



EDINBURGH
STEINER
SCHOOL

Camille McHaffie

Handwork teacher. Costumes/wardrobe mistress.

Studies/Career/interests overview:

Studied German and English in the U.S. and Germany

Steiner Teacher Training in Edinburgh

Steiner Handwork Teacher Training in Berlin

What do you feel makes Waldorf Steiner education so special/relevant in the 21st century:

In a world of so much specialisation, Steiner/Waldorf education equips the children with a versatility which I think will help them navigate their way through their lives. They learn to "do" with their hands as well as think with their brains and we try to engage all their senses in their learning to give them a richer and broader experience of the world around them, both near and far.

What special skill/interest/experience do you feel you can bring to the school community/classroom:

Passion, enthusiasm, and experience working in different countries, organisations and sectors. I am constantly on the lookout for new stories, ideas and craft skills that tie the curriculum to current interests and trends.

What is the useful lesson/hardest learnt lesson from your own schooling:

When I was at university, I learned the value of honest and timely feedback from teachers. At the time it was a hard lesson to learn but has proven to be invaluable to me. One of my professors told me that, although I was passionate about the German language, it would never be something I would be able to teach at university level, which had been my career plan. Because of this feedback, I used my knowledge of the language in more practical ways; speaking German with my children from birth, and later completing a handwork teaching qualification in Berlin, at a time when there were no English-language courses available in the UK.