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**GENERAL INFORMATION**

Instruction consists of weekly private piano lessons in which repertoire, note reading, technique, practice skills, and musical literacy are emphasized. Lessons are 30, 45 or 60 minutes in length. Faster progress can be achieved if the students have an advantage of two or more lessons a week.

**MISSED LESSONS**

We want each student to experience the excitement of progress from week to week - the key to that is consistent practice and consistent attendance. If you must miss a lesson, be sure to contact Carlisio at least a day in advance, by 7 p.m. the night before the lesson. One excused absence for students taking one lesson a week, two excused absences for students taking two lessons a week are allowed. Any more missed lessons will not be made up or credited.

**PRACTICE AT HOME**

Consistency is important in learning, especially in music study. Regular practice assures rapid improvement of musicianship and skills. Students are enrolled with the understanding that they have access to a piano or an appropriate electronic keyboard in their home for practice. The practice environment at home should be quiet and free from the sounds of a TV or any other distracting sounds.

Students usually make the most of their practice if it is scheduled ahead of time, and is at the same time each day. The most efficient practice time is usually in the morning. Try to schedule your practice sessions for before school hours. Ten minutes spent at the keyboard in the morning are equivalent to 30 or more minutes spent in the evening or afternoon hours. Make practice your daily routine and concentrate on completing your homework according to the instructor’s suggestions written in the student’s notebook.

Parent's role in developing good practice habits cannot be overestimated. It is often the parents who keep their children motivated and focused on the task. Parents are strongly recommended to monitor student’s homework completion on a weekly basis.

**Suggested daily practice:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Grade Level** | **Practice Time** |
| 1-3 | 30 minutes |
| 4-6 | 45 minutes to 1 hour |
| 7-8 | 1 hour |
| High school | 1.5-2 hours |

**EQUIPMENT NEEDED AT HOME**

**For piano students**

* A piano that is kept in tune and in good working order; see the instructor if you need the name of a professional tuner/technician in your area;
OR
* An electronic keyboard/synthesizer that meets all of the following criteria:
* Has at least five octaves of standard-sized keys;
* Is touch-sensitive (can play louder and softer by the way you play the keys);
* Has a damper (floor) pedal plugged into it;
* Has a stand that allows the student to set it at the same height as the keys on a regular acoustic piano;
* Has a music stand that allows music to be set up in the same position as it would be on an acoustic piano;
* A metronome (see the instructor for more details).

**REQUIRED MATERIALS**

* See your individual instructor for details