



# The Dunedin Rudolf Steiner School Development Project

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Education  
**Dunedin Rudolf Steiner**  
Learning with head, heart and hands

Raising funds to build classrooms for the development of free, morally responsible, and integrated people equipped with a high degree of creative and social competence

# WHAT THE COMMUNITY SAYS



## KIRSTEN MCAULEY

Former school parent. Daughter Rose is Head Girl at Otago Girls High School.

One of the best things has been the joy of all the playtime hours spent in the sand, mud, in the forest, climbing the ivy and building huts right up to age 13!

We love that healthy eating and device-free fun is a way of life at the school and in the school community. Our children have been able to grow and play with peers without being aware of explicit rules around these things.

We have found the highly structured curriculum inspiring as the children have been led through history, other world views, science and art. We have particularly enjoyed that it is not a race to do things early but within an optimal developmental stage.

Our children have benefited from this unique approach and we believe this type of learning environment is needed now more than ever.

## SUE SIMPSON

General Secretary Anthroposophical Society

It's a privilege to regularly visit and experience life at the Dunedin Rudolf Steiner School, where childhood is truly fostered and the children retain a real enthusiasm and interest in learning.

The school's environment allows each child to develop confidence, resilience, openness and courage for whatever future await them.

Supporting the financing of new facilities will not only support the education of today's children and bring joy to their lives, it will provide security for a bright future.

## GABRIELA STUEDEMANN

Grandparent and Proprietor

Born and raised in Germany I come from a family involved in Steiner education, with my father as a teacher, as a student myself, as a parent and now as a grandparent.

Anthroposophy has led me to become a big advocate of the age appropriate curriculum, which takes developmental stages as well as individuality into account when being delivered in the classroom.

In our changing world the teaching of practical life skills through making natural and knowledgeable connections with the world around us is more relevant to children than it has ever been. This helps our children to become strong adults who are aware of the needs of their fellow human beings and the natural environment and encourages them to make the world a better place.



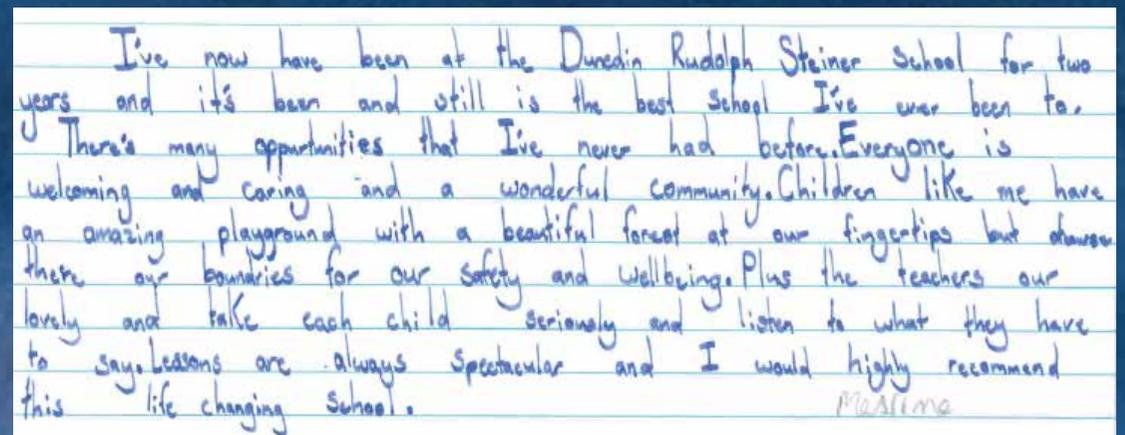
# The Unhurried Curriculum

Steiner education respects the integrity of childhood and what is seen to belong rightfully to childhood.

