

♪ Piano Studio Policy ♪

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I welcome you to my piano studio – a place where children ages 7 and up can explore the awesome joy of making music! First, some laundry...

As I like to say, the parent - child - teacher relationship is like a tripod. In order for your child to flourish and enjoy her/himself each leg of the tripod needs to be strong in its role.

My responsibility as the **teacher** includes:

- *being ready* to start on time and having a clear plan for each lesson;
- establishing a *safe learning environment* where kids can be themselves;
- *getting to know your child* and finding a suitable teaching approach for her learning style;
- maintaining *regular communication* with you about your child's progress and addressing any issues of concern;
- teaching your child effective *practice habits*;
- and *challenging him musically* by choosing grade-appropriate repertoire and building skills in technique, theory, and ear training.

Students also have responsibilities in the lesson tripod, which include:

- *being prepared* and ready to start on time for each lesson, including muting cellphones, and having assigned homework ready to hand in;
- *practicing* 6 days a week, for around 30 minutes each day depending on level;
- *communicating* to me what they want out of lessons, i.e. Do they want to perform? Do they want to do a Royal Conservatory of Music exam? Do they want to do it "just" for fun?;
- *being respectful* of the space and equipment. Refrain from swearing and inappropriate behavior. Please no gum chewing. Children should wash their hands before each lesson to keep the keyboard clean and mitigate the spread of germs. **Abuse of equipment, i.e. banging on the keyboard will not be tolerated. Students will be given one warning and must understand that equipment is expensive and fragile.**

As a **parent** you also play a very important role in your child's musical development...(continue on reverse)

- Provide a *quality instrument* for your child to practice on. Lessons are a big investment and equally important are the tools your child has to practice. An acoustic piano (non-electronic) is ideal because the student can experience the natural weight and function of the keyboard from the get-go – not to mention the sound!
- If, due to cost or space, an acoustic piano is an unrealistic purchase then find an electronic keyboard with 88 weighted keys and at least a sustain pedal. Suitable keyboards can be purchased for under \$800.00.
- Be willing to *invest in music books*. Like textbooks they're not always cheap, but they're an essential part of the course.
- Also provide your child with a well-lit space to practice. The student should have a bench of the proper height to sit on.
- *Stay in the loop* with what your child is doing. Read his lesson notebook that the teacher writes in so you know what she needs to be practicing. I welcome parents to join us at *the last 5 minutes* of each lesson and watch what their child is learning. If a student is 9 years of age or younger, I suggest the parent stay in the studio for the first 1-2 months.
- *Communicate* questions and concerns to me by phone, text and email. If your son or daughter is going through something stressful at home or school it helps me a great deal to know about it.
- *Stay up-to-date* with payment. Payment should be made on a monthly basis. Pay in advance or at the lesson. Please do not make late payments. Cash, cheques, and e-transfer are accepted.
- Provide **24 hours notice** if you need to cancel (excluding family emergencies, illness, and inclement weather) – **failure to provide appropriate notice will require full payment for missed lesson.**

The three of us make a team! A team needs to *work together* in order for it to succeed just like this triplet: the 3 notes together make a solid beat!



**Parent Consent Form for Audio Recording of Piano Lessons
Piano Studio of Darryl Cremasco**

Section 1 – Student Information

*Name_____

*Name(s) of parent/guardian_____

Address_____

Postal Code_____

*Telephone_____

Cellphone _____

*Email_____

Emergency Contact_____

**required*

Section 2 – Consent to be recorded

I, _____(name of parent/guardian), hereby authorize the audio recording of _____'s (student name(s)) piano lessons under the instruction of Darryl Cremasco. I understand that these audio recordings will be used for the teacher's educational purposes and no one but Darryl Cremasco and myself will have access to them.

Recordings will be kept on a hard drive in a secure location, and can be made available to the student/parent/guardian for practice purposes on request.

Signature of Parent(s)/Guardian(s)_____

Signature of Teacher_____

Date_____