



Early Childhood General Class Information (Koa, Kukui, Milo and Kamani)

The Preschool Program (Kukui and Koa classes) serves children between the ages of 2 to 4 years old by providing a 3- or 5-day program, with a full-day and a half-day option for enrollment. In a warm and loving environment, the program offers a gentle transition to school life. This is a lovely age, in which the children are learning by absorbing and imitating everything in their environment. Teachers strive to nurture the child’s natural feelings of wonder and trust by creating an environment worthy of imitation. The daily, weekly, and seasonal rhythms of the program provide a bridge from home to school.

The focus in the Waldorf Kindergarten program (Kamani and Milo classes) is on the social, emotional, and physical development of the child. The child’s creative and imaginative capacities are allowed to flourish as he/she discovers and learns about the world through experience and interaction with those around him/her. This five-day program and curriculum is organized to provide a healthy balance of activities allowing the child the freedom to develop to his/her full potential within a structured environment.

Creative and practical activities are offered during free-play time in the morning (see Schedule) and include:

- **Watercolor Painting** – Children paint with the three primary colors.
- **Handwork** – Stitching projects develop small motor skills and concentration.
- **Drawing** – Creative expression using small motor skills.
- **Beeswax Modeling** - Creative expression requiring great dexterity.
- **Bread Baking** – Children socialize while experiencing the whole process of how bread is made.

DAILY SCHEDULE

Koa and Kukui Preschool Classes

7:30 a.m.	Front gate unlocked
8:00 a.m.	School day begins
8:25 a.m.	Circle
8:40 a.m.	Outdoor Play
9:30 a.m.	Snack
9:50 a.m.	Inside play
10:40 a.m.	Story/Puppet play
11:00 a.m.	Outside Play
11:30 a.m.	Lunch
12:00 p.m.	Dismissal (<u>pick-up for half-day students</u>)
12:00 p.m.	Nap (for full-day students)
1:30 p.m.	Outdoor play
2:45 p.m.	Dismissal (<u>pick-up for full-day students</u>)
3:00 p.m.	After care begins

Milo and Kamani Mixed Age Kindergarten Classes

7:30 a.m.	Front gate unlocked
8:00 a.m.	School day begins
8:30 a.m.	Circle
9:00 a.m.	Inside play, morning activities
10:00 a.m.	Snack
10:30 a.m.	Outside play
11:30 a.m.	Clean-up
12:00 p.m.	Dismissal (<u>pick-up for half-day students</u>)
12:00 p.m.	Lunch (for full-day students)
12:30 p.m.	Story
12:45 p.m.	Nap
1:45 p.m.	Outside play
2:45 p.m.	Dismissal (<u>pick-up for full-day students</u>)
3:00 p.m.	After care begins

MORNING ARRIVAL: All Early Childhood children must be accompanied by an adult to the classroom. This ensures a safe arrival for your child. Gates open at 7:30 a.m.; there is no supervision before this time. For safety reasons, all children must be under adult supervision while waiting at the gate. Please be punctual; the program day begins at 8:00 a.m. If a child arrives late, the parent may be asked to wait outside the classroom with their child until the teacher is available to welcome the child in an appropriate manner.

OUTSIDE PLAY: Consists of creating and building in the sandbox with buckets, shovels, and wood: make-believe in the playhouse, with the child’s own rich imagination. Water-play is also an important element of outside play. Appropriate yard space allows for running, climbing, balancing, and jumping which enhance the development of large motor skills.

MORNING CIRCLE: Morning activities include singing, finger plays, verses, and imaginative games. At this time, children are inwardly challenged and required to focus their attention on their teacher while being part of a large social group. Activities for morning circle are taken from the festivals and seasons which connect the children with the rhythm of the year.

