



The London Waldorf Seminar

Student Handbook

The aim of this handbook is to provide students with the information they need for the smooth running of the course. More detail is available on our website: <https://waldorftraining.org.uk/index.php>

How the course is run

The London Waldorf Seminar (LWS) is an activity of the London Waldorf Trust (LWT).

The LWT Trustees are:

Ted Prestbury (Chair) ted.prestbury@dsl.pipex.com

Trudy Coutinho trudycoutinho@greenwichsteinerschool.org.uk

Josie Alwyn josiealwyn@me.com

Peter Brewin peterbrewin@protonmail.com

Erika Stephanson ericastephanson@hotmail.com

Richard House richardahouse@hotmail.com

A list of current LWT trustees is available here: <https://register-of-charities.charitycommission.gov.uk/charity-search/-/charity-details/801842/trustees>

The seminar is run in practice by the Course Leaders, who are accountable to the LWT trustees.

The LWS Course Leaders are:

Josie Alwyn josiealwyn@me.com

Amanda Bell amandabell@mac.com

Peter Brewin peterbrewin@protonmail.com

Sven Saar sven.saar@aswte.org.uk

The Course Leaders teach regularly on the course and at least one of them is present every week. The work of the Course Leaders is supported by visiting tutors and speakers.

What to expect from the course

The course enables students to develop the skills and understanding needed to become Waldorf practitioners with a life-long commitment to learning. While resources and examples will be presented by experienced teachers and lecturers, it is understood that becoming a Waldorf teacher requires a sustained commitment to being a curriculum creator, each professional drawing on their own unique talents, passions and pedagogical insights. In many ways this journey is one of personal transformation and development, as much as one of gaining skills and improving understanding. There are few formal requirements to becoming an LWS student – but an inner openness to new impulses and a willingness to engage with tutors and fellow students will be essential.

First year

- The first year is a foundation in the principles of Waldorf Education. It has two parts: study of key texts and self-development through the arts.
- Study of child development from an anthroposophical point of view; the theory and principles behind the education
- A course in the evolution of consciousness as seen through literature.

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- A course in Observation and Child Study; practice in seeing how the stages of development manifest in children.
- Arts - Music, Singing, Painting, Drawing, Clay modelling, Eurythmy, Speech, Storytelling, other crafts; to develop a relationship with arts and the skills needed to artistically transform what you want to teach.
- Regular sessions on 'inner work' - the self-development necessary for a Waldorf teacher
- During the year you will be expected to keep a book of your work which will contain your responses to what you are studying, as a record of your process. This process will help you reflect on the impulses, concepts and skills you acquire.
- There may be some written assignments.
- For course completion, students are expected to undertake a minimum of three weeks observation in (a) Waldorf School(s). This is usually done in the first year of training, but can be done later, before teaching practice, if necessary.

Summer School

A week-long summer school is held between the first and the second year. This takes place towards the end of August at The St Michael Steiner School in West London.

End of year interviews

During the summer week, students are interviewed individually by the Course Leaders. We look at your work and attendance record and assist you in considering your plans for the future. At this point, we will give you our honest view of how we think you are doing and whether you are, in our opinion, well suited to becoming a teacher. You then have the option to continue into the second year or not. Most students do, because they appreciate the transformative quality of the experience, and we encourage this.

Second year

- In the second year we focus more actively on classroom and professional practice, offering sessions on:
 - Teaching and curriculum in Classes 1 - 12
 - Festivals
 - Learning support
 - Lesson planning
 - Assessment
 - Working with colleagues
 - Working with parents
 - School leadership and management
 - Managing statutory requirements and training
- Study, inner work and arts continue
- A personal project with a written part and a practical part, to be presented to the other students, tutors and an invited moderator during the summer school.
- For course completion, students are expected to undertake a minimum of three weeks teaching practice. This is usually done in the second year of training, but can be done later if necessary.

Summer School

There is a 3-day summer school at the end of the second year, also towards the end of August, at The St Michael Steiner School in West London.

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End of course interviews

Towards the end of the course or during the summer school, students are interviewed individually again by the directors and the level of certification is agreed.

Certification

We offer certification at three levels, and each certificate is accompanied by a covering letter:

- Some of our students don't intend to become teachers but attend the course out of interest. Students who attend a minimum of 90% of the course, but don't complete assignments or do teaching practice receive a Certificate of Attendance. This is not a teaching certificate.
- Students who want to become teachers will graduate with a Certificate of Completion if they have attended 90% of sessions, completed all assignments and done a minimum of 3 weeks observation and 3 weeks teaching practice in a Waldorf school.
- A Diploma is awarded when a graduate has completed a year of successful teaching in a Waldorf school, and this has been verified by a mentor in the school.
- Students who do not manage to attend 90% of sessions, or have not completed all requirements during the two years of the course can complete these later. These students receive a letter at the end of the two years stating what they need to do to complete the course.
- All students are invited to attend sessions free of charge after they have graduated.

