

**HONG KONG CENTRE FOR
LONDON STEINER WALDORF EARLY CHILDHOOD STUDIES**

**CACHE Level 4/5 Diploma in Steiner Waldorf
Early Childhood Studies (Early Years Educator)**



Part Time DIPLOMA 2020-22



Highgate House School





ABOUT THE COURSE

The course was established in 1993 in the UK.

Level 4 is a two year part-time course designed to meet the needs of students who may be unable, for practical reasons, to attend a full-time course. (There is also the option of a third year at Level 5, undertaken while working full time in a Waldorf kindergarten.)

The course is suitable if you are looking for a recognised, validated qualification in early years care and education and wish to specialise in the Waldorf approach to early childhood.

The course may suit those:

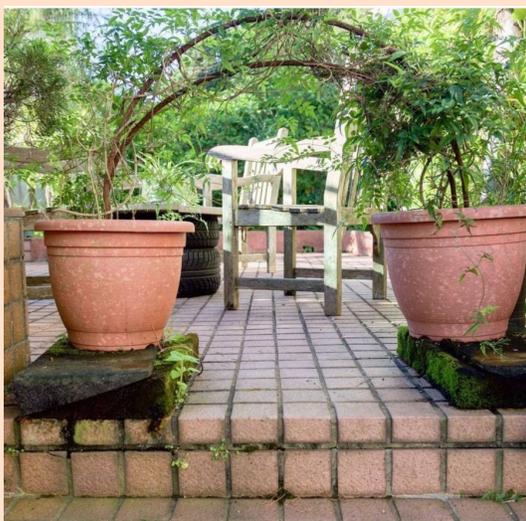
- wishing to take up Waldorf early childhood work in the future;
- wanting to become a group leader in a Waldorf kindergarten; or
- working in mainstream education but wishing to know and understand Waldorf principles and practice in the early years.

Our course meets the UK government requirements for an Early Years Educator (EYE): these requirements are embedded in our Level 4 curriculum. It allows graduates to work as leaders in both Steiner Waldorf and mainstream kindergartens.

Additionally, it allows you to proceed with only one further year to graduate with our CACHE Level 5 Diploma in Steiner Waldorf Early Childhood Studies – Leadership and Management. (Our Level 4 is a prerequisite for the Level 5.)

“An unhurried, truly holistic, genuinely play-based approach to early childhood care and education.”

**Lynne Oldfield,
UK course director**



Our latest external quality assurance report from our validating body, made the following observations:

"The standard of Internal Quality Assurance is extremely high. The very professional, encouraging, supportive attitude of the staff delivering this programme, towards one another and their learners, is very commendable and paramount to the success of both levels of qualification."

TESTIMONIALS

Child development as described by Rudolf Steiner is incredibly insightful. Putting these teachings into practice, I have already benefitted from a deeper understanding of my own children..

Mariam Jafari

The tutors are not only mentors but also the role models from time to time demonstrating to us in this valuable journey of enlightenment & spiritual awakening.. **Janet Chan**

If you feel that you wish to work with young children in anyway, I highly recommend this course to you..

Cheryl Bob



QUALITY ASSURANCE & ACCREDITATION

This course is currently validated by CACHE (Council for Awards in Care, Health and Education). The Level 4 Diploma is recognised as a full and relevant qualification and is listed on the OFQUAL (Official Qualifications) Framework of recognised qualifications in the UK .

The course has a representative on the Steiner Waldorf Early Childhood Group (SWEG, UK) and on the Association for Steiner Waldorf Teacher Education (ASWTE, UK).

Highgate House School, Hong Kong is the official Hong Kong Centre for the London Steiner Waldorf Early Childhood Studies Course and is the approved overseas subsite in partnership with CACHE and the Crossfields Institute. Our first cohort of Hong Kong students began in January 2017 to a full capacity intake .

www.highgatehouse.edu.hk





LOCATION

Monthly Saturday sessions and intensives are based at Highgate House School, the Peak in Hong Kong.

This beautiful location is situated on the Peak with open views of the sea and mountain, providing a retreat away from the city bustle.

Highgate House School was established in 1992 and has adopted a Steiner Waldorf curriculum since 2001.

Highgate House offers a library and lounge area for learning and sharing ideas. This comfortable workshop space with an open plan kitchen is on the ground floor main school. Our main classrooms on the 2nd Floor are spacious and filled with natural light.

In addition, students also invited to attend optional study groups held at Highgate House.



