



Frequently Asked Questions

How does Baldwin's Academic Program differ from those of other English schools in Puerto Rico?

All classes place a premium on communicating effectively and learning the skills of finding and analyzing information rather than having the information handed to them by the teacher.

All of our students go on to university immediately after high school. This means that we work to challenge the students academically. We do not expect all of the students to achieve A's; we do expect them to do their best, to learn how to be responsible, and to become giving members of the school community.

How many students does Baldwin have?

Baldwin has 765 students from Pre-Kinder through Grade 12.

How old does my child have to be to enter Baldwin?

For entrance into the Pre-Kinder or Kinder students must be "age appropriate" by September 1. Thus, to enter the Pre-Kinder program the child must turn 4 before the 1st of September. For entrance into the Kindergarten program, the child must turn 5 before the 1st of September.

How big are classes at Baldwin?

Classes in the OECC (Pre-Kinder and Kinder) are around 18-20 each with a full time teacher and an assistant.

In Grades 1 through 12, class sizes average 22 with most classes around 20 but some classes are as small as 5, depending on the subject taught.

What is Baldwin's accreditation status?

The Baldwin School of Puerto Rico is accredited by the Puerto Rico Department of Education annually and the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools (2006-2013).

How involved are parents at Baldwin?

Baldwin has a very active parent group called the Parent-Teacher Organization. Baldwin's Parent-Teacher Organization welcomes the participation of all members of the community. The PTO's main function is as a community spirit organization, which sponsors a variety of fund-raising and community spirit activities during the year. The PTO holds open meetings once per month and all parents are encouraged to attend and get involved.

What are the Baldwin facilities like?

Baldwin is located on 23 tree-shaded acres of land in the San Juan metropolitan area of Bayamón/ Guaynabo. Facilities include a science center; a seminar room; two media centers; two computer centers; art rooms; music and band studios; tennis, volleyball, and basketball courts; soccer, softball, and baseball fields; an air-conditioned cafeteria; a 25-meter swimming pool; a covered court, and an exceptional playground and recreational facilities.

The School's libraries and media center house more than 22,000 volumes, forty-two periodical subscriptions, 12 database English/Spanish online catalog network, and twelve computers with Internet access. All of the classrooms are air-conditioned.

What is the daily schedule like?

All students should be in their respective classrooms by 8:25 a.m. The dismissal time is 3 p.m. for all students from grades 1 through 12. The Oxman Early Childhood Center is dismissed at 2:45. The library is open until 5:30 p.m., allowing students time to do their homework and work on projects.

Are there activities outside the regular class schedule in which my child can participate?

The extracurricular program offers a wide variety of activities for the tastes of all students; therefore there is a high rate of student participation. In the Elementary School, these activities include Third-Grade Opera, Talent Show, Student of the Month, Spanish Week, field trips, Fun Day, class parties, band, choir, and team sports for grades 4th – 6th: baseball, basketball, cross-country, soccer, swimming, tennis, and volleyball.

In the Middle/Upper School, activities include band, Sound Club, Forensics, Golden Key Club, Art Club, Computer Club, Science Club, Photography Club, United Nations Club, Math Club, National Junior Honor Society, National Honor Society, Yearbook, Journalism Club, and team sports: basketball, golf, soccer indoor soccer, softball, swimming, tennis, and volleyball.

How many Baldwin graduates attend university and at which universities are they accepted?

100% of our students are accepted into universities, both on the island and abroad. Baldwin students' standardized test scores are well above the national averages. Many of our students have obtained on average the highest scores island-wide in the Advanced Placement Exams offered by the College Board.

Baldwin School students have been accepted to colleges and universities such as Babson, Barnard, Boston College, Boston University, Brown, Bristol University (UK), Carnegie Mellon University, Columbia, Cornell, Duke, Duquesne, Emory, George Washington, Georgetown, Georgia Tech, Harvard, Johns Hopkins

University, Manhattanville, Marquette, MIT, NYU, Northeastern, Penn State, Pratt, Princeton, Rice, Smith College, Swarthmore, Syracuse, Tufts, Universidad Interamericana, U.S. Military Academy, U.S. Naval Academy, Villanova, Washington U. in St. Louis, Wellesley College, Yale, and the University of Chicago, University of Florida, University of Miami, University of Pennsylvania, University of Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras and Mayaguez Campus; and Sagrado Corazón.

What field trips are offered?

Learning takes place in a variety of environments. Baldwin regularly takes students on field trips during the school day so the students can see and experience what they learn in class.

Additionally, there are trips, beginning in Grade 6, where students spend several days and nights away from home. Trips such as: Space Camp for students in grade 6, and Europe for students in the Middle/Upper School. These trips are optional and at an additional cost to parents.

Do the children eat a hot lunch at school or bring a lunch from home?

Baldwin has a professional catering company providing lunches for the students. Each day a hot lunch is available to all students. Cost for lunch from Pre-Kinder to grade 3 is \$5.30 and \$5.62 for grades 4 -12. Students also have the option of bringing their lunch from home.

I work and there is no one at home to care for my child after school. Can the school help?

The After Care Program is offered to the students of the Oxman Early Childhood Center (PK – K) and the Elementary School (grades 1–4). The program runs from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. There is an additional cost for this service. For more information, contact the Business Office.

How is the school governed?

The Board of Trustees is the legally recognized governing body of Baldwin and, as such, is responsible for the financial, legal, educational health of the school, and for adopting policies under which the school personnel act.

What are the Admission Requirements?

Parents of students in all levels must submit the completed application, the nonrefundable application fee of \$150, a copy of the child's birth certificate the parents' questionnaire, the child's school health record, the immunization record PVAC-3 form (provided by any licensed physician in Puerto Rico), proof of a complete hearing and eye examination (Pre-K through grade 3 only), and a letter from the previous school regarding payment history. The required age for Pre-K is 4 years by September 1 and for Kindergarten, 5 years by September 1.

Pre-K and Kindergarten applicants must take the Brigance Assessment Test of Basic Skills and submit two recommendations, one from a teacher and one from someone who is not a relative. Applicants in grades 1 through 12 must take standardized entrance exams and submit two teacher recommendations (Mathematics and English), the applicant's questionnaire (grades 5–12 only), and a letter of conduct.

Does Baldwin require uniforms?

Yes. We expect students to come to school appropriately dressed and to adhere to the standards of our dress code. For certain special events, students may be asked to dress in a more informal manner.

Does Baldwin have a religious affiliation?

Baldwin is a non-sectarian school and students and teachers come from many different countries and ethnic ancestries, races, and religions. The school community will go beyond tolerance to treasure differences and look upon them as an opportunity for learning, which will enrich each individual and promote personal growth.

Who do I contact for more information?

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