

Parent Expectations and Responsibilities

1. Support the fulfillment of your child's responsibilities. Consistency is the key to learning a musical instrument! This means showing up to lessons, practice and performances.
2. Encourage progress. Many small steps throughout the year yield big results!
3. Remind your son/daughter of **daily** practice and **help them** to schedule this practice time in their daily routine.
4. Provide a practice environment that is free from interruptions (family, friends, TV, computer or phone).
5. Be financially responsible and pay tuition ON TIME. For questions regarding tuition and your account please email or call your teacher.
6. Communicate with the teacher about any questions or concerns you have regarding the student, music, practicing, festivals, recitals or lesson content.

Student Expectations and Responsibilities

1. Schedule 15-30 minutes of practice each day for at least five days per week. Two of those days must include the day of and following the private lesson. Remember: playing is not practicing!
2. Complete all assignments the teacher has written down on the assignment sheet. Practice steps are included verbally in the lesson, and often on the lesson assignment sheet.
3. Review carefully any suggestions or instructions given in the previous lesson. Teachers will write the main goals of each assignment on your assignment sheet.
4. Arrive promptly at your lesson time. You reserve the time slot, not the number of minutes.
5. If questions arise, be sure to ask your teacher questions during lessons; we want you to understand the assignment and expectations.

Teacher Expectations and Responsibilities

1. Provide each student with the personal attention and respect necessary to develop his/her individual talents.
2. Guide each student to a greater **understanding** and **enjoyment** of all musical styles.

3. Guide each student towards an awareness of her/his capabilities – clearly communicating short-term and long-term goals. This may be verbal or written communication.
4. Encourage a feeling of success at each student's individual rate of learning.
5. Guide each student towards Musical Independence and Initiative through a balanced program of theory, technique and repertoire.
 - o **Theory** - studying the "grammar" of the language of music.
 - o **Technique** - the physical mechanics of the instrument
 - o **Repertoire** - a list of pieces to be learned based on standard classical, jazz and popular music, essential to gaining an understanding and appreciation for music of many different styles
6. Report the progress of the student to the parent, listen to any concerns and answer any questions that the parent and student may have.

Attendance

Students are expected to attend all scheduled lessons per each spring and fall semester. All parents receive an attendance contract to sign upon enrollment.

Our tuition and enrollment fees are non-refundable and makeup lessons are not scheduled or scheduled per teacher's discretion. Please plan lesson times and social engagements accordingly. Teachers may offer a makeup lesson on an individual basis.

Summer participation in lessons will be expected and scheduled on an individual basis. Each student is learning a new language and without reinforcement, new ideas, a change of pace and practice – they lose the very skills they have worked so hard to attain over the course of the past nine months.

Practice

"You don't have to practice every day, just on the days that you eat."..Suzuki

This is good advice and the most important time for the student to practice is immediately following the lesson – or at least on the same day as the lesson, after the student has received instruction. Research indicates that retention rate is as high as 90% on the first day, whereas it drops to almost 60% if the students waits just 24-hours.

We at IM Music Academy say aim for six and expect five days of practice. If a student has 30 minute lessons, a good daily practice session would last between 15 and 20 minutes each day. If a student has a 45 minute lesson, a good daily practice session

would last between 30 and 45 minutes each day. Teachers will be able to advise the student on the amount of practice time after evaluating the student.

You get out of it what you put into it – what we require is consistency and the results speak for themselves.

Absence

No makeup lessons are scheduled or guaranteed. At the conclusion of each semester your teacher may be able to offer a makeup. Please note that these makeups are not for students who miss lessons due to play dates, games, non-emergency doctor appointments or family vacations.

Drop-off/Pick-up

Prompt drop off and pick up are expected. Parents are welcome to wait in the waiting area.

Private Lesson Tuition

Please refer to the Tuition, Policies and Contract.

Recitals and Public Performances

Each student is expected to participate in **at least two performances per year**, though all performances are optional. Please see calendar for more specific dates!

Inclement Weather

Should the need arise to cancel lessons due to bad weather; the lessons will be rescheduled. The lesson may be made up in the form of a master class, group class or individual lesson (at the teacher's discretion.)

Summer

In order to maintain their teacher's availability for fall, all students are required to register for our summer program. Should you choose not to participate in summer session, you will risk losing your slot with your teacher. If you know you will be

traveling most of the summer, we do have a pay-ahead option that we would be happy to discuss with you.