



Edinburgh Steiner School

Teacher Training Course

The Edinburgh Course is a three year part time course which runs every weekend during school term time. The course is held in the Edinburgh Steiner School on Friday evenings, 7pm – 9:30pm and all day Saturdays 8:45am – 4:30pm. The course directors are Mary Snow and Astrid Maclean who are both teachers at the Edinburgh school. Other tutors on the course are drawn from the teaching body of the school as well as some specialists in their field who are drawn from the school's wider community.

Course outline

During the first year, the focus is primarily on the study of the principles behind the Education. The second and third years aim to prepare the students for the classroom. During the second and third year, an individual learning plan is prepared for each student. This will include several blocks of classroom observation and teaching practice in their chosen area of interest. These periods are both mentored and evaluated and will form the basis for any further recommendations and / or references for the student.

Main themes

Running through all three years there are two strands, "Teacher Development" and "Child Development".

YEAR ONE:

Teacher Development:

- Being and becoming human: The image of the human being as revealed through Anthroposophy
- Evolution and consciousness
- Multi-sensory learning, manual intelligence and learning through process
- The art and science of plant and nature study 1
- The cycle of the year and the festivals
- The path of inner development

Child Development:

- Interconnections between physical and psychological development
- Age appropriate teaching and learning
- The four temperaments

YEAR TWO

Teacher development:

- Methods and practice in Steiner Waldorf Education 1
- Curriculum studies 1
- Multi-sensory learning, manual intelligence and learning through process
- The art and science of plant and nature study 2
- The cycle of the year and the festivals
- The path of inner development

Child development:

- Key features of “the seven year phases”
- Authority and discipline
- Temperaments and soul qualities
- Age appropriate learning styles
- The Seven Life processes
- Insights into Learning Support
- A minimum of 2 weeks observation

YEAR THREE

Teacher development:

- Methods and practice in Steiner Waldorf Education 2
- Curriculum studies 2
- Multi-sensory learning, manual intelligence and learning through process
- Moral imagination, thinking and freedom
- Lesson forming and skills in the classroom
- Evaluation and record keeping
- Working with parents and the wider community
- The ideals and practicalities of running a Steiner/Waldorf School, school management and organisation

Child development:

- In-depth individual child study
- 12 weeks of teaching practice

Assessment

Throughout the three years, the students are assessed through written assignments, oral presentations and artwork. At the end of the second year, there is a year group project and at the end of the third year each student is asked to prepare a final thesis on a chosen theme.

Throughout the course students will participate in a wide range of artistic activities including: Eurhythmy (movement art), the art of the spoken word, storytelling, music, recorder-playing, singing, painting, drawing, clay modelling, form drawing and crafts. The progression is from developing one's own creativity and flexibility, towards developing teaching skills in the classroom.

Award Format

Students will be awarded a certificate of completion after their first and their second year of study. They will receive their Teacher Training Diploma on completion of the third year. The awards include a list of the topics covered in each year of the course.