

## **STUDIO POLICIES**

Thank you for allowing me the privilege of teaching your child piano! In order to make our time the most productive, please take note of our studio policies.

### **LESSON TIMES**

I try to work with each of my students in order to give them the most convenient lesson time. Please be as flexible as possible when informing me of your available times. Each school year, I will publish a calendar. Please bookmark, save, or print this calendar so that you will know the schedule of lessons. I will also send reminders throughout the year.

[Studio Calendar](#)

### **LESSONS**

Please arrive on time for your lesson. Your specific lesson time is reserved just for you. Please do not arrive early or stay late. Wait in the car until your lesson time. Parents, since we cannot see the driveway from the classroom, please text me when you arrive so I can send your student out. Please do not be late picking up your child!

All students must wash their hands WITH SOAP before each lesson. I will also clean the piano between each lesson.

### **JAM SESSIONS**

Jam Sessions are group lessons that will take place 3 times per school year. Jam Sessions will replace regular lessons during those weeks. Group lessons are a great way for students to interact with each other, learn from each other, and grow in their musicianship. We always have fun! These lessons include the study of music theory and other related topics, games, projects, and other activities. They provide context and add interest to the material we cover in weekly lessons.

### **TUITION**

Monthly tuition is \$130. (Siblings pay \$120.) I teach 30 lessons during the school year. These are divided into 9 equal payments from September to May, so your payment will be the same regardless of the number of lessons in a month. Payments are automatically charged each month by credit card or bank draft. Summer lessons will be offered in packages and are not mandatory. You may choose to take as many or as few lessons as you would like during the time I am teaching in the summer. Families should expect a yearly increase in tuition appropriate to cost of living increases and services offered.

Your tuition covers not only the actual lesson time spent with the student, but also time preparing for each student. I will create an individualized plan of study for each student. I will also occasionally arrange pieces of music specifically for a student. Your tuition also covers all books and music needed for the year. I will provide each student with a binder full of music that I have chosen specifically for them. For online lessons, I will occasionally ask parents to print a piece of music that I will email, but most music is already included in the binder. Your tuition also includes various memberships, professional organizations, subscriptions, and continuing education. I also sometimes use apps in lessons, and you will have full access to those, as well. I do my best to keep up with the latest trends and ideas to keep my lessons fresh and updated.

A \$35 enrollment fee (per family) is required at the beginning of each school year or when you begin lessons. This pays for the costs of running the studio as well as time spent doing things in addition to actual teaching. It also defrays the costs of printing, technology, materials, recitals, apps, memberships, subscriptions, and etc.

### **MISSED LESSONS**

Because a specific time is set aside for each specific student, a student who does not attend a lesson will simply miss the benefit of that lesson. If you need to miss a lesson, please let me know ahead of time and I will try to find another lesson time for you **during that same week only**. No other makeup lessons will be given for any reason. Tuition covers far more than the time spent with your child, so you do not need to worry that missing a lesson means wasting money. I frequently use missed lessons to plan for your child's progress, choose materials, etc. There are no refunds or discounts given unless I am unable to teach the promised number of lessons.

An online lesson during your student's regular lesson time is always an option. We will do online lessons in the case of inclement weather, as well. Please download the Zoom app on your tablet or device so you are prepared in case the need arises.

### **ILLNESS**

Students who are ill should not come to piano lessons. I reserve the right to send a student home if they arrive sick. If the student feels well enough, please text me and we can do an online lesson. Please download the Zoom app on your tablet or device so that you will be prepared ahead of time.

### **PRACTICE**

QUALITY practice is much more valuable than QUANTITY. We will set goals at each lesson, and I ask that they focus on these goals and assignments at home. Your encouragement makes all the difference! Playing time (practice) may be longer on some days than others, but we never want to turn it into a chore! Ideally, I would like for your child to spend time at the piano at least 4 or 5 days per week. My most successful students are ones who have scheduled piano time into

their regular schedule. Playing the piano is also a wonderful break from screens! Try encouraging your student to use their playing time as a way to relax, rest their eyes, and take a break from homework.

## **RECITALS**

I normally have two recitals per year - one in the fall and one in the spring. I do not require students to memorize music, and recitals are not mandatory - but I do encourage every student to participate! However, Covid has changed this, and I will find a recital venue and announce dates as soon as it's safe. We normally have a reception following the recitals, but we will not do that again until Covid is behind us.

By enrolling and paying tuition for my student at Playtime Music Studios, I certify that I understand and agree to the studio policies.

Thank you for abiding by these policies to help your child's piano lessons be the most productive and efficient! Thank you also for the privilege of guiding your student through the miraculous language of music!