

The Pedagogical Section in Australia

January Class Teacher and High School Intensives January 11th to 16th 2026

Hosted by the Newcastle Waldorf School, NSW

*Listening to the Call of the Spirit in our Times
In Service of the Children and our Future*



New Teachers Orientation Sunday 11th from 12.30pm-5pm

5-day Class Teacher Intensive Class 1-7 Monday until Friday

5-day High School Intensive Class 7-12 Monday until Friday: Katherine Arconati, Lisa Devine, Joanne Duncan, Tim Dunn, Craig Gardiner, Gareth Graham, Dawn Langman, Paul Lawrence, Julie Lovett, Sophia Montefiore, Peter Muddle, Bernard Thiry, Rod Tomlinson, Jessica Wegener, and Bernadette White.

Newcastle has a local airport accessible to all capital cities and some regional cities, with nearby beaches and beautiful Lake Macquarie, 2 hours from Sydney

Trybooking Links

5 ½-day Class Teacher Intensive - Sunday Two Introductory Sessions for New Teachers Early Bird \$590 (after November 16th \$680)

Trybooking link <https://www.trybooking.com/DFRJW>

5 ½-day High School Teachers Intensive Class 7-12 - Sunday Two Introductory Sessions for New Teachers Early Bird \$590 (after November 16th \$680)

Trybooking link <https://www.trybooking.com/DGBOE>

Contact for enquiries Peggy Day via email: educationsectionbookings@gmail.com

Sunday 11th January 12.30pm- 5.30pm
afternoon tea provided

New Teachers Introduction - All new teachers should attend so that they have sufficient context for the workshops during the week.

ANDREW HILL
12.30-2.30pm



The structure of the day, the threefold rhythm
What is a Main Lesson? - What does a Main Lesson morning look like?
What is morning circle? The importance of oral language work.
Why do we tell stories (and a demonstration of a story told)
Teaching from the whole overview to the parts.
The inner life of the teacher.

DIANE TATUM
3-5pm



The 3 and 4-fold human being and how that relates to teaching at different ages.
Experiencing the 3 and 4-fold human being in movement.
Exploring classroom management gifts. Importance of inner work.
Taking hold of the space of the classroom.
Use of gesture, voice and silence. What is eurythmy?

BERNARD THIRY - BOTHMER GYM
Class 3 - 2-3.30; Class 6/7 - 3.30 -5pm



Bringing movement and joy into school life
Interactive movement activities, practical self-care tools, and playful games, exercises and dances you can bring directly to your students.

ELIZABETH ELLEAN - HANDCRAFT
Class 1 - 12.30-2pm; Class 2 - 2.15-3.45pm; Class 3 - 4-5.30pm



Elizabeth has taught handwork from Class 1 to Class 6/8 for more than 20 years. This year she will have sessions with Class 1, 2 and 3 on Sunday afternoon.

Keynote Lectures

Monday 13th 9am

Paul Lawrence *The Music of the Unfolding Human Being*



The musical journey echoes our evolutionary journey. Once upon a time our spirits were nourished by the universal Music of the Spheres; now our separated souls seek solace in the individually tailored “playlist”.

How does music enrich and strengthen the child through the journey of incarnation? How can we come to a new anthroposophically-inspired understanding of music? And how will we enliven our music classes through this wisdom?

Through live interactive demonstration and anthroposophical wisdom Paul will aim to deliver a stimulating lecture that inspires teachers to teach music in a joyful, creative way whilst deepening our appreciation of music’s profound treasures.

Tuesday 14th January 9am

Lisa Devine

A school, its structures and the teachers that heal wounds of our time in children through accessing the inspirations needed to guide them.



Lisa Devine has been active in many Steiner schools as a psychologist, youth worker, eurythmy teacher and school board member. She is deeply interested in resilience and how we restore the health of the human being through deepening connection to the inner space of resonance. She has been inspired by the Emergency Pedagogy training she has done for the last couple of years and what it holds for the future support of teachers in schools.

Wednesday 15th 9am

Dawn Langman *SPECIAL PRESENTATION*

A heart big enough to hold the world - the evolution of love through Shakespeare’s plays.



