

Studio Policy

The following lists the policies by which I offer private lessons in my studio from 2019 onwards. Please read them carefully and let me know if you have any questions.

My Responsibilities

To give you or your child the most comprehensive music education available.
Students will be exposed to a whole range of music, technology, styles and creative endeavours.
All lessons are created to suit the individual goals, desires and loves of each student.
I encourage my students to be curious and creative.
I show students how music is constructed and how they can make up their own.
I help students learn music that they want to learn.
I develop their reading and technique.
Students will learn a large amount of repertoire and enjoy a wholistic education that suits their level and goals for the future.

Student/Parent Responsibilities

Students are responsible for arriving at lessons on-time, with correct books and having completed their practice.
Students should practice to achieve goals, not to fill time and it is expected that all instructions are followed week-to-week.
A student's progress is determined by dedicated practice, not by simply attending lessons. Students should practice long enough to complete their weekly assignments.
Students need to practice on a decent instrument.
Acoustic piano should be kept in good working order and should be tuned at least once a year.
If using a digital piano, please ensure it has a solid stand, three pedals, adjustable padded bench and a fully weighted action.
Let me know if you need help choosing an instrument.

Studio Calendar

Lessons are conducted during school term time.
Lessons are only conducted on weekdays.
Lessons will not be conducted on School Holidays, Public Holidays or Long Weekends, unless via special arrangement on a case-by-case basis.
Students will receive 38 lessons each school year and this is what is included in the monthly tuition fee (see below).

Payment

Tuition covers not only the actual lesson time spent with the student, but time preparing for each student as well and my ongoing business costs, including:

- An individualised plan for each student's course of study
- Recital venues and programs
- My training and experience
- Professional organisation memberships
- Studio Insurance
- My music lending library
- Printing, scanning, copying

Tuition does not include the cost of music.

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Tuition is spread equally over the course of a year and charged each month in advance. This monthly payment guarantees the student's place in my studio and covers the costs of lessons and enrolment.

The monthly payment amount is divided evenly between the 10 months from September to June inclusive. This means that whether there are 5 or 2 lessons in that month, the tuition fee is exactly the same.

Students are allocated 38 lessons per year.

Students will setup an automatic debit each month with Credit Card through my Music Studio software.

All tuition payments are non refundable.

Missed Lessons

Missed lessons due to forgetfulness, illness or holidays are not refundable. Exceptions will be made for prolonged sicknesses and extenuating circumstances on an individual basis.

If a student will be missing their lesson for any reason they should inform me by text or email, with as much notice as possible.

If for any reason I have to cancel a lesson myself, I will offer a make-up lesson at a different time.

If I'm sick or otherwise unable to attend a lesson, and this drops the students lesson number for the year below their minimum threshold, I'll refund the lesson fees or endeavour to make them up.

Punctuality

In the case of lessons in the teacher's home, if a student is late this simply takes time out of the lesson, i.e. the lesson will start when the student arrives and will still finish at the same time.

If the lesson is in the student's home and the student is not there at the arranged time, the teacher will wait outside the house for 10 minutes. If the student arrives within this time the lesson will proceed as normal, and will still finish at the arranged time.

Performances

Recitals offer students a great sense of accomplishment and pride for their hard work.

They also help them learn the importance of setting and achieving goals.

Students will be given the opportunity to participate in formal recitals in addition to other performance opportunities.

Exams

Students wishing to sit practical music exams will need to have been learning with me for at least one year before I will enter them for an exam. I need this time to ensure they are ready, that exams are the right thing for the student and to cover areas missing in a student's prior education.

Students looking to take exams should be aware that it takes a huge amount of effort, determination and stamina and significantly reduces the time available to other more creative pursuits. Extra lessons may be required.

Students are entered for exams only when they are fully prepared. This is to avoid the situation where a student has to be pulled out of an exam due to lack of preparation which is not a pleasant experience for anyone involved.

If proceeding, students may choose to sit ABRSM or Trinity Exams and I'll help make the decision as to which exam board is best for the student.

Terminating Lessons

If you wish to finish lessons, please provide notice by email.

Students will continue to receive the lessons they've paid for until the end of the monthly cycle when the termination will take effect.

Refunds will not be issued.

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Media Release

From time to time I like to post photos and short videos of my students on my Facebook Page, YouTube channel or other social media.

If you do not want your child's image(s) to be used, please let me know by email or in person.

In general, students love to see their pictures and videos on my social media pages. They find it motivating and exciting to think that others want to know what they are learning.

Students are identified only by first name.

The commencement of lessons is deemed acceptance of these terms.

Contacting Me

Parents and adult students are welcome to call me during daytime hours to discuss any matters associated with their education.