



Dear prospective parents,

The School's unique Open Tours provide an excellent opportunity to observe the children learning, sense the atmosphere and ask more detailed questions about the curriculum and how we teach. Sadly, during the coronavirus pandemic our School is open to children of key workers only. We continue to follow the Scottish Government's advice on School closures and update our website [here](#). As it stands, it looks likely we will reopen in the new academic year 2020/21 in August/September.

In the meantime, we are still receiving, processing and accepting applications for our newly registered Playgroup for children aged 2 and over, our three Kindergartens for children of mixed ages (3.5 – 6.5 years old), and our School (for pupils aged 6 – 18), with a capacity of up to 360 pupils.



An Individual Tour

In addition to the [Prospectus](#), we have put together the following links that will hopefully provide the answers to most of your curiosities.

In these very strange times we find ourselves in, we would also like to offer you the opportunity to speak directly with your child's prospective Class Teacher, who stays with the Class until the Upper School. This informal virtual meeting can give you and your child the opportunity to ask any questions that are specific to the class your child will be joining – pupil numbers, curriculum content, how new pupils come into a close-knit group, as well as any queries that are unique to your situation. If desired, we will also invite prospective classmates to join the end of this meeting so as to give you a pupil's perspective too.

www.edinburghsteinerschool.org.uk

60 Spylaw Road Edinburgh EH10 5BR T: 0131 337 3410 E: info@edinburghsteinerschool.org.uk

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An Alternative Curriculum

Main Lessons are unique to the Waldorf Curriculum. The schedule of Main Lessons is carefully constructed to provide a balance across the disciplines, while the subjects themselves are selected to be appropriate for a particular age group and developmental stage. These subject blocks are the cornerstone of a Steiner education. It is

our programme of over 100 subjects, providing every pupil with a broad spectrum of learning experiences throughout their education, that made our School an educational flagship in Scotland with the introduction of *Curriculum for Excellence*. At a time where narrowing of subjects and premature specialisation are prevalent in the mainstream education system, pupils at Edinburgh Steiner School continue to study a broad spectrum of arts, sciences, crafts and humanities in addition to their national subjects.



Child-Friendly Architecture

Integral to a Steiner Waldorf education is an understanding that pupils are profoundly affected by their built environment throughout their school career. As an all-through school, the Toddler Hut, Early Years, Lower School and Upper School are all on one campus. Our campus sits within three acres of a protected conservation area of Edinburgh.

Distinctive in its attention to aestheticism, child-friendly architecture, nature playgrounds and considered interior décor, a montage of our unpeopled grounds and classrooms [here](#) attempt to go some way to give you a sense of how our educational spaces support an ethos to provide an unhurried and creative learning environment where children can find the joy in learning and experience the richness of childhood rather than early specialisation or academic hot-housing.



Links

[Prospectus](#)



[An Essential Guide to Steiner Waldorf Education at Edinburgh Steiner School](#)

[Frequently Asked Questions](#)



[Easter Assembly](#)

Our first ever online assembly is available to stream, including contributions from alumni, parents, teachers and pupils. A guitar, bagpipes, fiddle, pianos, violins, street organ, vocals, harp, clarinet, electric keys and a combuitar all feature.

[Fees & Bursary](#)

[School News](#) including:

[Interview with actor, producer and alumnus, Sam Heughan](#)

[A curriculum of seamless transitions](#)

[Pupil Selected for United Nations Summit](#)

[BROAR brothers set three world recording rowing Atlantic](#)

[Nobel Laureate helps pupils appreciate the trans-disciplinary nature of a Steiner curriculum](#)

[Youngsters Can Follow in Footsteps of Outlander, Sam Heughan](#)

[East Coach House winning international Architectural Accolade](#)

[Pupil Joins National Youth Orchestra Scotland](#)

[How Edinburgh Steiner School Compares in the Independent Education Sector\)](#)

[Waldorf dolls join V&A Museum of Childhood](#)

[Crafting Chemistry – The Lime Cycle](#)

Integrated Education including [Nobel Laureate as patron](#), [Acknowledging Creative Skills \(ACTS\) Project](#), [Crossfields Institute IE Certificate](#)

[Steiner Waldorf in 100 Objects](#) online exhibition – in production

[Pupil Wellbeing](#)

Main Lesson Programme a short summary of each of the 100 Main Lessons offered throughout a pupil's school career, with illustrations and how it meets the child at this specific developmental stage is being collated. In the meantime, click on the following links to view a summary of the Main Lesson Programme for the [Lower School](#) and [Upper School](#).

