

**The Pedagogical Section in Australia
January 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 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 Link

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
or Sophia Montefiore via sophia@newcastlewaldorfschool.nsw.edu.au

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 eurhythm?

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.



Bothmer Gymnastics certified trainer, 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.

High School and Specialist Tutors Classes 7-10

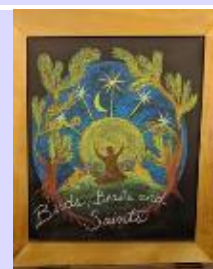
Participants can engage in a range of High School subject workshops each day

Katherine Arconati - Class 7 Mathematics



Katherine Arconati

Katherine trained in the USA Bay Area Steiner Teacher Training course She first taught middle school for a few years at Glenaeon, before taking up Class 1 and has now completed her second Class 1 beginning a new cycle. She is a deep pedagogical researcher.



Lisa Devine - Well-being – Book individual sessions



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.

Joanne Duncan Science 7 and new NESA Science Syllabus – meaningful experiments



Joanne Duncan has been a Class Teacher at the Newcastle School and is now a specialist Waldorf Science teacher in the high school. She attended Jeremy Board's intensive sessions for two years before co-working with him in 2023. She was the co-presenter with Tim Dunn for 2025 and has been inspired by Tim Dunn's course of scientific study, chromatography and experimentation around the ethers.



Tim Dunn – High School Science and Geography – learning phenomenologically



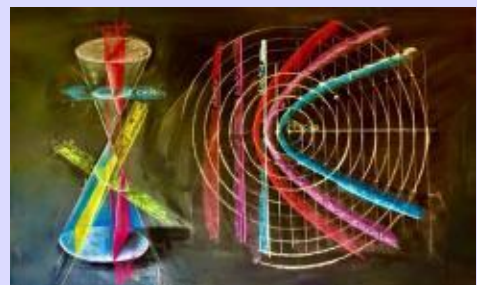
Tim Dunn gained a PhD in Biochemistry in 1991 and worked for many years as a research scientist in cancer diagnosis, embryology and immunology. Since he met Steiner education, he has truly enjoyed teaching in the upper school and deepening his understanding of human development. He has been privileged to have had some amazing mentors including Peter Glasby and Dr von Mackensen. Tim was the High School Educational Administrator at SVSS for 5 years and experienced first-hand the challenges of growing and maintaining a Steiner upper school. He works with several schools in both Australia and India to develop and deepen curriculum delivery.



Craig Gardiner – High School Class 9 Conics & Class 10 Surveying - Mathematics in action



Craig Gardiner B.E (1st Class Hons, UNSW), PhD, has been teaching at Newcastle Waldorf School since 2016. He previously worked as a Research Engineer for 15 years, publishing over two dozen international journal papers. Craig has been the co teacher for three years of the Surveying Main Lesson with international Outdoor Main Lesson organizer, Jayesh Narasimhulu Pillarisetty



Gareth Graham and Peter Muddle – the fulfilling practice of Woodcarving and Woodwork



Gareth Graham is an exhibiting sculptor working in timber and marble and a long-term High School Art teacher. His experience in Steiner education began as a Waldorf student and he has run artistic workshops for IRA in Chennai. Carrara, in Italy is his home away from home where he has been seven times to sculpt and run workshops immersing himself in the incredible richness of the traditional process of marble carving.



Peter Muddle is a multitasking Waldorf teacher and school leader with over 20 years of Waldorf teaching experience in the areas of music, mathematics, outdoor education, woodwork, and design and technology and he is also a Waldorf graduate. His great joy is to share the beauty of the world with our young people.

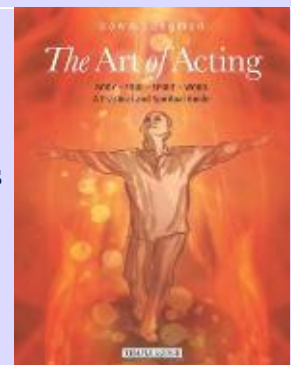


Whether it is through immersion our wilderness environment or through creative endeavours in the arts and all things practical, meaningful and enlivening.

Dawn Langman – Drama - 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

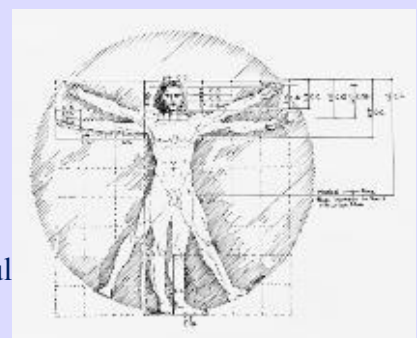


Paul Lawrence – Music – bringing music to life through tone



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 2024 and 2025 intensives and was much appreciated by teachers for his contribution to the class specific music sessions.