PROGRAMME STRUCTURE & CONTENT

Year One – Foundation Year

- An introduction to the work of Rudolf Steiner and Waldorf education
- The development of the child from birth to seven years
- An introduction to anthroposophy (Rudolf Steiner's philosophy)
- The principles of Waldorf early childhood pedagogy
- Artistic activities for personal development – eurythmy, speech, music, painting, puppetry, handwork and craft activities
- Observation & 50 supervised practicum hours in Steiner Waldorf early childhood settings



Examples of artistic activities (Group 1 intake)

Year Two – Education Year (Diploma Level 4)

The second year deals increasingly with the practical aspects of Steiner Waldorf early childhood education.

- Practical and social aspects of Steiner Waldorf early childhood education
- Personal development of the teacher
- Professional practice and current early years legislation
- Continuation of artistic activities
- Observation & 50 supervised practicum hours in Steiner Waldorf early childhood settings

Year Three – (optional) Principles into Practice (Diploma Level 5)

Students will be required to have agreed practice and observation experience in a recognised Waldorf kindergarten.

ATTENDANCE

The course is a combination of tutor contact and distance learning.

Students should be able to:

- In Year 1 undertake the study of set texts in weekly self-study groups (time/dates to be arranged amongst the students)
- Attend sessions one Saturday a month at Highgate House (half day) during Years 1 and 2 (two weekends to be long weekends Saturday & Sunday).
- Attend the two 'intensives' over the course of each year.
- Find time for written and artistic assignments supplementary reading and the compilation of a portfolio of evidence for validation.
- Undertake observation for **50 hours** in Steiner Waldorf early childhood settings in each of Years 1 and 2 making a total of **100 hours**. (This can take place at Highgate House).



ASSESSMENT REQUIREMENTS

At this level, and with a part-time structure, there will be significant distance-learning requirements to enable students to produce sufficient evidence of their knowledge and understanding of the course content, and to satisfy the awarding body's standards for qualification. Applicants should be sure that they are able to undertake monthly assignments, with both written and reading requirements. It is essential that assignments are given in on time. Students should ensure that they are able to take on this aspect of the training, before applying.

Throughout Year 1 between monthly sessions, students will need to produce reflective summaries of set texts and an average of one written essay per month as well as working towards a major essay at the end of Year 2.



ENTRY CRITERIA

Acceptance into the course is subject to availability and places are offered on a rolling basis.

Admission criteria are as follows:

- C or above in GCSE Math and English (or local equivalent*);
- demonstrate an interest in Steiner Waldorf education's principles and practice;
- a good grasp of the English language

*Equivalents: <http://eccts.co.uk/naric/>. Please contact us for further information if you are in any doubt.

CORE TUTORS

Our tutors are drawn from a wide group of experienced and trained Steiner Waldorf teachers and individuals who have worked with Steiner Waldorf Education in various fields.

Founder and Director of Highgate House School, Julie Lam is the course leader. She brings a vast range of experience spanning over 30 years and qualifications including Montessori, Steiner Waldorf, Pikler, International Association of Infant Massage (IAIM), Play Therapy & Counselling.



Delia Sesiu Core Tutor has over 27 years' Steiner Waldorf teaching experience and is a teacher trainer from South Africa. Delia jointly oversees the kindergarten curriculum at Highgate House and has been trained by the London course as an IQA (Internal Quality Assurance).

Amy Punton is a longstanding & qualified Steiner Waldorf early years educator at Highgate House School with 17 years of Steiner Waldorf teaching, training and parent education experience

Lynne Kirk is an experienced & qualified Steiner Waldorf early years educator and storyteller with 36 years' experience.

Other tutors include Steiner Waldorf education experts from the UK including :

George Perry (Biography)
Philip Beaven (Eurythmy)
Penelope Wildgoose (Speech)
Sarah Rees (Neuroscience)

APPLICATION PROCESS

Applications open from **July 2019**. Early application is advised; places are filled on a rolling basis. Once the course is full, we accept applications on a waiting list basis.

Step 1

Send your completed application form, current CV (both in PDF) and an administration fee of \$500 to Highgate House School Foundation Ltd with bank transfer proof by email to training@highgatehouse.edu.hk.

(Please include names and contact details of a referee with your application. As far as possible this should be an individual who can attest to your character and who has experience of you in a work or educational situation.)

Step 2

If the entry criteria is met, you will receive an invitation to an informal interview with one of our core tutors to discuss your application. This will take place in person by appointment.

Step 3

If you are accepted onto the course, you will receive an offer of a place, together with a contract, and further details of fees and the course structure. Your place will be confirmed once we have received your signed Acceptance Letter and Cache Accreditation fee for London.