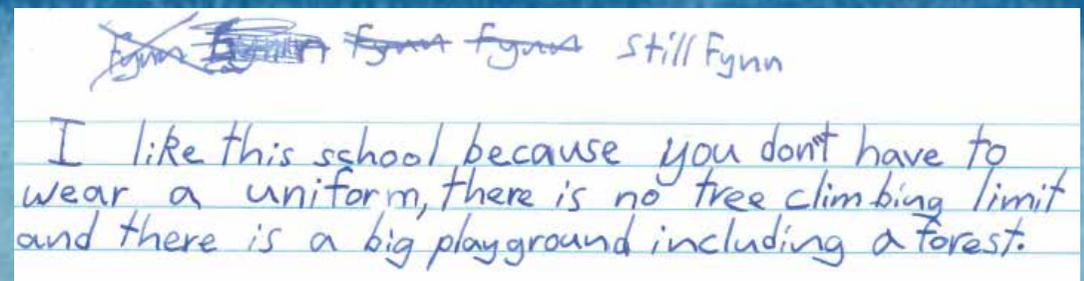
As a child progresses through school, an emphasis is given to his or her individual development in an environment which is non-competitive and unpressured in the academic sense.

Teachers actively protect and cultivate the young child's capacity to wonder, to imagine and to experience awe and reverence for life and learning in a manner that is unhurried.

Allowing children to experience a balanced childhood is seen as vital for laying the foundations for healthy adolescence and well-balanced adulthood.



I've now have been at the Dunedin Rudolf Steiner School for two years and it's been and still is the best school I've ever been to. There's many opportunities that I've never had before. Everyone is welcoming and caring and a wonderful community. Children like me have an amazing playground with a beautiful forest at our fingertips but above there our boundaries for our safety and wellbeing. Plus the teachers are lovely and take each child seriously and listen to what they have to say. Lessons are always spectacular and I would highly recommend this life changing school.  
Maxima



~~Fynn Fynn~~ Fynn Fynn Still Fynn  
I like this school because you don't have to wear a uniform, there is no tree climbing limit and there is a big playground including a forest.

Situated on the West Harbour, on the edge of beautiful bush in the historical city of Dunedin, the Steiner School offers a unique education for children from birth to thirteen years old.

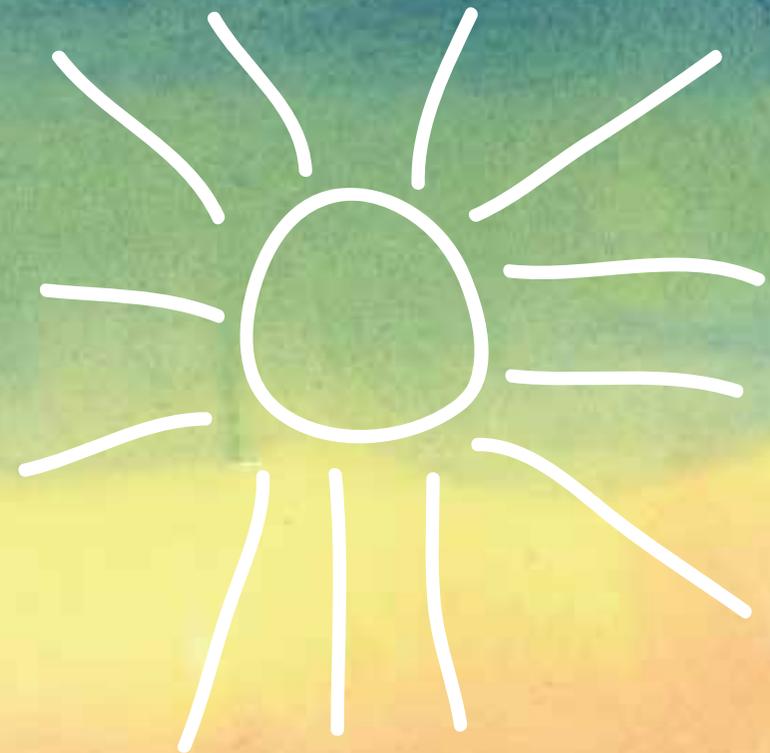
The school began as a kindergarten in North East Valley in Dunedin and expanded into a Primary School in 1986. In 2005, it moved to its current site in Maia which it has developed over the years to allow for the growing numbers of students.

