



Information for Kona Community Families

General Structure & Purpose

“Wai’aha” (formerly ICS) is a family based school model for missions that emerged from what was known as the ‘Coop School’ which began in 1990. It has been developed by the collaborative efforts of parents and trained teachers, listening to God and blending their talents and skills. This model provides an environment that enables parents to be involved directly with their child’s education at the same time as serving on the U of N Campus. Parents become teachers or assistants, helping run Wai’aha alongside some trained teachers.

A Leadership Team of 2-3 parents/educators gives long term leadership in the areas of vision, philosophy, curriculum and administration. Those in this group have long term commitment and appropriate gifting and appoint Coordinators for each class grouping who form a wider Core Team.

Mission Statement: *This school purposes to have God at the center, with parents and trained teachers working together as a team, to help children know God and prepare them with knowledge, skills and character to fulfill their God-given destinies.*

Who Can Be Involved?

- a) Families with children in Grades K–8, who will be based in Kona for the full school year. Parents must be committed to take an active role, fulfilling teaching commitments, pursuing relationships with other families and attending regular school meetings.
- b) Though Wai’aha is primarily for U of N staff, some local community families can be involved when there is space. Their applications are prayerfully considered and approved by the Core Team.

General Information and Requirements

1. Community parents are expected to contribute 3 hours per week in the classroom. (5-7 hours for two or more children). Scheduling is complicated but we try as much as possible to work with individual schedules.
2. Depending on numbers, there are usually 2-3 grade levels in each classroom. Children are grouped according to their ability within classes and a variety of curriculum resources used.
3. Parent-teachers *must* commit to a monthly meeting with the parents of their class group and to a meeting of all Wai’aha parents once a quarter, run by the Core Team. It is very important that parents are at these meetings. There are also preparation meetings during the summer months.

4. Fees: \$875/year for children of **community families** attending for a full school year.
(possible extra fee for insurance 2018-19)

This includes the following:-

- * Registration/Book Fee: \$25 per *child* , to be paid with application.
- * Equipment Fee: First year \$150, due July 15 (\$100 for second child, \$75 for 3rd child)
Second and subsequent years \$75 per child
- * School Fees: \$70/mo. in 10 monthly payments, due the first of each month, beginning Aug.1
(Part year families: \$85/month – *must contribute a minimum of four payments = \$340*)
- * A portion of monthly fees is paid to the U of N Campus for the use of classrooms and facilities.

5. USA parents are advised to register their children as home schoolers through their local school. They need to send in the required testing results to the school at the end of the school year. Standardized testing is carried out each year in April or May. (IOWA)
6. All parents need to be aware of the curriculum material their children are using, and committed to work alongside their children at home as well as in the classroom situation.
7. Tentative starting date for 2020 is August 27(half day). Parents need to be available for training and to help set up classrooms at least 2 weeks **prior** to this..
8. Class begins 8:00 a.m., ending 2:30 p.m. & Friday 12:00 noon. (Hours may vary year to year)
9. **Classroom care:-** Daily classroom tidying and cleanup is covered by the parent teachers and children doing assigned chores. Major cleaning is done by parents or sometimes Work Duty students. Teaching materials, displays, furniture arrangement etc. are also taken care of by those teaching.
10. **Snacks & Lunch:-** Children bring healthy individual snacks,(guidelines as to content) for morning break. They can bring a sack lunch or have a paid lunch in the Cafeteria.
11. **Substitutes:-** Parent-teachers are responsible to find substitutes acceptable to the other parents if they are going to miss class for the purpose of travel, sickness etc. It is usually best to find another parent who will switch classes. Substitutes from outside the parent group need to be approved.
12. **Absences:-** As a courtesy, the starting teacher should be notified if a child is going to miss class. It is the parent/child's responsibility to find out what was missed and catch up.
13. **Classroom management & discipline.** Each class group establishes guidelines for behavior and, if desired, some kind of motivational program. Though each parent will deal with students differently we strive for as much consistency as possible. This is an area in which many parents need to grow. There are teachers experienced and gifted in classroom management who are available to advise.
14. **Special needs:-** Children require various levels of attention, based on their own unique needs. If specific children require extra attention, their parents may be asked to contribute more time than usual to assist. We also recognize that the needs of some children will be beyond what our parent-teacher staff can meet.
15. **Teachers and Training:-** There is a need for full time, trained teachers and for some parents to be willing to teach for more than their basic hours to provide more continuity for the students. Interested parent-teachers may be able to complete a year long Teacher's Certificate course for U of N credit.
16. **Supplies:-** Most books, classroom and curriculum materials are covered by fees paid but a supplies list for the students will be provided in July.
17. Beyond classroom hours parents are asked to take responsibility or help in the following:-

Class Coordinators	Classroom supplies/purchasing
Field trips	Classroom environment/decoration/maintenance
Accounting	Furniture & equipment organization
Parent Notices	Celebrations & Meeting hospitality
Curriculum resource people	Classroom Birthdays etc.
Lunch/Break time supervision	Classroom cleaning

*Application forms are available for printing on our website www.waiahaschool.com,
or in the Office (Bldg.D, R.108) For more information email waiaha.ifs@gmail.com*

Send applications to U of N, 75-5851 Kuakini Hwy. # 177, Kailua Kona, HI 96740