

RIGHTS OF THE CHILD, THE PARENT, THE TEACHER

THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL FOR STEINER WALDORF EDUCATION aims to support the availability to all parents of a choice of schools that practise a free approach to education as a basic right and without discrimination, financial or otherwise.

The European Council for Steiner Waldorf Education would identify three areas of rights for the implementation of such a free approach to education:

Rights of the Child
Rights of the Parent
Rights of the Teacher

Rights of the Child

- for an education which accords with the dignity and potential for personal, social and intellectual development in each individual
- for an education which encourages and enhances creativity, enabling young people to experience and gain insight into processes at work within human culture in its varied forms of expression and the natural world, so that
- the development of the child becomes expressive of an increasing faculty to explore, comprehend and interact purposefully with the human and natural environment as a morally active participant
- for a child education which provides stimulus and a basis for study and self-education throughout life with access to all forms of higher education remaining as open as is practicable (in particular all assessment or necessary selection procedures should maintain a close relationship to a variety of educational forms embodying the above).

Rights of the Parent

- for a choice of education commensurate with their religion, philosophy or values in so far as it respects the rights of the child and those of others to make such a choice
- that each state enables such a choice, providing the means, financial and otherwise, to allow for the founding and maintenance of schools and their appropriate institutions without imposition by the state of conditions other than those which may be needed to protect other rights relative to this
- for access to all information, records, communications as can make possible a reasoned assessment and engagement with the educational process in which their children are involved.

Rights of the Teacher

- to be enabled to take responsible educative measures, to design curricula and establish appropriate methodology as a freely chosen duty, following from the rights of the child and parent
- for protection from political or other interference (other than that which accords with the above or is the result of commonly recognised legal obligations, duties etc.), so that their educational activity is determined by pedagogical considerations alone
- for access to appropriate training, research, advisory and other resources, physical and otherwise
- to associate and form such councils, conferences and support groups as may be deemed necessary to enhance, assess and monitor the educational work done.