Alongside a high standard of academic education, value is placed on teaching and learning through the arts and movement, not only as stand-alone subjects but also as an integral part of all learning experiences. These activities activate the will and feeling life of the child and support the development of flexible and creative thinking. As far as possible, all subjects are taught in an artistic way or through the practical experience where doing precedes understanding.

The approach addresses the whole person intellectually, artistically, socially and morally so as to develop each student's innate self-discipline and strength of body and will.

Our next generation is going to have to be effective problem solvers to thrive in a changing world, strong to face the moral and ethical challenges that lie ahead and be innovative and creative to bring out the beauty in the world and in themselves. We aim to guide our children towards self-responsibility with the ability to contribute to society as world citizens, respectful of the diverse nature of humanity.

**A balanced approach to learning within an integrated school with a bright future!**



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**This Appeal will fund the build of the following to fill our current needs:**

**1. An Upper Block with two classrooms, resource room and toilet facilities.**

**2. A Multipurpose Extension off the kindergarten to house the playgroup, staff/meeting room, music room and additional toilet facilities.**

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The Dunedin Rudolf Steiner School moved to its present site over 10 years ago. It is now at a stage where it needs additional permanent classrooms. This will be a significant development for the school, kindergarten, playgroups, and also for the wider community.

Since the start of 2006, the school and kindergarten have experienced significant growth. The whole community has invested in the property at Maia. In 2008, the community took the leap of faith to build three temporary classrooms to accommodate the increasing school roll. In 2011, one temporary classroom was replaced by a permanent structure. In 2015, the school added an off-the-grid, solar-powered forest classroom. Both of these additions were fully funded by the parent body.

Not only has the school's roll increased substantially since 2006, but the kindergarten has expanded to three rooms with space for 50 children. There are also three active playgroups which extend out into the wider Dunedin community. Currently, there are 60 school children, 50 kindergarten children, and many playgroup children as well as an active waitlist.

Our next planned growth is to increase the Primary School to 85 students. We have excellent, committed teaching staff and a vibrant parent community. Previously, generous community members including architects, engineers, and builders have volunteered their work to allow the school to grow.

Even without this future growth, the school's current classroom space is insufficient. The project's cost is estimated to be \$1,200,000. We will build buildings that will last for decades to come and that reflect the environmental and educational values of this community.

# The Upper Classroom Project

A process of consensus design has established that the first stage will be a building with two classrooms, cloakrooms, toilets, foyer, and resource room. This will be built on the top section of the school's 3.2 hectare site, above an area of native bush.

The architect's design is one that makes the most of the building's position on the site, providing excellent utilitarian classroom spaces that are beautiful and built to last. Steiner stressed the importance of combining utility and beauty within classroom spaces and the positive effect this has on child development and on society.

Preliminary work indicates the cost to be approximately \$900,000. The new building will not only accommodate school classes but also free up space for playgroups on the site and provide a venue for other community events.



# The Extension Project

The extension project will house a playgroup space which will welcome families and their children from birth onwards.

Playgroup has a place at the heart of our school offering a haven for new parents. It is situated next to the three kindergarten rooms and forms a gateway into the school.

The extension will also provide a staffroom and meeting space, offering flexi space for music lessons and other teaching.

The building work will include a modernisation of the existing kindergarten washroom facilities and office space for the existing kindergartens.

Preliminary work indicates the cost to be approximately \$300,000.



# Where you come in!

We now call on parents, past pupils, friends, families, businesses, members of the local community and all those who care for the Dunedin Rudolf Steiner School and what it stands for and especially the creative, innovative adults it strives to enable.

You are invited to support the Dunedin Rudolf Steiner School Development Appeal. A personal approach will be made to you by a team member of the Appeal from within our Steiner family who have themselves pledged a donation.

They will suggest you complete a pledge card indicating a generous gift of your own choice. This card serves as a record of your pledge and how you plan to make it. It is a statement of your intention and is not a legally binding commitment.

# What you can do!

Your support will allow us to continue to develop and offer a unique education to a growing group of children in Otago.

Donations are the main way to raise the funds we need for the new facilities, so we are asking for your help!

