

# What is a Waldorf Charter School?

A public Waldorf charter school is a public school that is funded using state funds and subject to state and federal laws, but locally controlled allowing for greater freedom in curriculum, methods, and approach to teaching.

	Wasatch Waldorf Charter School	Private Waldorf Schools	Traditional Public Schools
<b>ACCESS</b>	Tuition-free, publicly funded  All abilities, backgrounds and demographics welcome and accepted through lottery  Parents choose to send children to charter	Selective admissions  Charge for tuition  Parents choose to send children to private school	Tuition-free  Accepts all students within geographic area
<b>CONTENT</b>	Cover all State-required core standards, Waldorf curriculum, plus specialty classes	Cover traditional Waldorf curriculum including specialty classes	Cover all State-required core standards
<b>CURRICULUM</b>	Matches content with children's development  Includes global stories, arts, culture, traditions, and myths  Learning is approached in an imaginative and artistic manner	Matches content with children's development  Includes global stories, arts, culture, traditions, and myths  Learning is approached in an imaginative and artistic manner	Early academics
<b>METHODS</b>	Hands-on  Integrated, arts rich approach to academics  Students create their own texts  Nature-based  Slow tech	Hands-on  Integrated, arts rich approach to academics  Students create their own texts  Nature-based  Slow tech	Subjects taught individually  Workbooks and worksheets, drills  Computers used for instruction
<b>ASSESSMENT</b>	Students tracked on holistic learning goals  Portfolios and narrative reports document learning  Students complete State-mandated testing	Students tracked on holistic learning goals  Portfolios and narrative reports document learning	Students are assigned letter grades  Students are tracked primarily for academic learning goals  Students complete State-mandated testing
<b>COMMUNITY</b>	Cooperative and nurturing  Classes stay together with teacher for multiple years  Significant family involvement	Cooperative and nurturing  Classes stay together with teacher for multiple years  Significant family involvement	Comparative and competitive  New teacher and class each year
<b>TEACHERS</b>	State certified, highly qualified teachers in every class  Waldorf-certified teachers (or teachers in training) in every class	Waldorf-certified teachers (or teachers in training) in every class  Craft artistic lessons based on student needs	State certified, highly qualified teachers in every class  Teach pre-set curriculum as required by districts

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