SNACK AND LUNCH: Nutritious snacks are provided by the school. Snacks, organic where possible, of whole grain ingredients, fruit and vegetables are prepared at school. Dairy, or an alternative for those who are allergic, is provided at snack time. In the Milo and Kamani class, Wednesday is sharing day when the children bring a piece of fruit for their fruit salad or vegetable (during the winter months) for vegetable soup. If a child is enrolled in the full-day program, a nutritious lunch will need to be brought from home. Insulated bags or small coolers are helpful as lunch boxes as they maintain food temperature, do not leak, and guard against insects. Please, no plastic or metal lunch boxes or cartoon pictures. Please send your child with water only to drink. Drinking fountains and fresh water are available through the day. Candy, gum, and soda are not allowed in school. Allergies to food, including dairy restrictions, shall be noted in writing by the parent and signed by or accompanied by a signed note from the physician.

Our daily snack schedule is:

Monday:	Brown rice, fresh fruit or vegetables
Tuesday:	Oatmeal with raisins, fresh fruit or vegetables
Wednesday:	Quinoa or barley, fresh fruit or vegetables
Thursday:	Millet or brown rice, fresh fruit or vegetables
Friday:	Home-made bread, cheese, and fresh fruit or vegetables

STORY TIME: Children sit quietly and listen to stories told by the teacher. This special time engages the children's imagination and develops listening skills.

NAPTIME: Following lunch each day, the full-day children are encouraged to nap or rest quietly. Every other Friday, the nap covers will be sent home for washing and will need to be returned the following Monday.

DISMISSAL: Please be punctual in picking up your child and remember to sign your child out.

- Half-Day: Pick-up at 12:00 noon
- Full-Day: Pick-up at 2:45 p.m.

(There is a 15-minute grace period for late pick-up after which a late fee is charged.)

HOME VISITS: Developing a close relationship with parents is as important as our relationship with the children. To help develop a strong connection between the school and the home, Early Childhood teachers would appreciate being invited to visit your home or they may request a home visit, particularly for new families or in the beginning of the year. Children really enjoy having their teacher visit and look forward to this occasion.

TOYS FROM HOME: Many of the toys in our classroom are made simply and by hand to enhance particular aspects of the developmental stages of the child. Please keep privately owned toys at home. The only exception to this is for children who will be staying for naptime. They will be allowed to bring one special item to sleep with—a soft, small toy, or blanket. Please, no cartoon characters.

SICK CHILDREN: We all need to work together to keep our classrooms a healthy environment. If your child is listless or tired, it is best to keep the child home to rest. If your child complains of not feeling well, sore throat, is coughing, congested, dizzy or has a stomach ache or runny nose, please keep her/him at home. The school is not staffed or equipped to care for sick children and children do not do well in a social situation if they are not feeling up to par. If your child has a fever or vomited or has diarrhea within the prior twenty-four hours, he or she must stay home. (The temperature should have returned to normal - less than 100°- without the use of fever-reducing medication). This follows the state requirements for flu and will give your child extra time for recovery.

HEALTH REQUIREMENTS: All children are required by the State of Hawaii to have a TB clearance and completed up-to-date Health Form 14 and 908 on file **before** being admitted to school. The medical forms are due in the school office as soon as possible before the first day of school. These forms are available in the office and from the pediatrician. Exemptions may be granted for immunizations only. A "Request for Exemption" form is available in the office and must be submitted prior to school entry.

PARENT HANDBOOK (Niu Campus): The HWS Parent Handbook contains basic information about the Honolulu Waldorf School. Please refer to the Handbook for statements regarding organizational structure, operational policies and procedures, academic affairs, and other general information. It is available on our website for your review at www.honoluluwaldorf.org, click on "Parent Info" on the top and reference the Parent Handbook (Niu Campus).

SCHOOL ROSTER: The School Roster is available to view on-line at www.honoluluwaldorf.org, click on login. It allows you to conveniently see a listing of students alphabetically by last name and by grade, and lists of faculty, staff, and Board members. The on-line school roster is only available to enrolled families.