Have you ever had the idea that it is a big gain if you can give to others? Aren't you actually "wealthy" if you can donate some money, because this means that you have more than you need for yourself?

We want everyone to feel rich while helping the community to grow and invest in not only the school's but also our children's future.

# Why we are asking!

The recent growth of the school indicates the increased need for the unique education our school offers.

We now need the facilities to continue to provide spaces for the school as well as the kindergarten and playgroup children. And we also want to provide spaces for the parent and teaching community so everyone will be welcome and we can continue to create a strong Steiner community here in Dunedin.

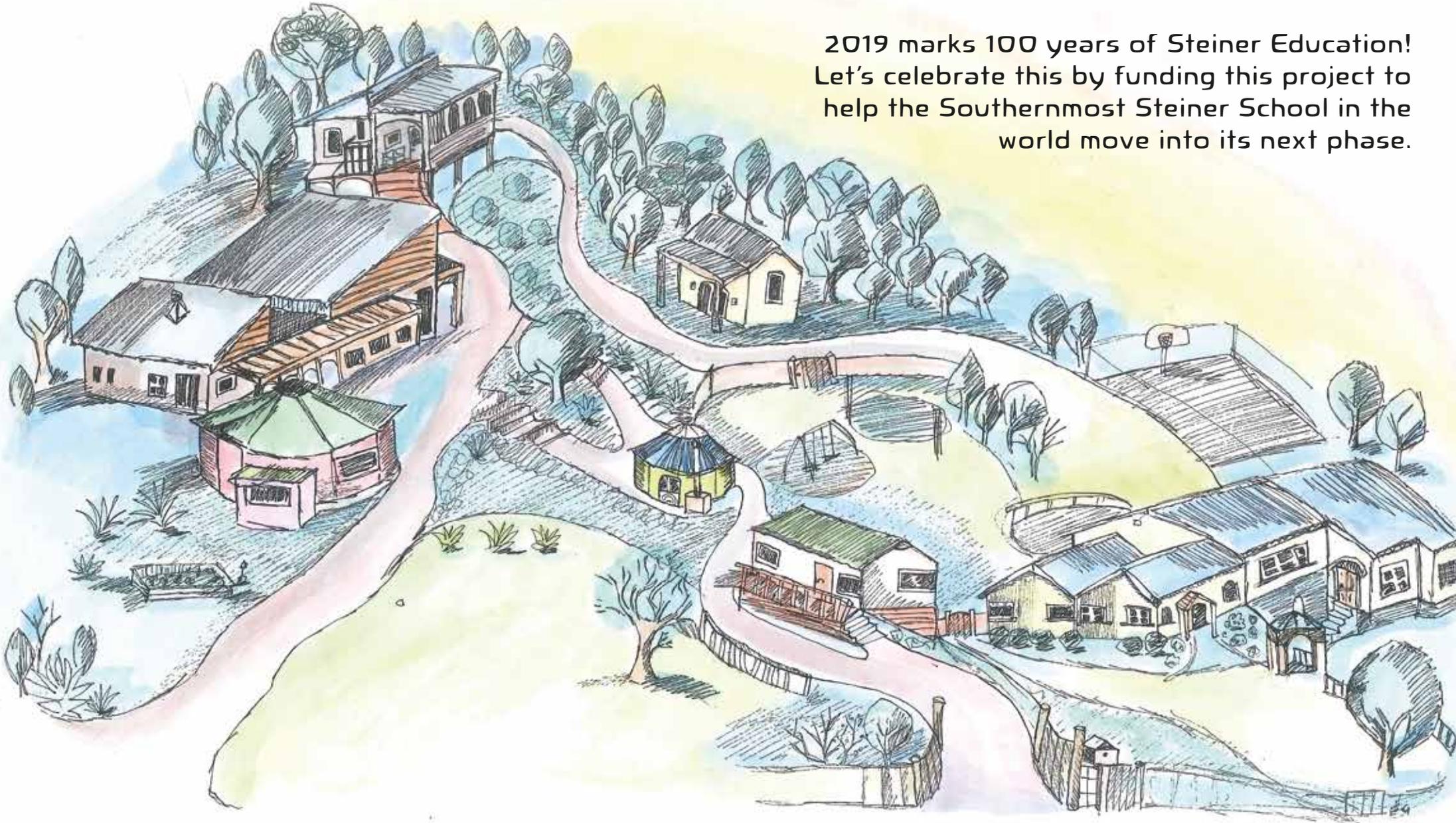
Generous contributions from our parent community already allow us to provide the additional staffing needed to be able to offer the appropriate curriculum at each age.

