & Assessment**

*New children applying for entrance into the grades may be tested for the purpose of ascertaining developmental level and body integration skills. Additional assessments may be required.*

*The Waldorf School of Cape Cod is a non-sectarian, 501(c)3 non-profit organization and does not discriminate*

*on the basis of race, color, religion, gender, national or ethnic origin, sexual orientation, or physical handicap in its admissions and financial aid, hiring process, and in all programs.*