



**Part-Time
Foundation Courses
Begin February
2026**

2026 Steiner Education Teacher Training Programs

Sydney Rudolf Steiner College has been a leading provider of contemporary Steiner teacher training in Australia since 1980, supporting the professional development of educators, and empowering teachers with the knowledge, tools, and inspiration to bring Steiner/Waldorf education to life in their classrooms.

Our part-time programs are carefully developed to fit into the busy lives of working teachers, while providing the depth and richness that Steiner education demands.

The first-year Foundation programs provide a rich and comprehensive introduction to Steiner education through flexible online learning and immersive in-person seminars. Led by highly experienced lecturers from both Australia and abroad, bringing a rich diversity of perspectives and expertise, the courses equip teachers with practical, classroom-ready skills.

Building on this foundation, the second-year Certificate programs offer deeper insights into Steiner pedagogy, educational theory, and artistic practice—supporting both personal growth and professional development essential for teaching in Steiner/Waldorf schools.

Ideal for individual educators or schools aiming to upskill staff, these programs prepare teachers through a meaningful and enriching connection to the Steiner pedagogy.

Early Childhood

FOUNDATION COURSE (ECF)

Led by highly experienced Australian and International tutors, this part-time, year-long course offers essential training in Steiner/Waldorf early childhood education. It provides a solid grounding in key developmental principles and introduces the Anthroposophical foundations that inform the Steiner curriculum.

Developed to accommodate full-time educators, the course structure allows students to balance their professional commitments while undertaking meaningful professional development. It also supports a smooth transition for teachers moving from mainstream to Steiner early childhood education.

Completion of the first-year Foundation Course (ECF) and second-year Certificate Course (ECC) leads to a recognised Steiner early childhood qualification, endorsed internationally by IASWECE and nationally by Steiner Education Australia (SEA) and SECA.

Semester 1: February - June 2026

Human Being, Human Becoming

An immersive introductory course that explores Rudolf Steiner's insights into human development and the principles of Steiner education. Presented online over 13 webinars in Terms 1 and 2.

Topics Include:

- Introduction to anthroposophy and Rudolf Steiner
- The 12 Senses
- Body, Soul, Spirit, Patterns and Processes
- Freedom, Diversity, Individuality and Sociability
- Rudolf Steiner's First Teachers Course: Educating the Will
- The Inner Development of the teacher

Presented by international speaker and educator, Sven Saar

Register Now

Registrations are now open for the 2026 foundation course, please visit our website to submit your application. For all enquiries, please contact the course coordinator.

Contact

Course Coordinator: Robyn Davis
E: robynd@sydneyrudolfsteinercollege.com
Ph: 02 9119 2916

Fees

There are a number of study pathways and enrolment options available. Please see our website for fees information.



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Semester 2: July – November 2026

In the Second semester we work through a series of lectures that explore the practical aspects of working with children, developing rhythm, relationships and care. We also work with the inner development of the teacher as integral to Steiner Education, exploring Life Phases and biography work. Delivered over 12 webinars in Terms 3 and 4.

Topics Include:

- The child in the world today
- Development of language through rhythm, music and movement.
- The Foundation senses and current brain research
- Understanding children's drawings in relation to development
- Celebrating festivals
- The Musical Mood of early childhood

Tutors: Catherine Pilko, Ebba Bodame, Bec Whitcombe, Kathy MacFarlane, Emma Ratcliffe and Katrina Ross, Meg Quinlisk, Robyn Davis, Karl-Heinz Finke and Laura Summerfield

The Seminars

Central to our program are the two Seminars that draw all students together in artistic, practical and engaging classes, held in-person over 5 days during the school holidays. These are vital to truly experience what we mean by Steiner Early Childhood education. Excellent daily catering is included in the fees.

Autumn Seminar: April 2026 (dates to be confirmed)

Spring Seminar: September 2026 (dates to be confirmed)

Topics Include:

- Child development and Play
- Development of language through rhythm, music and movement.
- Incarnation of the Child and supporting healthy early childhood
- Artistic workshops in painting, doll making and craft
- Celebrating Birthdays
- Nutrition in early childhood
- Child Observation workshop
- Storytelling and puppetry
- Eurythmy and Singing
- Nature tables and festivals

Please note that programs and tutors are subject to change



Primary Teaching

FOUNDATION COURSE (PTF)

This part-time course offers a rich and balanced introduction to the principles of Anthroposophy, exploring the theoretical, practical, and artistic foundations of Steiner/Waldorf education. With the child at the heart of the curriculum, the program provides a comprehensive and immersive experience of Rudolf Steiner's educational approach.

