

One member of the support team



Jonathan Anstock

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Co-principal, Senior Teacher, Head of Department
Housemaster, Sportsmaster, Class 1 - 12 teacher
School pastoral carer

“We need a team of enthusiastic and dedicated parents, grand-parents and inspired others to make this a reality.

All Steiner schools grow from the ground up - ie the will of parents and individuals who want this for their children, grand-children or future generations.

Steiner inspired parenting, play groups, child-care centres and kindergartens usually form the foundation for a school.

Setting up as school is not a quick process, but we have powerful and experienced support in the wings to assist what wishes to grow.”

CAN YOU HELP TURN THIS INTO A REALITY?

“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has.”

Margaret Mead



Do you have the drive and motivation to join our fledgling team?

Have you skills to offer?

Join our email list to keep abreast of developments.

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A STEINER SCHOOL FOR THE MARY VALLEY?



- Age-appropriate and balanced education which engages and educates the heart, head and hands
- The largest and fastest growing independent school movement on the planet which crosses cultural and political boundaries

“If you want your children to be intelligent, read them fairy tales. If you want them to be more intelligent, read them more fairy tales.”

Albert Einstein

A Steiner School for the Mary Valley?

Slow food, as opposed to fast food, is becoming very popular. Henry David Thoreau said, "The more slowly trees grow at first, the sounder they are at the core, and I think the same is true of human beings." Many educators and parents believe this to be true. Steiner early childhood learning reflects this belief.

In 2019 Steiner education celebrates its 100th anniversary. They (Waldorf or Steiner schools) constitute the largest and fastest growing independent school movement on the planet and are guided by the profound philosophies and indications of child-development by Rudolf Steiner.

There are many features of a Steiner education in the early years, but most importantly, children are not pushed into academia and abstract concepts before they are ready. Pushing children too early can suffocate the love of learning. Readiness is extremely individual. There should be no rush.

Children need a happy healthy childhood. Ideally in the early years they learn through story (to develop imagination) and purposeful teacher-directed activity. The hands, the heart and the head are educated in a balanced way. Goodness, beauty and truth are intrinsic to a balanced curriculum.

Like Finland, and many other highly successful educational jurisdictions, formal learning usually starts when the child is 6.

The four foundation senses of touch, movement, balance and joie de vivre need nurturing well in the early years. Many teachers do brain-gym work with their children first thing in the morning to harness their will and then direct them into creative purposeful activity. New concepts are introduced in the morning. The aesthetic, artistic subjects receive focus in the middle of the day, and finally "doing activity" features in the afternoon - a three-fold day.

Storytelling plays a major role in the child's cognitive, social and moral development. Instead of studying texts in the early years, the children produce their own story books with colourful drawing and writing. Many learn to read their own writing (drawings) first. Music, poetry, movement, singing etc (ie the Arts) are equally valued alongside more prominent National Curriculum subjects like science, technology, engineering, maths (STEM) and literacy. In fact it is the arts that have the potential to imbue these other subjects more deeply when dealt with at the appropriate age.

The Australian Curriculum and Assessment Authority (ACARA) recognises and has registered a Steiner curriculum from Foundation (Prep in Qld) to Year 10.



New Steiner schools spring up due to the desire and enthusiasm of prospective parents.

If you are interested in the possibilities of a Steiner School in the Mary Valley, please register your initial interest via email with Jonathan Anstock as below.

There will be local talks and meetings in response to community interest.

We shouldn't ask: 'What does a person need to know or be able to do in order to fit into the existing social order?'

Instead we should ask: 'What lives in each human being and what can be developed in him or her?'

Only then will it be possible to direct the new qualities of each emerging generation into society.

Society will then become what young people, as whole human beings, make out of the existing social conditions. The new generation should not just be made to be what present society wants it to become.

(Rudolf Steiner)

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