Through a commentary interwoven with performances of excerpts from Shakespeare’s plays, Dawn explores the spiritual vision and esoteric teachings that inspired the work of our greatest playwright. From the early stages of Love’s evolution on the earth, in its immature expression as ‘attraction’ or ‘fancy’, to the birth of romantic love, as the seed that will one day mature into the love that ‘bears it out even to the edge of doom’; a love that can redeem all human suffering and thus transform the earth. Shakespeare carefully delineates all the archetypal stages of initiation undergone by the one who answers the call of the mysteries: O human being, know thou thyself. Dawn brings 60 years of experience as a teacher and performer to her presentation.

She is a co-founder of the Heartfire Centre for Speech and Drama, a Queensland initiative dedicated to renewal of the arts of the Word through artistic practice rooted in the spiritual-scientific insights of Rudolf Steiner and the acting technique developed by Michael Chekhov.

Thursday 16th 9am

Sophia Montefiore Geometry Bernard Thiry Class 3-6 Spatial Dynamics/Bothmer

The Bothmer and Geometry Curriculum and the Developing Child- the interrelationships of skills and activities for each year.



Sophia has studied and published on cosmology and the background to our pedagogy. She teaches Projective Geometry throughout the world, including at Emerson College. Initially inspired to deepen the work by John Blackwood she has continued her research. She is well known for her high school philosophy lessons and giving workshops/lectures at conferences in India, UK, Malaysia, Switzerland and Taiwan.



Movement therapist, Dancer, choreographer, director, teacher and Master level 4 certified by the Spatial Dynamics Institute (an international training organization that has its world headquarters in upstate New York). He now devotes himself to the development of the Spatial Dynamics® trainer level 4 in France, Norway, Germany, India and Italy.

Friday 16th 9am

Lisa Devine

Resilience and instilling the capacity for courage in the children to meet the world arriving today. Understanding the constitution of the human being today.



Lisa Devine has been active in many Steiner schools as a psychologist, youth worker, eurythmy teacher and school board member. She is deeply interested in resilience and how we restore the health of the human being through deepening connection to the inner space of resonance. She has been inspired by the Emergency Pedagogy training she has done for the last couple of years and what it holds for the future support of teachers in schools.

Main Tutors

Class 1 and 3 - Andrew Hill



Andrew Hill B.A. (Hons), Dip. Arts, M. Ed. CEO SEA
Andrew Hill lectured for 15 years in the full-time Advanced Diploma of Rudolf Steiner Education in Steiner Pedagogy, English and Science. He has lectured internationally. Andrew has taken three class teacher cycles from Classes 1 to 8/10. With a background in Anthropology and English literature as well as experience in a curative school, Andrew has been involved in many aspects of Steiner school curriculum, teaching and leadership before becoming CEO of SEA in 2023.

Class 2 – Tracey O’Leary and Katherine Arconati



Tracey has taught two Class Teacher cycles and two High School cycles at Linuwel School and is now teaching Class Two again for the third time at Tarremah Steiner School. She has a special interest in harmonising classes while holding the diverse needs of children and also integrating First Nations perspectives.

Class 4 - James Deefholts



James Deefholts

James has taught in Steiner schools as a class teacher for many years since completing a 2-year f/t Steiner training with Parsifal/Glenaeon in the early 2000s. He has worked in delivering weekly teacher training on-line for Sydney Rudolf Steiner College and has a deep connection to the background study of the Main Lessons and child development pictures.

Class 5, 6 and 7 Ancient Epochs, History and English - Bernadette White



Bernadette White trained as a curative teacher in England before taking a class through at Inala Curative School in Sydney. She took a class through at Perth Waldorf School and then at Glenaeon School. With a love of both the oral language tradition and history she has tutored in Speech for morning circle, Anthroposophy, Steiner Pedagogy and many aspects of curriculum. She moved to Titirangi School in Auckland where she taught Class 1-7 and now mentors teachers.

Science Class 6 and 7 - Joanne Duncan



Joanne Duncan has been a Class Teacher at the Newcastle School and is now a specialist Science teacher in the high school. She attended Jeremy Board's intensives sessions for two years before co-working with him in 2023. She is inspired by Tim Dunn's course of scientific study, chromatography and experimentation around the ethers.

Mathematics Classes 1-7 - Katherine Arconati



Katherine Arconati

Katherine trained in the USA Bay Area course where she studied with key US teacher trainers including Jamie York. She first taught middle school for a few years at Glenaeon, before taking up Class 1 to Year 7. She is a deep pedagogical researcher and will lead tutorials on Maths (1-3 and 5-7) and Geometry Class 6.

