



Kia Ora!

Welcome to our first Newsletter for 2018. It's been a while since our last newsletter, with a lot of positive and exciting developments since then. So, we thought we'd provide a summary of how we have developed as an organisation, and some of the interesting things we've been doing over the last twelve months.

Developments with CSE Schools

SEDT currently has thirteen schools participating in the CSE – three in NZ and ten overseas (across UK, Germany, Austria and Australia). Apart from New Zealand, our efforts to extend the CSE overseas will focus primarily on Europe (especially Germany and Austria) the UK, and Australia. However, genuine interest is being shown by schools in a range of countries including Hungary, Spain, Taiwan and India. Steiner education is also growing significantly in China. With these new territories we will initially be taking a cautious approach, preferring to see the qualification embedded into our core countries. Here's a brief look of what's happening in each country...

New Zealand

Raphael House and Taikura continue to work successfully with the CSE to Level 3 and are seeing pleasing results with student graduates moving on to a range of tertiary courses. Michael Park school also participates in the CSE at Level 1 and is considering the merits of progressing toward Levels 2 and 3.

The Christchurch Rudolf Steiner School undertook a pilot scheme during 2017 and will require a further year to ready the school for what we hope will be a more formal implementation in January 2019.

We have had some useful meetings with the Titirangi school who are exploring the appropriateness of having the CSE in the high school and, if so, when the school may be ready to commence.

Australia

Our first Australian school Samford Valley Steiner School in Brisbane, has completed their first year of the CSE and are excited to move to Level 2 in 2018. We are pleased to announce that the Noosa Pengari Steiner school has commenced the CSE in January 2018. So already there is enthusiasm and momentum building in Queensland Australia.

Overall, we see that Steiner/Waldorf education in Australia is in good heart and is growing. However, the regulatory landscape in Australia for educational qualifications is complex, and so we are now working with the relevant Queensland authorities to ensure the CSE is understood by the regulators and approved as a valid university entrance qualification (in much the same way as the NCEA is viewed in Australia).

We have had enquiries from other Steiner high schools in different Australian states and will be engaging with state authorities soon to further develop the CSE in these states.



Samford Valley Steiner School



Noosa Pengari Steiner school

We are keen to see a cooperative and supportive working relationship developing between the teaching communities in Australia and New Zealand. So, stay tuned for further Trans-Tasman CSE updates.

UK

Three schools are well entrenched with the CSE, and a new school (Cardiff) will commence in 2018.

Austria

Three schools offer the CSE at different levels, with our first Level 3 graduates last year moving on to university based solely on their CSE qualification. See below. We are working closely with Innsbruck, a new school and hope they will come on board this year.

Germany

Two schools currently offer the CSE in Germany. We have been working to extend the programmes within the individual schools, and to see new schools participate in the CSE. Overall, despite a challenging environment in introducing an overseas-based qualification, the support and interest from our key partners remains strong with key individuals proactive in their support of SEDT and the CSE. Overall, however, we think the pace of uptake of the CSE in Germany will be slower than originally anticipated.

Student Successes and Acceptances

In addition to the UK students last year gaining acceptance into UK universities, we are pleased to report our first successes with European student acceptances:

- Three German CSE Level 3 graduates from the Erfurt school were accepted to different universities or tertiary institutions in Germany;
- Four Austrian students from the Schönau school were accepted into different Austrian universities and have commenced their courses of study.

Whilst this is in itself a milestone, a range of other courses and institutions have seen student applications provisionally

or conditionally accepted, mainly needing further formal qualification recognition prior to commencing study. Others remain work in progress to convince the authorities and universities as to the merits or equivalence of the CSE as a valid tertiary entrance pathway.

NB: We are seeking information with respect to historic New Zealand student university acceptances. However, this is proving difficult owing to New Zealand Privacy Act restrictions. So, any parents or students are welcome to advise us (on a confidential basis) of the tertiary course of study they have been accepted for, or have completed.

What benefits does the CSE bring to a high school?

Some insights from the Salzburg teachers conference as to what benefits the CSE and associated disciplines bring to Steiner schools and its students, are as follows:

- There is a real need for different and more holistic and expansive assessment techniques in the classroom.
- As well as being a university entrance qualification, the CSE also encourages different teaching and learning processes in the classroom.
- The CSE is relevant as a teaching and learning tool which helps to facilitate what is seen as a real need to change and improve the pedagogical side of Steiner education, away from a traditional rigid state examination-based framework.
- The CSE is a catalyst for better collaboration and co-operation amongst teachers within a school – necessary to better collectively understand the development needs of individuals.
- There is a genuine desire in some school communities to see more creative assessment practices, associated “expansive” learning processes and pedagogical changes take place which help not only individual students to develop, but help preserve the special character of Steiner education in the high

schools – something which is increasingly being undermined by traditional state practices.

Salzburg CSE Teachers Conference

On November 24,25 2017 SEDT co-hosted a short conference for CSE teachers at the Salzburg Rudolf Steiner School in Austria. Attendees also included teachers from non CSE Steiner schools, parents and other interested parties.

Keynote speakers were Martyn Rawson (“Expansive Learning”) and Peter Gallin (“Dialogic Learning”). There was some interesting information provided, and stimulating discussions held both with the keynote speakers and within the numerous workshops.