FEES & FINANCES

Years 1 and 2

These require the payment of an annual course fee in each year. Students are also required to pay an one-off accreditation & qualifying fee to CACHE London at the entry point for both Level 4 and Level 5. Applicants should ensure that they have the means to meet the fees before the application.

Annual Course Fee: HK\$26,400 (payable in three equal instalments each year of HK\$8,800)

Administration Fee: (non-refundable) \$500 payable on application .

CACHE Accreditation fee For Level 4 /5 Diploma: cHK\$6,000 (payable once only; this is passed directly on to the London Centre for Cache Accreditation & Quality Assurance.

Students will be expected to purchase a lyre (c.HK\$900-1000) specialized pastels (c.HK\$100) and certain text books from a set reading list. Further details will be sent out in a Welcome Letter.

We do also accept fee payments by credit card however this will incur a c.4% handling fee as well as PayPal by separate request.

Year 3

Assistant/trainee experience in the optional **Year 3** may involve paid work. The course fees for optional third year at Level 5 will be announced during Year 2 and will be considerably less than the course fees for Level 4.



Images of our Group 1 students undertaking artistic activities training.



TERM DATES*

Thurs, Fri & Sat 30 & 31 January 2020 1 February 2020 Saturday 8 February 2020	Foundation Intensive (whole days)
14 March 2020	
25 April 2020	
23 May 2020	
20 & 21 June 2020	Sat/Sun long weekend
JULY BREAK	
Tuesday to Friday 4 to 7 August 2020	Summer Intensive
19 September 2020	
17 October 2020	
14 & 15 November 2020	Sat/Sun long weekend
12 December 2020	
16 January 2021	End of Year

Recommended Reading Prior to Starting

"Free to Learn –An Introduction to Steiner Waldorf Early Childhood Education" 2nd edition, author Lynne Oldfield (Hawthorn Press)

"Rudolf Steiner, his life and work" Gilbert Childs (Floris Books)

	Intensives
	Monthly Saturday sessions
	Sat/Sun long weekend

Monthly Saturday sessions and long weekends are usually held at the times below.

Saturdays: 1 pm—6.30 pm

Sundays 11 am— 4.30 pm

*Timings and dates may be subject to amendments depending on the needs of the group and visiting tutors.

GALLERY





FAQS

Will the Diploma allow me to work as a registered kindergarten teacher in Hong Kong and/or the UK/other countries?

We are the only Steiner Waldorf Early Years Childhood Studies Course in Hong Kong that meets the requirements to become a registered early years educator in the UK.

In Hong Kong, you will need to apply for teacher registration separately after successful completion of the course (as with all overseas qualifications).

Please contact the Hong Kong Council for Accreditation of Academic and Vocational Qualifications for (HKCAAVQ). The HKCAAVQ is engaged by the Education Bureau to provide qualification assessment services for teachers with overseas qualifications in order to register as an early years teacher in Hong Kong.

A CACHE Level 4 Diploma currently meets the requirement with HKCAAVQ to be a recognised equivalent overseas qualification for teacher registration in HK, however, each application is considered on an individual basis by HKCAAVQ.

Can I undertake my practicum hours at Highgate House School?

It is possible for you to undertake your practicum hours at Highgate House School, and we have so far been able to accommodate all students who have requested this. The course will also allow students to complete practicum in certain Waldorf inspired early childhood environments, so long as certain criteria are met. (Please seek approval from the core tutors.) Please note that you will need to undertake a minimum of 3 sessions at Highgate House School at the end of Year 2 for observation by a core tutor.

Continue...



FAQS ...

I can't make some of the training dates, can I miss sessions?

It is important that attendance is as close to 100% as possible in order to achieve the Level 4 Diploma. Absences other than serious illness will only be granted very rarely under exceptional circumstances. Any absences will need to be approved in advance by the course leader, and students may need to repeat the sessions during Year 2 to catch up at additional costs.

Can I just come for the course without doing the Diploma?

If you do not need to receive the Diploma for teaching registration purposes or wish to complete the written assignments or practicum, we do have a second option which would not include the official Diploma qualification but is a "Certificate of Attendance". This means that you will only attend the lectures on the same training dates as set out in the term dates for the Diploma.

The fees for this route are HKD16,350 payable in 3 instalments yearly plus a non-refundable administrative fee of HKD300. (Lyre & Pastel costs may apply.)

Contact Information

To request an application form or for further information:

training@highgatehouse.edu.hk

Tel: 2849 6336

Address: Highgate House School
2/F, 100 Peak Road, The Peak
Hong Kong

www.highgatehouse.edu.hk