

What Is the Reggio Emilia Approach?

The Reggio Emilia Approach derives its name from its place of origin, Reggio Emilia, a city located in the Emilia Romagna region in Northern Italy. Shortly after the Second World War, the parents of this region collaborated with Loris Malaguzzi, a lifelong educator, innovator and creative philosopher to find a unique public system of childcare education. Loris Malaguzzi and the parents of Reggio Emilia Italy were devastated by the destruction that took place during World War II and believed that the approach to education had to fundamentally change. Based on principles of respect, quality, responsibility, and community, a philosophy was born. In the Reggio Emilia Approach, there is a coined phrase, "a child has a hundred languages." The approach unites and develops all languages of expression-innovation, nature, construction, fantasy, art, music, dance, building, writing, talking, singing, science, body, and more. Through the multiple languages of expression knowledge and an understanding of the world around them.

How many children per class? How many teachers?

Baby Nido: Max capacity of 10 students supported by 1 lead teacher and 2 assistant teachers

Nido: Max capacity of 16 students supported by 2 lead teachers and 1 assistant teacher

PreK-2: Max capacity of 18 students supported by 2 lead teachers and 1 assistant teacher

PreK-3 Max capacity of 18 students supported by 2 lead teachers and 1 assistant teacher

PreK-4: Max capacity of 20 students supported by 2 lead teachers and 1 assistant teacher

Kinder - 5th Grade: Max capacity of 20 students supported by 2 lead teachers

What is your student teacher ratio:

Baby Nido- 1:3

Nido- 1:5

Pre-K2- 1:6

Pre-K3- 1:6

Pre-K4- 1:11

K-5th- 1:14

Do you require uniforms?

Students in Nido-5th grade wear uniforms daily. Our uniforms are inspired by our school's hands-on approach to education. Children that are in constant movement and exploration need comfortable clothes. This is why we choose styles and fabrics that will encourage them to move

How do you keep your students safe on campus?

Here at KLA Academy we believe the safety and security of our students is paramount. We have partnered with a local security company for our on campus needs. With the size of our student body and staff and the world that we live in, we believe that this partnership offers an additional layer of safety and security.

- All entry doors on campus are locked and all visitors must be buzzed in and show identification to gain entry into the building.
- Preschool students must be signed in and out daily in our security system.

Do you provide snack and lunch?

Students enrolled in our Full Time PreK-2 through 5th grade programs are required to participate in our Snack and Lunch program.

KLA Academy partners with Flik Independent School Dining. Flik provides fresh and balanced menus that are flexible and age appropriate. Their menu is also customized for a wide range of allergies and dietary restrictions. We have an on-site Chef who is supported by a dietitian from their network. Each day we offer a hot entree (protein and two sides), vegetarian entree, fresh salads and sandwiches as well as nibbles like fresh fruit and vegetables. Students in Baby Nido and Nido, and those attending part-time only in PreK-2 & PreK-3 will bring their snacks and lunch from home daily.

Do you offer financial aid?

KLA Academy partners with FAST AID, which provides a need-based financial aid analysis service. All information from FAST remains confidential and is reviewed by the school. Families must apply for financial aid each year, using the online FAST application.

Do siblings get priority in the admissions process?

Eligible siblings are given priority in the admissions process and in our wait pools. Siblings are also eligible for a sibling discount. First child pays in full, the second child receives a 10% discount, and the third child receives a 15% discount.

Do you accept midyear transfer applicants?

Yes, if there is space available, we are able to accept qualified applicants after the first day of school.

Do you offer after school programs?

Yes, through our KLA Plus Program we offer a range of after school programs. Below you will find just a small sampling of the many after school activities our students can choose from:

After-Care: From 3 - 6 pm

Students have an opportunity to get a jump-start on their homework, engage in supervised play indoors and outdoors, in addition to having an afternoon snack brought from home.

Extracurricular Activities: From 3 - 6 pm

- Sports - Soccer, Basketball, Gymnastics, Aerial Acrobatics, Mixed Martial Arts, Yoga, Tennis
- Languages - French, Italian and Mandarin
- Dance & Music - Ballet, Flamenco and Hip Hop

How are students assessed? Do you give letter grades?

Students in preschool do not receive grades, instead teachers use a developmental checklist twice a year for Baby Nido, Nido and PreK-2. Teachers then use this checklist three times a year for PreK-3 and PreK-4. Our teachers do daily observations and have biannual Family-Teacher conferences where they discuss a child's progress. Elementary has 4 grading periods and families receive a report card with a narrative each quarter. At the end of the 1st and 4th quarters, teachers share the report card with the parents during an individual parent teacher conference.

Do elementary students participate in Florida state testing?

Students at KLA Academy do not take Florida state standardized tests. Our students are assessed regularly at all grade levels against benchmarks specific to their age and grade.

At what age does homework begin?

Homework begins in kindergarten, it is an opportunity for students to reinforce concepts they have learned during the academic day. Homework is Relevant, Engaging and developmentally appropriate.

How do you handle potty training and do you require students be potty trained by a certain age?

We do not require children to be potty trained until the beginning of PK3. We believe this is a natural process that we will support when a family and school believes the child is ready.

How often do students play outside?

Students have about 40 minutes of playground time daily. In elementary, our students play outside everyday for 30 mins and have a 45 minute PE class on rotation weekly. It is also common to see small groups of children using the outdoor spaces to paint, to build with natural materials, for assemblies and much more.