Specialist Tutors

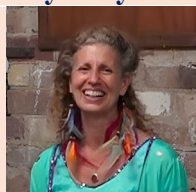
Music Classes 1-6 Paul Lawrence



Paul Lawrence has worked in Steiner schools in Perth as part of a founding impulse and as a Music teacher and has run intensives there on the music curriculum. He is passionate about music, education and the Inner Journey of the Soul.

He resides in Bali, supporting a Steiner school and gives workshops in Australia and Asia. Paul brought great joy to the morning singing at the 2023 intensives and was much appreciated by teachers for his contribution to the class specific music sessions.

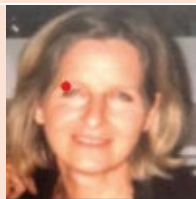
Eurythmy and Movement Classes 1-6/7



Diane Tatum has been a eurythmist and eurythmy teacher for over 30 years and now works with several schools in 3 states. She is deeply connected to the celebration of festivals of the year. She will work with each class group on teacher movement for morning circle as well as drama and festivals.

Her play scripts and music and her book *Brigid of Iona* have inspired teachers across Australia in their work.

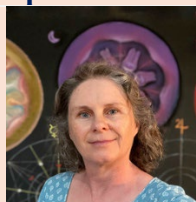
Julie Lovett Class 1-7 Painting and Drawing



Julie Lovett has been a dedicated student of Rudolf Steiner's work for over 35 years working as an Art Therapist, Steiner Teacher, Steiner Teacher Trainer, Educational Manager and Director of Rudolf Steiner College in Sydney.

Her many international training experiences are integrated in her current therapeutic work.

Sophia Montefiore - Blackboard Drawing and Year 7 Geometry



Sophia teaches Projective Geometry throughout the world, including at Emerson College. Initially inspired to deepen the work by John Blackwood she has continued her research. She is well known for her high school philosophy lessons but also for her extraordinary blackboard drawing skills and she will be Class 7 Geometry, First Nations History (with Jessica Wegener) and Curriculum support

Elizabeth Ellean - Handcraft Class 1-5



Elizabeth has taught handwork from Class 1 to Class 6/8 for more than 20 years and held sessions at the intensives for several of those. This year she will have a session with Class 1, 2 and 3 on Sunday afternoon and will have one evening session for Classes 4 and 5 on Monday and Tuesday evenings beginning at 6pm when a dinner snack will be provided for the group while the class work is introduced.

Lisa Devine- Class 5-7 Well-being



Lisa Devine has been active in many Steiner schools as a psychologist, youth worker, eurythmy teacher and school board member. She is a national lecturer and is often called on to consult and support schools. She is deeply interested in well-being and how we restore the health of the human being through deepening connection to the inner space of resonance that is always present within.

Dawn Langman - Class 5-6 Teacher Voice and gesture for teacher expression



Are you a teacher who feels confident in expressing yourself through bodily movement, gesture, voice and speech and therefore able to make intellectual knowledge more experiential for your students? Or do you long to use your body, voice and speech to express yourself more vibrantly, but have never had the confidence or opportunity to do so. This session will address both levels, inviting beginners to develop confidence and those with more experience to venture deeper. We will focus primarily on developing your own movement/voice and speech capacities as teachers. Participants will benefit from exploring their own movement/voice and speech but feel free, to step back, if needed, from time to time, and learn from observation

Bernard Thiry Class 3-6 Spatial Dynamics/Bothmer



Personal Development, Self-Care; Inspiring Teaching
Inspire students by starting with yourself and your own well-being while creating respectful, supportive classrooms. Using Spatial Dynamics®, we'll explore how to:

- Protect and renew personal energy
- Build healthier relationships with students and colleagues
- Bring movement and joy into school life

Interactive movement activities, practical self-care tools, and playful games, exercises and dances you can bring directly to your students.

Once you have enrolled and paid on-line you will be sent a log in to access the teacher intensives portal on the Pedagogical Section website pedagogicalsectionaus.org
This will contain further detailed information and from November also resources.

COURSE CONTENT - Each week will involve 20+ hours covering pedagogical background, child development steps for that age, practical morning circle work, story content and practical activities for creating the Main Lessons, working with visual arts, and integration of general academic curriculum

TEACHERS WILL BE ABLE TO -

- Review the indications, background reading and Main Lessons.
- Work with the arts to prepare lesson presentation.
- Deepen the child development background as linked to curriculum.
- Share with other teachers at the same Class level in a discussion forum on-line.
- Prepare background aspects of their program and connect with mentor teachers.

