



Education
Dunedin Rudolf Steiner
Learning with head, heart and hands

Procedure for enrolling kindergarten children on to the school roll

1. Kindergarten children will be enrolled on the school roll on their sixth birthday. They will remain within the kindergarten. This reflects the Special Character of Steiner Schools where formal academic learning is delayed until the child is ready. The practice is enshrined in a Memorandum of Understanding between Steiner Education Aotearoa NZ and the Ministry of Education. Class 1 intake includes children who have turned six before the end of the preceding December.
2. The Dunedin Rudolf Steiner School may also place five year olds on the school roll if this is in line with the parents' wishes. This would occur in circumstances where additional students on the roll would result in additional teacher entitlement for the school. The five year olds would remain in the kindergarten.
3. Any child in kindergarten who is on the school roll is obliged by the Ministry of Education to attend kindergarten for the full school week. The Dunedin Rudolf Steiner School is open Monday to Friday 9am to 3pm. These are the hours which those children would be required to attend.
4. The school is required to report to the Attendance Officer instances when a school enrolled child has not attended for 10 half days or more a term. This reporting is done at the end of each term. Current discussions with the Attendance Officer indicate that she is not concerned about children's non-attendance before the child turns six and is then legally obliged to enrol at a school.
5. Some parents have asked for further information on the implications of their child's possible attendance at kindergarten – for example if their six year old did not attend every afternoon. The Ministry expects the school to manage its own attendance issues in the first instance – for example through discussions with parents. If there is serious truancy (which is not the case in the example given here), with a child taking extended absence without reasonable excuse, then the eventual outcome could be the involvement of Oranga Tamariki or prosecution under section 24 or 29 of the Education Act.

If you are asked if you would enrol your five year old

- Consider whether you feel the child is ready to attend for five days a week and whether you are concerned about any truancy reporting if, for example you took them home at 1pm on some days.

Signed:



Print Name

Anna Noble

Dated:

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