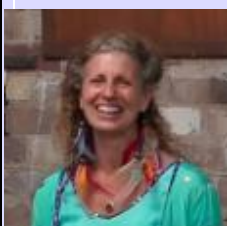
Sophia Montefiore – High School Curriculum, Main Lesson Book Work, Geometry and History – Developing the feeling life of the students - Artistry in the Classroom



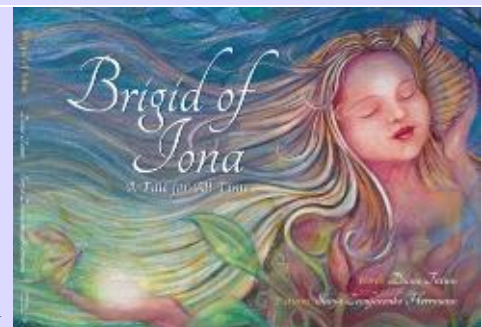
Sophia is the Senior School Coordinator at Newcastle Waldorf School and a subject teacher for English, Mathematics, History and Philosophy, an international Waldorf Teacher mentor, and tutor for Sydney Rudolf Steiner College. She teaches Projective Geometry throughout the world, including at Emerson College and Dornach her continuing research was inspired by John Blackwood. She is well known for her blackboard drawing skills and she will share Class 7 Geometry, High school History (with Jessica Wegener), overviews of the High school Curriculum and Main Lesson book work.



Diane Tatum - Eurythmy and Movement 7:20 am for Early Eurythmy



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.



Bernard Thiry Classes - Spacial Dynamics/Bothmer - Personal Development, and Self-Care



Personal Development, Self-Care and Inspiring Teaching
Inspire students by starting with yourself and your own well-being while creating respectful, supportive classrooms. Using Spacial Dynamics®, Bernard's workshops will 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.



Rod Tomlinson - High School English – engaging students with meaningful texts



Rod has dedicated the last forty years of his life to teaching children, his colleagues and teacher training in Steiner Schools in Australia. His lifelong devotion to world literature and the English language began with his undergraduate degree in classical and modern European languages and world literature and his passion for teaching these to adolescents, during his first year of teaching in a Steiner High School in 1985 – a passion which continues unabated to this day.



In these sessions, we will be discussing Steiner's indications on literature along with Chaucer's Canterbury Tales, Shakespeare's plays, Tolkien's Lord of the Rings, Eschenbach's Parzival, Goethe's Faust, Persian poetry, Classical Chinese poetry, Indian epics, the Romantics, the Transcendentalists, the 60s song writers and contemporary world literature as possible areas of study which can offer adolescents valuable opportunities for developing an understanding of themselves, the world and others in our time.

Jessica Wegener - First Nations Culture – embedding First Nation's Culture into the class learning space



Jessica Wegener, Ngiyampaa Wangaaypuwan Mayi, is a Mentor to deep knowing through kinship to Countries systems within seasons. As a mother and knowledge holder she has worked to revive the identity of the Newcastle Waldorf School's landscape, mentoring the staff in the realms of knowledges for curriculum design and development. Jessica upholds the Indigenous Cultural Intellectual knowledge of the First Peoples, sharing with teachers how to create from Indigenous knowledges into the class learning space.



Bernadette White Class 7 Ancient Epochs, History and English



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.

High School Sciences & Mathematics Sessions

Monday	11.00- 12.40	Joanne Duncan Science 7 Physics 1
Monday	1.40 – 3.20	Craig Gardiner Maths 9 Conics
Monday	3.50- 5.30	Joanne Duncan Science 7 Chemistry 1
Tuesday	11.00 - 12.40	Sophia Montefiore Year 7 Geometry
Tuesday	1.40 – 3.20	Katherine Arconati Maths Class 7
Tuesday	1.40 – 3.20	Tim Dunn Science 10
Tuesday	3.50 - 5.30	Joanne new NESAs Science Syllabus Jessica Wegener History and First Nations Classes 7&8 Dawn Langman Drama - Developing the teacher's own movement and speech capacities
Tuesday	6 - 9pm	Supper 6 -7.30pm Diane Tatum Rehearsal 7-8.30pm Festival 8.30-9pm
Wednesday	11.00 - 12.40	Joanne Duncan Science 7 Chemistry 2
Wednesday	1.40 – 3.20	Tim Dunn Science Classes 8-12
Wednesday	3:30 - 5:30	Tim Dunn Science 8
Thursday	11.00 - 12.40	Tim Dunn Science 9
Thursday	11.00- 12.40	Craig Gardiner Class 10 Trigonometry & Surveying
Thursday	1.40 – 3.20pm	Sophia Montefiore Projective Geometry
Thursday	3.50 - 5.30	Joanne Duncan Science 7 Physics II
Thursday	6 - 9pm	Performances, Singing, Eurythmy and Speech
Friday	11.00 - 12.40	Tim Dunn Science 7 Physiology
Friday	1.40 – 3.20	Sophia Montefiore Main Lesson Bookwork