WHAT TO BRING - please bring notepaper, crayons (Class 1-4); recorder (Class 1-6); coloured pencils (all classes); compass, scissors and ruler (Class 5, 6, 7). For **Visual Arts** sessions bring drawing and painting paper, paints, water jars, sponges and brushes, pastels as age appropriate to the curriculum. We will advise what to bring for handcrafts for each year upon registration.

Evenings- Festivals and Performance of music, eurythmy and shared drama games
Thursday evening 7-8.30pm – singing, musical sharing, speech and eurythmy performances.

Newcastle Airport – ½ hour from the school
1 Williamtown Drive, Williamtown

Newcastle Waldorf School – 2 hours north of Sydney
30 Reservoir Rd, Glendale NSW 2285



Limited accommodation at the school (own bedding, in shared classrooms, with use of kitchen for breakfast until 8am – access on trybooking.

Accommodation is also available at the following [camping grounds/holiday parks](#):

<https://www.teralbalakesidecaravanpark.com.au/>

<https://www.caravancampingsw.com/holiday-parks/redhead-beach-holiday-park/>

<https://lakemacholidayparks.com.au/belmont-lakeside-caravan-park>

<https://sailsholidaypark.com.au/>

Cafes and Restaurants

Cardiff - 3 minutes away- *Pakpum Thai* and *Door 34*.

Warners Bay- 10 minutes away- *Grand Pavillion*, *Canon* and *Fredeli*.

Swimming Beaches and Warners Bay



Newcastle Beach



Merewether Beach



Redhead Beach



Lake Macquarie - Warners Bay 10 mins

PRE-READING FOR NEW TEACHERS

Please note that the Australian Steiner Curriculum and the Annotated Bibliographies are on the SEA website Member's Area and are available to teachers in Steiner schools. A log in can be requested on the website. The Annotated Bibliographies are highly recommended for preparation of the Steiner curriculum.

Introductory books and references

School as a Journey, Torin Finser
The Kingdom of Childhood, Rudolf Steiner
Steiner Education, Clouder and Rawson
Educational Tasks and Content of the Steiner Waldorf Curriculum, Rawson and Richter (large reference book)
Australian Steiner Curriculum Framework, SEA

Class 1

Interpretation of the Fairy Tales, Rudolf Meyer or the books by Norbert Glas
Teaching Children to Write, Audrey McAllen
Story collections from around the world- Gilbert Van Kerkhoven
Grimms Fairy Tales, Routledge

Class 2

The King of Irelands Son, P Colum
Aesop's Fables
Saints Birds and Beasts, Margaret Mayo
Stories of the Saints, Siegwart Knijpenga
The Little Flowers of St Francis
The Celtic Wonder Tales by Ella Young
The Celtic Dragon Myth, J. Campbell

Class 3

Encountering the Self, Koepke
Old Testament Stories
And there was Light, Jacob Streit
Culture and Horticulture, Wolf Storl

Class 4

Dáulaire's Norse Mythology
Myths of the Norsemen, R Lancelyn Green
Norse Mythology and the Modern Human Being
Man and Animal – a study for children aged 10, Roy Wilkinson
Among Animals, Manfred Kyber

Class 5

Ancient Mythologies India, Persia, Egypt, Greece– classical editions
The Iliad, Homer
The Odyssey, Homer
The Aeneid, Virgil
The Ramayana, Various editions

Class 6

Waldorf School Approach to History, Werner Glas
Ancient Rome, Charles Kovacs
Waldorf Curriculum Studies – Science in Education ed., Brien Masters
*A Phenomena Based Physics-Vol 1-Grade 6 - trans by AWSNA, Manfred von Mackensen
Astronomy under the Southern Skies- Sun, Moon, Stars and Planets, Neil Carter

Class 7

King Arthur and his Knights of the Round Table, retold by Roger Lancelyn Green
Middle Ages, Charles Kovacs
Mathematics Around Us, John Blackwood
*A Phenomena Based Physics (vol 2 grade 7) trans by AWSNA, Manfred von Mackensen

***Please read before the intensives- available info@rudolfsteinerbookcentre.com.au**