Regulatory Update / NZQA

Private Training Establishment (PTE) and SEDT's Training Scheme

SEDT maintains its status with NZQA as a registered Private Training Establishment (PTE). Amongst other things, this enables SEDT to offer tertiary courses to teachers in New Zealand. SEDT's approved tertiary training course is the Certificate in Assessment Design and Practice (CADP) and can be part of a teacher's professional development needs. The course focuses on assessment practices within the classroom and assists teachers who are new to Steiner education and/or who are keen to understand more deeply what is required to assess students doing the CSE. We anticipate the next course will be early in 2018, but we'll keep you posted.

PTE's are subject to NZQA's "audit" or External Evaluation and Review (EER). NZQA's first EER of SEDT was completed in October 2017. We are pleased that a positive outcome was achieved enabling us to maintain our PTE registration status. If interested, the EER report is available on the NZQA website on <http://www.nzqa.govt.nz/providers> (search for Steiner Education Development Trust Limited).

Credit Recognition and Transfer (CRT)

NZQA, in consultation with SEDT, suggested a protocol to facilitate the awarding of the CSE to overseas students. This is Credit Recognition and Transfer (CRT) and is now formally part of the CSE programmes. CRT is NZQA's preferred mechanism to have credits or points achieved by overseas students, transferred to New Zealand and enabling those students to be awarded the CSE as a valid New Zealand national qualification. CRT, analysis of student achievement, and the awarding of CSE Certificates is all undertaken by the independent Qualifications Committee.

Clusters

Mark McGavock rolled out a range of Cluster Meetings with teachers last year and this will continue during 2018. The Clusters are proving useful, particularly for teachers new to Steiner/Waldorf education. We will continue to monitor how best to structure and deliver the workshops to best meet the needs of the teachers. Clusters scheduled this year are as follows:

2nd Language/Te Reo	Taikura	March 19,20
Science	Raphael House	May 21,22
Music	Michael Park	June 18,19
Maths	Raphael House	Aug 13,14
Drama	Michael Park	Sept 10,11
CSE Coordinators	Taikura	Dec 3,4

Learning Outcome (LO) Development

Now in their sixth year of operation, the Learning Outcomes are significantly more developed than when they were first introduced.

A process has been established to enable European schools to feed in LO submissions which will help strengthen the Steiner approach to assessment and learning and we look forward to receiving their ideas.

SEDT Website and Database

The website www.sedt.co.nz has been available for some time now and we have received some good feedback. We expect the website will continue to evolve with useful content, explaining how the CSE works, and the application of the qualification within the schools. We welcome parents and students to have a browse and of course we'd be pleased to receive your thoughts on any enhancements.

The website has a password-protected teacher resource centre which contains assessment exemplars and areas for subject teachers to share their work and collaborate amongst themselves (both in New Zealand and internationally). It is our intention that this site will eventually be multilingual and are working on translations into German. The new results database (replacing the old manual system) is functioning well (with the first few bugs ironed out) which enables CSE schools to input student achievement results and to produce reports themselves. Shortly we hope to enable teachers to have access to the database, and to enable students to log in to view and print their own results.

About Us

SEDT is a not-for-profit initiative focussed on bringing the New Zealand Certificate of Steiner Education (or "CSE") to Steiner/Waldorf high schools in New Zealand and overseas. SEDT is wholly owned by a New Zealand registered charity, the Steiner Education Development Foundation (SEDF). The qualification is listed on the New Zealand Qualifications Framework (NZQF) as a national qualification with

equivalence to the NCEA. The qualification is owned by the Federation of Rudolf Steiner Schools in New Zealand (the Federation) however SEDT has full responsibility to manage and develop the qualification in New Zealand and overseas by virtue of a long-term licence agreement with the Federation.

Our Board of Directors and Trustees

The board of SEDT comprises the following five directors, who are also the trustees of the Steiner Education Development Foundation:

Neil Boland (chair), Elaine Beadle, Noel Josephson, Glen Saunders, Trisha Glover

Background on the directors are available on our website www.sedt.co.nz.

Co-workers



Phil McKinstry

SEDT'S full time General Manager Phil McKinstry is well settled in to the role, overseeing the operation and growth of the CSE qualification. Phil was appointed having had a career spanning over 20 years in Corporate and Agri Banking, and in social finance. His two sons were educated at

the Michael Park Steiner School in Auckland. Feel free to contact Phil as per the details listed below. Existing co-workers Karen Brice-Geard (Educational Director), Mark McGavock (National Manager and Moderation Manager) and Jocelyn MacKinnon (Finance and Administration) continue in their core roles.

In looking to build our own in-country infrastructure, and to support the overseas schools participating in the CSE, we have appointed two part-time Country Managers, Katharina Wendt in Germany and Jan Swann in the UK. Both bring a wealth of experience in Steiner/Waldorf education to their roles and have been busy visiting schools across Germany, Austria and the UK addressing the needs of teachers and students.

An independent team of subject-specific moderators are engaged on contract as required in New Zealand and Germany to assist Mark with the CSE's overall moderation needs. We continue to look out for people in New Zealand with the requisite skills in moderation, exam writing and exemplar development across a range of subjects. So, if you are that person, or you know someone, we'd love to hear from you.

Contact Us

If you have any questions or would like further information on SEDT or the CSE, please feel free to contact us as per the details below, or you can contact us through the various options on our website: <https://sedt.co.nz/forms/contact>



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