



ABOUT THE ACADEMY

The Academy was founded in 1989 by Ocean Reef Members seeking a private school education within Ocean Reef. Today, The Academy serves children of Members, Club employees and those from surrounding communities. We provide a traditional, well-balanced, and values based education for Toddlers—Grade 8 in a nurturing, challenging environment that positions them for future leadership and success.

Why Choose The Academy?

- Excellent education inside one of the safest communities in the United States
- 15,000 sf open air, screened in atrium
- Multi-purpose gym and outdoor playground
- Full complement of curricular and co-curricular offerings
- After school sports programs including sailing, golf, basketball, tennis and pickleball, led by Ocean Reef Club professional instructors
- Field based experiential opportunities provided throughout the school year
- Seasonal program for students visiting Ocean Reef to ensure continuity in their education and in their love of learning.

Accreditations:



National Association
of Independent Schools



WHAT MAKES THE ACADEMY UNIQUE?

Mission Statement

The Academy at Ocean Reef is a socioeconomically diverse educational community. Students are educated in a nurturing, challenging environment that positions them for future leadership and success.

What distinguishes The Academy from other schools?

- A challenging college preparatory curriculum that prepares students to excel at both outstanding secondary schools and selective colleges/universities.
- A character education program that teaches, models and celebrates our seven core values of **Courage, Compassion, Commitment, Honesty, Respect, Kindness, and Leadership**. We encourage all students and faculty members to embrace and demonstrate these values every day.
- An extraordinary faculty who are both highly credentialed and genuinely committed to our students' success.
- A safe and secure environment with access to outstanding facilities located within the Ocean Reef Club.
- A school exclusively for the Ocean Reef community and the immediate neighborhoods.
- Small class sizes and favorable student-to-teacher ratios provide a “family-like” atmosphere, which allows faculty to meet students' individual needs and promote their success.
- Emphasis on instilling in students a sense of responsibility, the development of strong values, and the establishment of excellent academic skills and study habits.
- A cutting-edge, instructional technology program that provides students in K-8 with their own personal electronic devices for learning. In addition, all classrooms are equipped with SMART boards, used to incorporate interactive instruction into class lessons.
- Opportunities to learn and participate in afterschool activities starting in First Grade, including golf, tennis, sailing, basketball and pickleball, led by Ocean Reef Club professionals.
- A field-based studies program that allows students to explore the unique ecosystem of the Florida Keys through hands-on experiential learning on land and in its vast marine environment.
- A comprehensive fine and performing arts program including chorus with numerous public performances at Ocean Reef and its surrounding communities.
- An exceptionally enthusiastic and committed Board of Trustees.



ABOUT THE ACADEMY

History

The Academy at Ocean Reef, Inc., originally The Schoolhouse at Ocean Reef, Inc., was founded in 1989 by a group of Ocean Reef Club members seeking a quality independent school within the Ocean Reef community. The school opened as a preschool and is now fully accredited with students from toddler through eighth grade. The Academy enrolls children of members of the Ocean Reef Club, the employees of the Ocean Reef Club, businesses and homeowners within Ocean Reef, and highly qualified students from communities that are adjacent to Ocean Reef.

Faculty

All Lead teachers possess a bachelors or masters degree. All faculty members are dedicated to implementing the philosophy and goals of The Academy to prepare students for their high school years and beyond. Our faculty is an integral part of the school community. In addition to hosting conferences and workshops, our faculty love to join in and participate in school fundraising events and family dinners.

Dress Code

The school uniform is required for all students from Toddler through Eighth Grade. Information is available in the School Office. Students are expected to be well-groomed and neat in appearance.

Activities

After school activities are provided by the Ocean Reef Club. The Academy sponsors “life-long” sports including tennis, golf, sailing, basketball and pickleball. Our After School Child Care program is also available to all students on Monday-Thursday from 3:15pm-5:30pm and on Friday from 2:30pm-5:30pm.

School Hours & Calendar

The school year begins in September and commences in June. When school is in session, the building opens at 8:00am and upon arrival, students must report to their classroom/homeroom teacher. At 8:15am, all classes proceed to the front of the building for the Morning Flag. Classes convene following the Flag Ceremony, and dismissal for Monday-Thursday is 3:15pm and on Friday at 2:30pm. A 5 half-day program option is available for Toddler—PreK 4 students. It begins at 8:00am and dismisses at 12:00pm.



ADMISSIONS PROCESS & REQUIREMENTS

Accreditation and Memberships

- Florida Council of Independent Schools (FCIS)
- Member of The National Association of Independent Schools (NAIS)



Application Process

- Families should schedule a tour and interview with the Head of School by contacting the Admissions Office at 305-367-2409 or via email at admissions@oracademy.org
- The enclosed Application for Admission should be completed and returned to The Academy with the application fee. A separate application and fee must be submitted for each child. All completed applications must be submitted two (2) weeks prior to the requested enrollment dates.
- Candidates for admission to grades K-8 are required to have school transcripts, rec form and test records forwarded to The Academy.
- If the student is accepted, an Enrollment Contract will be issued and must be completed and returned to The Academy, along with a non-refundable enrollment deposit, in order to finalize their place in the class.
- Once enrolled, families will receive an acceptance packet containing important forms and requirements for the school year.

Prior to the first day of school, all students (Toddler through Grade 8) are required to have on file the following documents:

- Copy of Birth Certificate
- Original/current Florida Certificate of Immunization-form DH680
- Original/current Florida Student Health Examination-form DH3040
- Copy of transcript, progress and/or report card, and testing results (if applicable)
- Emergency Contact Information
- Florida Department of Children and Families (DCF) required forms for all Toddler and Pre K students
- All Academy students and parents are required to read the Student Handbook and sign the “Acknowledgement of Acceptable Use Policy” and the “Acknowledgement and Receipt of Student Handbook.”