



**Wendy Boyd**

German Teacher (Upper School Year 7-12)

**Studies/Career/interests overview:**

Having globetrotted through over 20 countries (including 7½ years in beautiful Berlin), studied Jazz Voice, Medieval Studies and multiple old and modern languages, this Californian now enjoys exploring the beauties of Scotland, doing a bit of photography, being involved in the community and teaching her favourite language. I did my teacher training both in Germany and in Scotland and have taught German and Spanish (and a touch of French) at various state and private schools throughout Edinburgh and the Lothians.

B.A. German (honours) & Russian, PGDE German (distinction), PGDip Spanish, MSc Medieval Studies

**What do you feel makes Edinburgh Steiner School/Waldorf Steiner education so special/relevant in the 21<sup>st</sup> century:**

Studies are now revealing the importance of things like play, personal emotional wellbeing, nurturing individual creativity which are central to Steiner education anyway.

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

I have a real passion for the German language, people and culture as well as many years of experience with them. I love crafts, music, the arts in general, history and culture, and I have a good grip of ICT skills, all of which I incorporate into my teaching. And I can bake a pretty mean cake for the fair (and sometimes for a lucky class).

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

"Pride goes before a fall." After learning my first couple of languages I decided, in my hubris, that I needed a challenge. So I took Russian. It was so much harder than Spanish, French or German! I was no longer "top of the class" or able to cruise through. I had to sweat to learn that language, and even with a B.A. in it I still feel very challenged by it.