Waldorf UK

Early Childhood Centenary Conference

Music in Early Childhood Education



at St Paul's Waldorf School
1 St Paul's Rd, London N1 2QH

Saturday, November 14th 2026
9:00–17:45

Waldorf UK100

Celebrating 100 years of Waldorf education in the UK

A welcome from Sam Greshoff, Early Childhood Coordinator, Waldorf UK



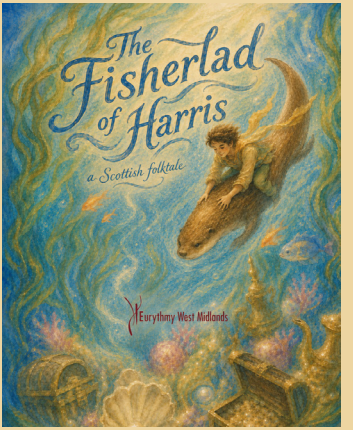
Welcome to our National Conference, a special event this year as we are celebrating the centenary of Steiner Waldorf Early Childhood Education and Care. Many UK individuals played a pivotal role in the development of the first kindergartens, and the conference provides an opportunity to reflect on this and the work of so many colleagues over the past 100 years.

In Lecture 1 of The Inner Nature of Music and the Experience of Tone (GA 283), Rudolf Steiner refers to the German Philosopher Schopenhauer's belief that music has the central position among the arts, stating, 'in music humanity perceives the heartbeat of the will of the world'. The theme of Music in Early Childhood has been chosen to celebrate our centenary, partly because it has been at the heart of Waldorf practice since 1926. The aim of the conference is to consider our practice today and to look forward to the future. How might we interpret this concept of the 'heartbeat of the will of the world' when we are working with the children in our kindergartens, nurseries and parent and child groups?

We are delighted to welcome Philipp Reubke, our Keynote Speaker, the co-chair of the Pedagogical Section at the Goetheanum in Dornach, Switzerland. Music is one of his special interests, and he will help us to develop our understanding of the significance of music in the development of young children.

'Eurythmy West Midlands' (part of 'Eurythmy UK') is based since 2000 at Glasshouse Arts Centre, Stourbridge, in the heart of England.

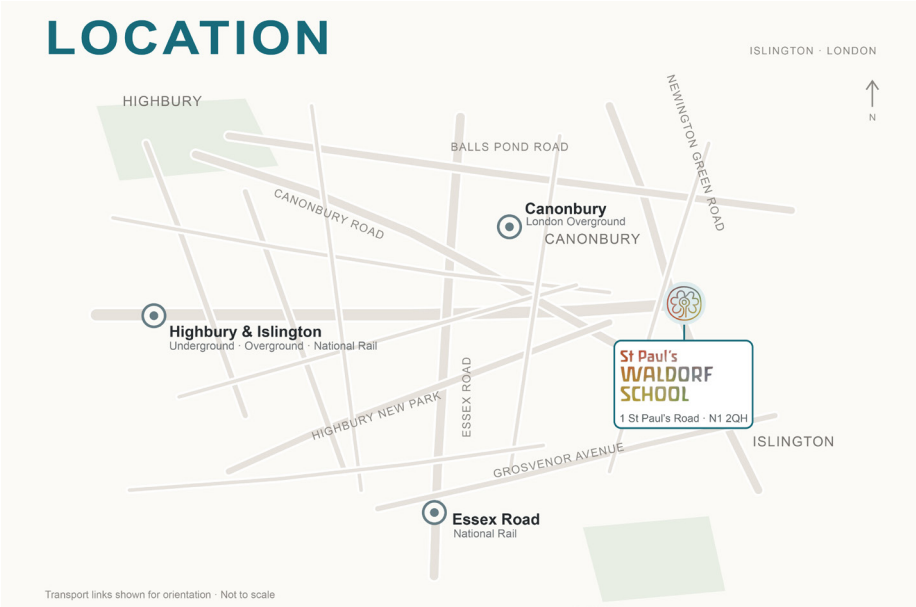
They are a performing company of international artists aiming to provide quality performances to be enjoyed by a wide range of audiences. From children and family shows to commissioned contemporary works of music and poetry, they endeavour to share internationally the expressive art of eurythmy.



Programme

Time	Activity
9.00 a.m.	Registration and coffee
9.30 a.m.	Singing - Heulwen Leonard, St Paul's Waldorf School
10.10 a.m.	Welcome - Sam Greshoff, Waldorf UK
10.20 a.m.	Keynote presentation "Music in Early Childhood" - Philipp Reubke, Co-chair, Pedagogical Section, Goetheanum
11.30 a.m.	Comfort Break
11.45 a.m.	Keynote presentation (continued)
12.45 p.m.	Lunch
1.45 p.m.	Tree planting ceremony in the garden
2.00 p.m.	Workshops (which will be allocated on arrival) **Reminder:** Please pre-book your preferences by 11 November https://forms.gle/kPWCw8Tsb4fwWV1GA
4.00 p.m.	Celebratory tea
5.00 p.m.	Eurythmy performance - Eurythmy West Midlands: "The Fisherlad of Harris" Please note that there has been a change to our Eurythmy performance, with a different performing group and fairytale from originally advertised.
5.45 p.m.	Finish

LOCATION



We extend our warm thanks to St Paul's Waldorf School
for generously providing the venue for this special event

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