



## CLASS PLACEMENT

The Keisho Center Education Team is responsible for students' classroom placement. The Education Team considers the following factors when making class placements:

- Age and grade level
- Japanese environment at home
- Individual learning style and personality
- Individual interests and approach to Japanese culture
- Communicative abilities in Japanese
- Relationships with other students and with teachers
- Experience learning Japanese as a heritage language

In principle, classes have 12-15 students, with some exceptions based on class dynamics.

While students may move among classes from year to year, they are not "advancing" or "moving up a level." While Keisho Center considers language proficiency when placing students, other factors are also considered.

Teachers and TAs apply best practices in heritage language education, and each homeroom has its own unique features. Homerooms serve students of approximately the same age and include activities in which students of different ages work together.

### Homeroom

All Keisho students are assigned a homeroom each year. In the homeroom class, students study Japanese heritage language and both traditional and contemporary culture. The instructional program, which emphasizes open-ended, hands-on projects, fosters a sense of collaboration among learners and teachers. Students are expected to communicate with classmates and teachers in Japanese, creating a supportive and inclusive learning environment.

### Adult Program

The adult program is available to adult family members of Keisho Center students, alums, and staff. The adult student studies Japanese language and culture for 60



**Washington Japanese Heritage Center (Keisho Center)**

ワシントン日本語継承センター

keisho.org / facebook.com/keishocenter / info@keisho.org

P.O. Box 142

Cabin John, MD 20818

minutes per instructional day. Students are placed by Japanese proficiency level into the beginning or intermediate class. Each class has between 5-10 students. The teacher bases lessons on the communicative approach to language learning and focuses on language the adult students need and can apply in their everyday lives. The adult student is expected to attempt to communicate with classmates and teachers in Japanese. However, it is understood that English or other languages may be used to facilitate instruction.