A more detailed course description is available here:

<https://waldorftraining.org.uk/media/for-our-students/LWS%20Course%20Description%202020-2021.pdf>

Tutoring

The Course Leaders tutor students individually. Responsibility for this is allocated, and students informed, at the beginning of the year. Personal tutor meetings are held at least once a term and can be requested by students or tutors at other times, as needed.

Term dates 2021 - 2022

The course runs from 9am to 5pm on all Saturdays during term time.

Autumn

18th September - 18th December 2021

Spring

8th January - 2nd April 2022

Summer

30th April - 9th July 2022

Summer School

17th - 23rd August 2022 (TBC)

There is a minimum attendance requirement of 90% of sessions. If you are unable to attend any day or session, please email amandabell@mac.com as early as possible so that the other tutors can be informed in good time.

Locations

- Most sessions take place at Rudolf Steiner House, 35 Park Road, London NW1 6XT
- Summer intensives and some Saturdays during term time take place at The St Michael Steiner School, Park Road, Hanworth Park, London TW13 6PN

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House Rules

Rudolf Steiner House is open to the public.

The timetable for seminar sessions is displayed in the foyer. Students and tutors may only use the designated rooms.

Other groups often meet in the house or use the theatre on Saturdays. Activities in each room for the day is displayed in the foyer on the wall at the bottom of the stairs.

While COVID-19 remains a problem, we need to observe the measures put in place by the House manager. These will be made clear at the entrance to the house and may include wearing a mask in common areas, maintaining a safe distance from others wherever possible and washing your hands.

Resources at Rudolf Steiner House

Cafe

<https://www.rsh.anth.org.uk/cafe/>

Bookshop

Opening times: Saturdays 10:00am to 5:00pm

Tel: 020 7724 7699

Email: rsh-bookshop@anth.org.uk

<https://www.rsh.anth.org.uk/bookshop/>

Library

Opening times: Saturdays 10:30am - 2:00pm and 3:00pm to 5:30pm

Tel: 020 7724 7699

Email: rsh-library@anth.org.uk

<https://www.rsh.anth.org.uk/library/>

Course Fees

Fee for First Year Students 2021/2022:

Annual Fee – ONLY if paid in advance £3,035

Termly Fee – ONLY if paid in advance £1,170

Termly Fee – Payment beyond term start £1,280**

Fee for Second Year Students 2021/2022:

Annual Fee – ONLY if paid in advance £3,005

Termly Fee – ONLY if paid in advance £1,170

Termly Fee – Payment beyond term start £1,280**

Further information is available here: <https://waldorfrtraining.org.uk/finance/course-fees.php>

Loans for second year of training

Interest-free student loans are available by application from the Godparents' Anthroposophical Training Fund (GATF). These will usually cover the second year fees only. You must apply early in the Spring term of your first year of training to have any chance of being granted a loan for the following September. The application form is available here: <https://gatf.org.uk/loans-for-tuition-fees/>

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Equality and Diversity

We recognise and value the fact that the seminar is part of a multicultural society and strive to ensure that the atmosphere of respect for others, which our ethos seeks to foster, creates a culture in which discrimination, harassment, bullying and victimisation are totally unacceptable. We appreciate people's diversity and value their differences and strive to ensure that our work is relevant to all of their needs.

We give all students equal opportunities regardless of their age, religion or belief, disability, skin colour, ethnic or national origin, gender, marital/civil partnership status, sexual orientation or transgender status.

The Contract of Enrolment which students sign when they join the course, details the terms and conditions of the London Waldorf Seminar. It is available here:

<https://waldorftraining.org.uk/media/forms/LWS%20contract%20of%20enrolment.pdf>

How we handle concerns

The Course Leaders and tutors aim to provide quality teaching, encourage dialogue and to maintain the good working relationships in our tutor/student body that are necessary for the success of the course. Most concerns can be addressed through timely communication with the Course Leaders. Occasionally an issue may need to be taken further, in which case you should follow our complaints procedure, available here:

<https://waldorftraining.org.uk/media/for-our-students/LWS%20Complaints%20Procedure.pdf>

Data Protection statement

Contact information for students is distributed to all tutors and to the LWT treasurer and secretary, so that they can send out any information relating to their own sessions/work. We may also send you information about conferences and other opportunities relevant to your training. Your personal information will not be provided to third parties or used for marketing.

If you have further questions, please speak to your personal tutor.