[Publications & Policies](#) including the [Parent Handbook](#), [Early Years Handbook](#) and

[School lunches](#) including [From School Plot to Soup Pot](#)

A different way of teaching:

[Holistic Approach To Maths Adds Up](#)

[Crafting Chemistry – The Lime Cycle](#)

Exams: [In Top 15 Scottish Schools doing Highers \(2019\)](#)

[Exam results \(2014 – 2019\)](#)

[Qualifications, Exams & Careers Handbook](#)).

Social media:



[@EdSteiner](#) - School Facebook page

[@parenttoddlerESS](#) – Early Years page

[@growin&paces](#) – Campus development project, Growing Spaces

[@AlumniESS](#) – news about / from former pupils

[@edinburghsteinerschoolchristmasmarket](#) – Christmas Market page



[@edinburghsteiner](#)

[@dinburghsteinerearlyyears](#)



[@EdSteinerSchool](#)

Extra-Curricular Programme

There is an evident need for our pupils to engage in meaningful activities beyond the school day. In response, the school's expansion of its After-School Clubs is ongoing and pupil lead, with a view to dove-tail Clubs with school finish times.

It is hoped this will be both enriching for the children attending them, and convenient to parents too. It now includes:

Chess, Basketball, Drama*, Musical Theatre&, Aerial & Circus Arts, Computer Coding, Duke of Edinburgh Awards, and Ceilidh Dancing. Tennis to join the programme in the Autumn term. *Option for one-to-one LAMDA training.

Pupils are also welcome to join the School's Student Council, Environmental Action Group, Lower or Senior Orchestra, Yoga and A capella singing group - run at break/lunchtimes

Many pupils also join outside local clubs with classmates, including boys and girls football, skiing and gymnastics; enjoying the experience of widening their social circles and off-campus activities with classmates.

Note: Boroughmuir Thistle FC Girls Football Club (0.6 miles), [North Merchiston FC](#) Boys Football Club, where former pupil is Director of Football (0.7 miles), Skiing at [Hillend](#) (13 mins drive. On waiting-list for 'After-School' lesson slots). [Forth Canoe Club](#), offering Junior 8 – 16 coaching is also a stone's through from the school gates.

Curriculum for Excellence

Early Years

[Meeting the Costs of Childcare](#)

[Early Years Virtual Tour](#)

Email communications@edinburghsteinerschool.co.uk to be notified when this becomes available to view.

Educational campaigns that have the support of Edinburgh Steiner School:

[Upstart Scotland](#)

[Give Them Time](#)

Curriculum for Excellence: "The Curriculum for Excellence was supposed to nurture creativity and cultural heritage and engagement, but it is just getting squeezed out" general secretary of IES, Mr Flanagan is reported saying. Edinburgh Steiner School became an educational flagship with the introduction of CfE into Scottish schools in 2010-11:

<https://education.gov.scot/education-scotland/scottish-education-system/policy-for-scottish-education/policy-drivers/cfe-building-from-the-statement-appendix-incl-btc1-5/what-is-curriculum-for-excellence>

One of the unique aspects of the Steiner curriculum is the importance placed on 'doing', and tasks which develop, amongst other things, manual dexterity, not just in Kindergarten, but right through to Class 12. Handwork and Craft are an essential component of the Steiner pupil timetable.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/education-46019429>

International Students

A Globally Leading Centre for English



“The emphasis in Waldorf education on implicit learning— in the arts, on things that you do manually, on language—is a very good thing because that emphasizes the strengths of the child during that stage of development. More than ever nowadays, where things are changing, where the way we interact with the world has become so much more indirect because of new technologies, where we need to cope with a completely different sensory environment, this type of education is more important than ever.”

Nobel Laureate in Neuroscience & Waldorf graduate, Dr Thomas Sudh f

Parents - want to learn more about Steiner education?

Edinburgh Steiner School is also a [Teacher Training Centre](#). The three-year part time adult-education course at SVQ Level 9 is accredited by Edinburgh University. It begins with a 5-week general interest introductory course to Steiner education through an interesting and varied programme, offering everyone the opportunity to discover Steiner education.

This part of the course is also open to parents who would like to learn a basic understanding of the Steiner pedagogy, and how it is applied in our school curriculum. The course commences on 5th September 2020, running every Saturday.

If you are interested in attending or want to know more, please contact Deirdre Hill by email at: teachertraining@edinburghsteinerschool.org.uk