High School English, History & Geography Sessions

Monday	11.00- 12.40	Dawn Langman Drama - Developing the teacher's own movement and speech capacities
Monday	1.40 – 3.20pm	Sophia Montefiore Blackboard Drawing
Monday	3.50 - 5.30	Jessica Wegener First Nations Protocols
Tuesday	11.00 - 12.40pm	Tim Dunn Geography 8
Tuesday	3.50 - 5.30pm	Jessica Wegener History and First Nations Classes 7&8
Tuesday	3.50 - 5.30pm	Dawn Langman Drama - Developing the teacher's own movement and speech capacities
Tuesday	6 - 9pm	Supper 6 -7.30pm Diane Tatum Rehearsal 7-8.30pm Festival 8.30-9pm
Wednesday	11.00 - 12.40	Tim Dunn Geography 9
Wednesday	11.00 - 12.40	Rod Tomlinson Class 8 English
Wednesday	1.40 – 3.20	Sophia Montefiore and Jessica Wegener History and First Nations Classes
Wednesday	3:30 - 5:30	Bernadette White Class 7
Wednesday	3:30 - 5:30	Rod Tomlinson Class 9 English
Thursday	11.00 - 12.40	Bernadette Extra session for Class 7
Thursday	1.40 – 3.20	Bernadette White King Arthur Class 7
Thursday	3.50 - 5.30	Rod Tomlinson Class 10 English
Thursday	6 - 9pm	Performances, Singing, Eurythmy and Speech
Friday	11.00 - 12.40	Sophia Montefiore Classes 11/12 Philosophy
Friday	11.00 - 12.40	Rod Tomlinson English Overview
Friday	1.40 – 3.20	Bernadette White Middle Ages Class 7

High School Arts/D&T, Movement & Well-being Sessions

Monday	11.00 - 12.40	D&T/Carving Dawn Langman Drama - Developing the teacher's own movement and speech capacities Julie Lovett Class 6 Drawing
Monday	1.40 – 3.20	Sophia Montefiore Blackboard Drawing Bernard Thiry HS Spacial Dynamics
Monday	3.50 - 5.30	Jessica Wegener First Nations Protocols Julie Lovett Class 3 Drawing
Monday	6 - 7.30pm	Handwork Class 4
Tuesday	7.20 – 8.15am	Diane Tatum Eurythmy in the Hall
Tuesday	11.00 - 12.40	D&T/Carving Bernard Thiry HS Spacial Dynamics Julie Lovett Class 1 Drawing
Tuesday	1.40 – 3.20pm	Sophia Montefiore Cross Curriculum Conversations – Soul Questions Julie Lovett Class 3 Painting
Tuesday	3.50 - 5.30pm	Dawn Langman Drama - Developing the teacher's own movement and speech capacities Bernard Thiry Bothmer Gymnastics Class 4 Julie Lovett Class 5 Drawing
Tuesday	6 - 7.30pm	Handwork Class 5
Tuesday	6 - 9pm	Supper 6 -7.30pm Diane Tatum Rehearsal 7-8.30pm Festival 8.30-9pm
Wednesday	7.20 – 8.15am	Diane Tatum Eurythmy in the Hall
Wednesday	11.00 - 12.40	D&T/Carving Bernard Thiry Bothmer Gymnastics Class 4 Julie Lovett Class 6 Painting
Wednesday	1.40 – 3.20	Bernard Thiry HS Spatial Dynamics Julie Lovett Class 5 Painting
Wednesday	3:30 - 5:30	Barbara Baldwin Jackie Cox-Taylor Working with Additional Needs
Thursday	7.20 – 8.15am	Diane Tatum Eurythmy in the Hall
Thursday	11.00 - 12.40	D&T/Carving Bernard Thiry HS Spatial Dynamics Julie Lovett Class 1 Drawing
Thursday	1.40 – 3.20	Sophia Montefiore Projective Geometry Kookaburra Paul Lawrence Music Class 5 Katrina Stowe Speech – Class 6
Thursday	3.50 - 5.30	Bernard Thiry HS Spatial Dynamics Julie Lovett Class 2 Painting
Thursday	6 - 9pm	Performances, Singing, Eurythmy and Speech
Friday	7.20 – 8.15am	Diane Tatum Eurythmy in the Hall
Friday	11.00 - 12.40	D&T/Carving Bernard Thiry Bothmer Gymnastics Class 5 Julie Lovett Class 2 Drawing
Friday	1.40 – 3.20	Bernard Thiry HS Spatial Dynamics Sophia Montefiore Main Lesson Bookwork

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.

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

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 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

General Waldorf Curriculum Support

- Rudolf Steiner's Curriculum for Steiner-Waldorf Schools
<https://www.rudolfsteinerbookcentre.com.au/product/4312/BRudolf-Steiners-Curriculum-for-Steiner-Waldorf-Schools-5th-edition-BI-I-STOCKMEYER-KARL>
- Tapestry of a Waldorf Curriculum A Teachers' Guide to the Waldorf School by Grades (1-12)
- <https://www.waldorf-resources.org/en/vertical-curriculum>
- https://wn.rsarchive.org/Lectures/EduAdo_index.html

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