

# WORKSHOPS FOR PARENTS

York Steiner School  
2014

Why  
Steiner  
Education?

Technology  
And Media.

2

1

3

Why Play  
Is So  
Important...

4

Creative  
Discipline

Four workshops exploring Steiner Education  
for under 7's and Early Years childcare.  
Presented by:



## Dorothy Marlen

The National Birth to Three rep on the  
Steiner Waldorf Early Years Steering  
Group and UK's pioneer of the Pikler  
approach to childcare.



Education Towards Freedom  
[www.yorksteinerschool.org](http://www.yorksteinerschool.org)

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## Why Steiner Education?

1

An introduction to Rudolf Steiner's insights into  
child development and particularly the needs of  
the child in the first seven years of life.

In this first workshop there  
will be an emphasis on the  
developmental needs of the child  
in the first seven years of life.

This understanding helps to  
answer questions such as why we  
allow children to play so much,

why don't we teach reading  
and writing until six or seven and  
why we discourage technology .



Saturday  
February 1st  
9.30am - 12.30

Apple Tree  
York Steiner school

- An overview of the phases of  
childhood as outlined by Steiner  
and the educational approach  
that has developed to  
support these phases.
- A better understanding of the  
Steiner educational approach –  
why things are done as they are.
- Some insights into how you can  
create a healthy home life for under 7's.
- A chance to ask and discuss questions with  
other parents in a safe supportive environment.
- A chance to try out a new craft which you can take home.

A crèche is available for parents with children, supervised by volunteers from  
the school Kindergarten teachers. For further information about this or any of  
the four workshops please visit [www.yorksteinerschool.org](http://www.yorksteinerschool.org) or call us on  
01904 654983

WORKSHOPS FOR PARENTS - 1 - Donations on the day

## Technology And Media

2

The young child's sensory  
sensitivity and the challenge of  
today's technology and media.

Our bodily senses connect our  
inner soul and spiritual life to  
our experience of our body, to  
the world and to each other.  
Steiner described 12 –more than  
is commonly known. How these  
are nurtured and protected in the  
early years of life have a profound  
effect on our health and well  
being later in life.

As parents and carers it  
is important that we give  
experiences that are "true". In  
this workshop we will explore  
experientially, in turn, each of  
the senses Steiner described.  
We will look particularly at the  
senses which we need most to  
care for in the first seven years  
of life. We will also discuss  
the ways in which our present  
western lifestyles challenge  
and compromise the healthy  
unfolding of these precious  
sense organs and what we can  
do about it.

Saturday  
March 22nd  
9.30am - 12.30

Apple Tree  
York Steiner school

- A better understanding of  
the 12 senses as described  
by Rudolf Steiner.
- More understanding of what is appropriate stimulation and  
protection at different ages.
- Practical suggestions as to how we can care for our children's  
sensory sensitivity.
- A chance to ask and discuss questions with other parents in a  
safe supportive environment.
- A chance to try your hand at a seasonal craft.

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WORKSHOPS FOR PARENTS - 2 - Donations on the day





### Dorothy Marlen

The National Birth to Three rep on the Steiner Waldorf Early Years Steering Group and UK's pioneer of the Pikler approach to childcare. Dorothy works as freelance consultant for Steiner and mainstream early years settings across the UK and is the author of *The Parent and Child Group Handbook*.  
[www.dorothymarlen.net](http://www.dorothymarlen.net)

Presenting four Parent Workshops to explore, question and learn about Steiner education and about the role of being a parent today.

#### 1. Why Steiner Education?

Saturday - February 1st

#### 2. Technology and Media

Saturday - March 22nd

#### 3. Why Play Is So Important

Saturday - May 24th

#### 4. Creative Discipline

Saturday - June 21st

#### Open to all

Whether you are a past, present or future parent please join us at the

York Steiner School  
 Danesmead,  
 Fulford Cross  
 York, YO10 4PB

#### To book your place

for any of the four workshops please contact us via the school office on 01904 654983 or email  
[info@yorksteinerschool.org](mailto:info@yorksteinerschool.org)

Donations on the day

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[www.yorksteinerschool.org](http://www.yorksteinerschool.org)



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Crèche available for all Workshops for up to 15 children **BOOK NOW** to secure your place

## Why Play Is So Important

# 3

and what you can do to encourage it.

In the first seven years of life children learn through imitation and play – they learn how the world works, they learn about themselves and they learn about other people, what it feels like to play many different roles as well as the give and take of being with others.

Perhaps, most important of all is that children will also, if given the time and space, naturally develop a profound imaginative facility which is the foundation of all later learning, creativity and genius. As parents and

carers we need to provide the right environment – physical, emotional and spiritual where the “genius of play” is respected and nurtured as it unfolds, right from birth.

In this workshop we will explore what play is, and how it develops from birth. We will look at what encourages creative play in children and what can stifle and stunt it. There will be singing at the beginning of the workshop and an artistic activity or seasonal craft.

- An overview of how play develops and why it is important to provide the right environment.
- A better understanding of why we do what we do in Early Years Steiner settings.
- Ideas to take into your family life.
- Time to share your questions in a friendly supportive environment.
- An opportunity to do an artistic activity.

Saturday  
 May 24th  
 9.30am - 12.30  
 Apple Tree  
 York Steiner school

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WORKSHOPS FOR PARENTS - 3 - Donations on the day

## Creative Discipline

# 4

This is a very useful phrase to describe creative ways of working with the values you want to unfold your family with.

How do we prevent the river banks of family life becoming either a flood land or a prison wall? Do we need to change our approach with different aged children and with children of different temperaments?

Using experiential and reflective exercises this workshop will offer an important opportunity for you to clarify your values as a parent

and give your ideas for creating the family life you wish for.

There will be plenty of time to discuss what we mean by 'discipline' and learn from other group members. There will also be singing at the beginning of the workshop and an artistic activity or seasonal craft in the second half of the morning. It will be the longest day of the year - midsummers day - and hopefully we can have a shared picnic lunch as a completion celebration.

- An overview of different parenting styles.
- Engage in experiential exercises to help clarify and hone your own values and parenting style.
- An opportunity to take home new ideas.
- Time to discuss concerns and questions in a safe supportive environment.
- A chance to try out a new craft or artistic activity.

Saturday  
 June 21st  
 9.30am - 12.30  
 Apple Tree  
 York Steiner school

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WORKSHOPS FOR PARENTS - 4 - Donations on the day