



Ever since Plato's time, a true academy has been a place where learning and teaching are treated as an art and wisdom is understood to be the deeper purpose of knowledge. Welcome to Waldorf Academy.

Waldorf Academy was founded in 1986 by a small group of parents who came together inspired by a vision of a new kind of school for their children – a Waldorf school.

At Waldorf Academy we strive to inspire our students to evolve into creative thinkers who are personally centered and strongly connected to humanity and the environment.

At Waldorf Academy your child will:

- love to learn
- acquire a strong academic foundation
- grow an enduring connection to nature
- deepen their ability to think creatively
- develop a sense of self and purpose

Waldorf Academy offers a rigorous academic program integrated with music, two foreign languages, visual and performing arts, physical education, team sports and movement.

Waldorf education is based on the teaching of renowned philosopher, artist, and scientist, Rudolf Steiner. Waldorf education has grown to include nearly 2500 schools and Kindergartens in over 83 countries.

Early Childhood Programs (Childcare, Parent & Child, Playschool, Nursery, Kindergarten)

Led by our specially trained teachers the Early Childhood Programs develop capacities for creative thinking, problem-solving and social interaction through play and guided activities. Our aesthetically rich classrooms are furnished with simple, natural materials and hand-crafted toys which allow the children to build imaginative scenarios and envision worlds to come. Children engage in activities that feed their pictorial imaginations and tutor their sense of language and memory.

Childcare Centre: The Childcare Centre represents an opportunity to bring the best of human development to those early years for families who require a longer day. The Childcare Centre opened in 2008 and is the first Waldorf Childcare in Toronto.

The Childcare Advisory Board: Dr. Devin Casenhiser- Head of Research, Milton & Ethel Harris Research Initiative, York University. Professor Karen Chandler- George Brown College. Marilyn Gradniski- Director, Little Lions Waldorf Daycare and Kindergarten. Diana Hughes- Former Director of Waldorf Teacher Education, Rudolf Steiner Centre. Carol Page Heyding- Former Director, Ontario Board of Directors of the Association of Early Childhood Educators, retired professor Seneca College.

Parent and Child: Parent & Child provides a gentle and nurturing place where families come together once a week in a supportive learning community. Our aim is to protect the grace, magic and wonder of the first 3 years of childhood while honouring the valuable and trying work of raising children.

Lower School (Grades 1-5)

In the Lower School we nurture students' blossoming intellectual abilities while continuing to foster their imaginations. All subjects - mathematics, science and social studies, second languages (both French and German), music, woodwork, and sports - are taught imaginatively and artistically, so that what is learned becomes a living part of each child and builds within an inspired approach to life-long learning.

Middle School (Grades 6-8)

The middle school curriculum builds upon the interest and enthusiasm of the earlier years, introducing the full range of subjects, which are now taught in a demanding but interesting way, inspiring the intellect, stirring the emotions, and physically challenging the capacities of adolescents. Middle School students study math, language arts, chemistry, physics, astronomy, biology, Asian studies, French, geography, history, music, art, handwork, woodwork, physical education, movement and speech, and drama. The highest academic standards are expected of the students. Students also go on regular educational field trips and play competitive team sports in the Small School Athletic Association.

Some Unique Aspects of Waldorf Education

The Class Teacher: Children learn best if they love their teacher. When children enter Grade 1 in Waldorf Academy, they meet the person who, ideally, will teach them the core curriculum for the next eight years. The relationship between teacher and child is constantly evolving and deepening, and provides a continuity often lacking today. Mutual trust and confidence allows the development of an authority that is not arbitrary and to which children respond without aggression or resentment. In this way, parents and teachers can work together over long periods of time, orchestrating their efforts to meet the changing needs of the child.



The Main Lesson: The main lesson starts each school day with a two-hour presentation of the current subject block. The subject - whether it be algebra, Greek history, botany or physics - is taught for a three or four-week block. This approach allows for freshness and enthusiasm, concentrated in-depth experience, and gives the children time to internalize what has been learned.

Main Lesson Books: Rather than standardized textbooks, students create written and illustrated Main Lesson Books from their teachers' presentations. This process enables them to take ownership their learning and deepen their understanding of the material.

The Sciences: Science is taught experientially. The teacher sets up an experiment, calls upon the children to observe carefully, ponder, discuss and then allows them to discover the conclusion, law or formula. This process trains rigorous independent thinking and sound judgement.

Contact info: [Waldorf Academy](http://WaldorfAcademy.org) 250 Madison Avenue Toronto, ON M4V 2W6

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WALDORF ACADEMY IGNITING A PASSION FOR THE ART OF LEARNING



Program	Childcare Toddler	Childcare Pre-school	Parent & Child	Playschool	Nursery	Kindergarten	Grades 1* - 8
Age Range	18 mo – 2.5 yrs	2.5 yrs – 4 yrs	18 mo – 3 yrs	2 -3 yrs	3 – 4 yrs	4 – 6 yrs	6 – 14 yrs
Age Requirement			18 mo	2 yrs by Aug 31	3 yrs by Aug 31	4 or 5 yrs by Aug 31	* 6 yrs by Aug 31
Program Hours	8 – 6	8 – 6	9:30 – 11:30	8:30 – 12:30/3:30	8:30 – 12:30/3:30	8:30 – 12:30/3:30	8:30 –3:30
Day Options	2, 3 or 5 days	2, 3 or 5 days	1 day	3 days	2, 3 or 5 days	5 Days	5 Days
Program Options	Full Days	Full Days	1x/week	Half or Full Days	Half or Full Days	Half or Full Days	Full Days
Program Days	M-T-W or Th-Fri	M-T-W or Th-Fri	Mon, Tues, Sat	Wed-Fri	T-Th or M-W-F	Mon-Fri	Mon-Fri
Program Length	50 weeks	50 weeks	10 weeks	Sept - Jun	Sept - Jun	Sept - Jun	Sept - Jun
Snack Included	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Hot Lunch Included	✓	✓					
Before School Care	Incl.	Incl.				✓	✓
After School Care	Incl.	Incl.				✓	✓