



EDINBURGH
STEINER
SCHOOL

Lisa Gordon

Class Teacher

I have worked as a Steiner Waldorf teacher in the United States for over 20 years, working with mixed-age Kindergarten (3-6 years), elementary and high school pupils. I received my Masters of Waldorf Education from Sunbridge College in Spring Valley, New York in 2002. I also have a Bachelor of Science degree in Physical Sciences from the University of Pittsburgh, having worked in a Physics research laboratory, before becoming a teacher.

Working with children and their families, to support the light and love of learning, is deeply rewarding to me. I strive to support the four-fold development of learners, through my own ongoing inner development and professional dedication to 'lighting the fires' of discovery in the classroom.

I moved to Edinburgh in June 2017, to attend Edinburgh University at Moray House, studying "Transformative Teaching and Learning" (MSc). Through this programme, I taught in Scottish state schools, including primary (P1, P2, P3 and P5) and secondary (S1-3) BGE Science (Physics and Chemistry) for 2.5 years, before joining Edinburgh Steiner School as the Class One of 2021 Teacher.

Working in the mainstream brought an enormous learning investigation for me, both culturally and educationally and has provided much full-responsibility teaching experience in primary and secondary schools. My goal was to apply Steiner teaching elements of imaginative/pictorial, artistic, relational, experiential/exploratory, story-telling and outdoor activities, wherever possible within the limits of state schools. There were many positive outcomes of this and insightful conversations with teachers in these settings.

Working directly with the "Curriculum for Excellence" in Scotland has been very useful for me as a Steiner teacher, for deepening my understanding of how Steiner education can be critically represented today, especially as Scottish state schools (and beyond) are working to enact 'play-based', outdoor, 'well-being' (SHANARRI) focused, interdisciplinary, literacy and numeracy-rich learning. I have learned a great deal about how to be more fluent in articulating teaching for progression and assessment for learning practices, as well as further developing professionalism and reflective practices.

I previously completed a 3-year Therapeutic/remedial/ Extra Lesson (Anthroposophical) training in the United States for Steiner teachers. This qualification enabled me to teach with a therapeutic approach, focusing more upon movement for supporting developmental needs.

My children (two sons) are in their twenties and are both Waldorf graduates. I was born in Texas - the eldest of 4 daughters, spent childhood years living & traveling on a 50 ft. wooden sailboat in the Pacific, before moving to N. Washington state, where we built a log cabin by hand (high school). In my twenties, I spent summers mountaineering in the Bolivian Andes mountains. These were formative experiences in my life.