Led by highly regarded and experienced tutors from Australia and abroad, this year-long course covers the essential topics required for teaching in Steiner primary schools. It equips participants with the understanding and tools needed to begin teaching in a Steiner/Waldorf setting and supports a smooth transition from mainstream education.

The course is designed to be manageable alongside full-time teaching, making it ideal for current educators seeking professional development or career change.

Successful completion of the Foundation Course qualifies students to progress into the second-year Certificate Course, to complete their professional Steiner/Waldorf teacher training.

Semester 1: February - June 2026

Human Being, Human Becoming

An immersive introductory course that explores Rudolf Steiner's insights into human development and the principles of Steiner education. Presented online over 13 webinars in Terms 1 and 2.

Topics Include:

- Introduction to anthroposophy and Rudolf Steiner
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Register Now

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Contact

Course Coordinator: Doris Antivolo
E: dorisa@sydneyrudolfsteinercollege.com
P: 02 9119 2916

Fees

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See Course Page

Semester 2: July – November 2026

In the second semester we cover the essentials of the Steiner classroom, with in-depth lectures on the curriculum and its presentation, the role of the teacher, and understanding transitions and developmental phases. We also cover an in-depth study on Life Phases, as well as Music and Blackboard Drawing. Delivered over 12 webinars in Terms 3 and 4. Mentoring group sessions are offered in term 4.

Topics Include:

- Understanding and working with transitions in childhood
- Working with a Main Lesson
- Maths Primary curriculum workshop
- Rhythm, Main Lesson and Morning Circle
- The role of the Arts through the Primary years
- The importance of Creative Speech
- Festivals and school life.
- Life Phases: Holistic Biography Work

Tutors: Michael Caterer, Lou Harvey-Zahra, Bernadette White, Karl-Heinz Finke and Laura Summerfield, Jude Samson, Adrienne Alexander, Raphaela Mazzone, Jamie York, Nigel Hoffman, and James Deefholts

The Seminars

Central to our program are the two Seminars that draw all students together in artistic, practical and engaging classes, held in-person over 5 days during the school holidays. These are vital to truly experience what we mean by Steiner Education. Excellent daily catering is included in the fees.

Autumn Seminar: April 2026 (dates to be confirmed)

Spring Seminar: September 2026 (dates to be confirmed)

Topics Include:

- Positive relationships and classroom management
- Form drawing, clay modelling, painting and handwork
- Eurythmy and Bothmer Gymnastics
- Singing and Music in the Primary School
- Nutrition and biodynamics
- The Inner Development of the Teacher/Children
- Creative Speech

Please note that programs and tutors are subject to change



High School Teaching

FOUNDATION COURSE (HTF)

The High School Teaching Foundation course is offered in collaboration with Newcastle Waldorf School's training program for high school teachers, and has been developed by highly experienced Steiner educators, Michael Merle and Sophia Montefiore. The course is supported by the Pedagogical Section in Australia.

Designed for both new and experienced educators, this course equips high school teachers with the essential theoretical foundations and practical skills needed for effective Steiner/Waldorf education. With a strong emphasis on adolescent development, it offers a rigorous and comprehensive experience of Rudolf Steiner's educational principles, placing the adolescent at the heart of the curriculum.

This part-time course is delivered online through weekly lectures during the school term and is designed to accommodate the demands of full-time teaching. In addition to the online component, attendance at the Pedagogical Section's in-person High School Seminar is a required element of the program.

The course is open to all educators, and offers valuable guidance for those moving from mainstream into Steiner/Waldorf teaching.