There is no funding available for our school from the Ministry of Education for capital development in Dunedin!

This building work is vital  
for the school to grow!

Your support will allow us to develop  
and offer this unique education to a  
growing group of students in Otago.

2019 marks 100 years of Steiner Education!  
Let's celebrate this by funding this project to  
help the Southernmost Steiner School in the  
world move into its next phase.



# LIVING MEMORIALS AND DESIGNATED GIFTS

Opportunities will be made available during the course of the Appeal for those who are able and willing to make a significant gift, to select as a memorial a specifically designated part of the total development.

## Pledge Recognition Privileges

- |                               |                             |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. Play Group                 | 9. Upper Classroom Two      |
| 2. Kowhai room (Kindergarten) | 10. Upper Resource Room     |
| 3. Rata room (Kindergarten)   | 11. Staffroom               |
| 4. Koru room (Kindergarten)   | 12. Office                  |
| 5. Lower classroom            | 18. Kindergarten playground |
| 6. Forest Classroom           | 19. Orchard                 |
| 7. Octagonal Classroom        | 20. Forest                  |
| 8. Upper Classroom One        | 21. Top Field               |
|                               | 22. The Court               |

Individuals, families and commercial organisations may take this opportunity to express their support. Some may wish to remember a relative, associate or friend in this way.

Each designated gift will be appropriately acknowledged in a manner befitting the significance of the gift.

The designated gifts do not necessarily represent the cost of each item, but rather a measure of the donor's concern for the importance of the development project.

TOTAL PLEDGE OVER 3 YEARS	ANNUAL INSTALMENT	QUARTERLY INSTALMENT	MONTHLY INSTALMENT	WEEKLY INSTALMENT
\$500	\$166	\$42	\$14	\$3
\$1,000	\$333	\$83	\$28	\$6
\$1,500	\$500	\$125	\$42	\$10
\$2,000	\$666	\$167	\$56	\$13
\$3,000	\$1,000	\$250	\$83	\$19
\$5,000	\$1,666	\$417	\$139	\$32
\$6,000	\$2,000	\$500	\$167	\$38
\$7,500	\$2,500	\$625	\$208	\$48
\$10,000	\$3,333	\$833	\$278	\$64
\$12,000	\$4,000	\$1,000	\$333	\$77
\$15,000	\$5,000	\$1,250	\$417	\$96
\$20,000	\$6,667	\$1,666	\$556	\$128
\$30,000	\$10,000	\$2,500	\$833	\$192
\$35,000	\$11,667	\$2,917	\$972	\$224
\$50,000	\$16,667	\$4,167	\$1,389	\$320

## APPEAL TEAM

Campaign Advisor:  
John Whelan

Campaign Patron:  
Gabriela Stuedemann

Campaign Coordinator:  
Clare Ridout

Teams:  
Silke Templeton & Jess Penwarden

Initial Gifts:  
Julie MacLeod

Publicity:  
Jess Penwarden & Silke Templeton

Arrangements:  
Zoe Cummings & Daniela Erdmann

Treasurer:  
Deborah Brunt

Special thanks to our team leaders,  
team members and all who donate.

Education is a journey,  
not a race

Play is the serious work of  
early childhood

Learning takes place with  
hands, heart and head

By protecting the right to  
childhood we create  
abilities for life

*Let's help more kids reach their potential!*

Steiner schools have values and priorities that align with where the world is heading. The Dunedin Rudolf Steiner school gives its students the best possible start toward a love of learning. It is a gem within the city of Dunedin and will remain a creative, innovative, shining light of a school that welcomes all.

WITH THANKS



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