Course Content

Modules and topics Include:

- Foundations of Human Experience
- Anthroposophical Basis of Waldorf Education:
- Lifelong Learning of the Teacher
- Vertical and Horizontal Curriculum per subject
- Exploring the development of creative thinking
- A study of adolescent development and curriculum
- Soul Care and Trauma work
- Biography work and self awareness
- Goetheanistic Observation and training

- Professionalism and the gesture of the teacher
- Communication and conflict management
- Principles of Waldorf Pedagogy
- Teaching Methodology and rhythm
- Peer learning and Classroom Management
- Assessment and Evaluation
- Guardianship and the role of the teacher
- The Development of Artistic Faculties

Tutors: Michael Merle, supported by Sophia Montefiore

Register Now

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Contact

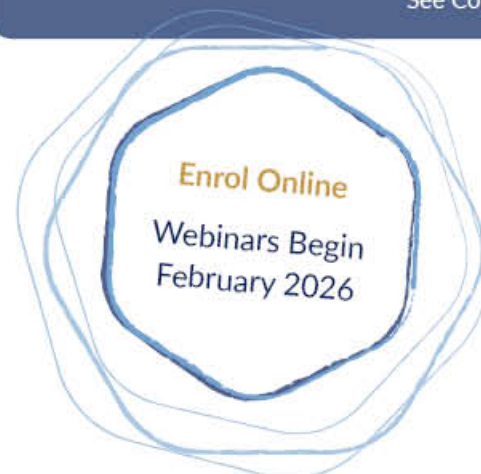
Course Coordinator: Robyn Davis
E: robynd@sydneyrudolfsteinercollege.com
Ph: 02 9119 2916

Fees

Please visit our website for fees and payment options.



See Course Page



SECOND-YEAR CERTIFICATE COURSES 2026

The Second-Year Certificate course is open to those who have completed the First-Year Foundation course or an equivalent program in Early Childhood or Primary Teaching. The second-year programs typically run every other year, although it may be offered annually if there is sufficient demand.

Early Childhood

The Early Childhood second-year syllabus, developed by Dr. Renate Long-Breipohl and delivered since 1980, has remained largely unchanged due to its comprehensive and in-depth nature. The program prepares students for teaching by engaging them deeply in the essential elements of the early childhood classroom.

The curriculum integrates an intensive study of Rudolf Steiner's indications, with a strong focus on practical methodology and classroom activities. Students explore Steiner's understanding of the young child, including developmental transitions, sensory development, and how these translate into practical work with children.

Key components include:

- Festivals and Circle Time: Developing skills to bring seasonal festivals, morning circle, and storytelling into the daily rhythm.
- Artistic Integration: Emphasis on music and movement in the early years curriculum, with an introduction to working with the lyre where possible.
- Puppetry: The main artistic focus, encompassing theoretical study, puppet-making, and collaborative performance.

This pathway provides a holistic preparation for teaching in Steiner/Waldorf Early Childhood settings.

Primary Teaching

The Second-Year Certificate in Primary Teaching offers an in-depth exploration of anthroposophy and its practical application across the curriculum. It supports both the development of teaching practice and the inner development of the teacher.

Core modules include:

- Evolution of Consciousness and the Curriculum
- Advanced Steiner Curriculum
- Meeting the Needs of the Child
- Introduction to the Art of Observation

Through these modules, students gain a deeper understanding of Steiner/Waldorf pedagogy and are equipped to meet the evolving needs of the developing child. The course fulfills the requirements for leading a class in a Steiner/Waldorf primary school, with a strong focus on curriculum development, child observation, and the integration of theory and artistic practice.

Enquire Now

To find out more about our Second-year programs, please visit our website or contact us at info@sydneyrudolfsteinercollege.com or call (02) 9119 2916



Professional Development + Short Courses

Sydney Rudolf Steiner College offers a range of short courses and workshops throughout the year for teachers, parents and anyone interested in engaging in the wisdom of Steiner education.

Visit our website to learn more or join our mailing list to stay informed about new and upcoming courses and workshops.

Human Being, Human Becoming

ONLINE COURSE

Life Phases: Holistic Biography Work

SELF-PACED ONLINE COURSE

Classroom Management (NESA)

IN-PERSON INTENSIVE

Music in the Primary School

IN-PERSON INTENSIVE

Biodynamic Regenerative Agriculture

IN-PERSON WORKSHOPS

Teaching Maths in the Primary Classes

ONLINE WORKSHOP

The Art of Caring: Childcare Course

ONLINE COURSE

Blackboard Drawing

SELF-PACED ONLINE COURSE

Primary Teachers' Creative Intensive

IN-PERSON INTENSIVE

For more information about our short courses, and fees, please visit our website or contact us.