

Miri's Piano Studio

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General Policies Agreement for Academic Year 2024 - 2025

I am pleased to have your child as a student at my studio in Olney. I am looking forward to working with him/her! The policies below are designed to help us all work together to assist your child in benefiting from the piano lessons.

Please sign and date at the end and return this form to the teacher. By signing this agreement, you agree to respect and abide by the studio policies.

General information

Miri's Piano Studio ("MPS") offers weekly private piano lessons for beginner, elementary and intermediate levels in 45 and 60 - minute lessons, depending on the student's age/level. Lessons address the fundamental aspects of playing piano through the use of proper technique and music theory.

MPS values each student's personality and try to provide lessons in a most enjoyable and suitable way for all learning styles.

Attendance

- Private lessons tuition reserves and guarantees a specific day and time for each student, and that time remains reserved for him/her whether he/she chooses to attend the lesson or not.
- **The studio will not assume any financial responsibility for student's absence(s) due to illness, sports, school activities, schedule conflicts, travel out of town, etc.** The studio will however assume financial responsibility should the instructor become ill, be out of town, or cancel for any reason.
- If possible, please provide 24 hours' courtesy notice when your child is ill. Please do not bring a student to the lesson sick. **If the student is not well enough to attend school, he/she is not well enough for a piano lesson.**
- Students are required to continue for a full academic year (*August 26th – June 8th*, see about summer semester below), attend all scheduled lessons, and participate in all recitals.

- Students must arrive on time. If a student arrives late, time will not be taken from the following student's lesson to accommodate late arrivals.
- Students should bring a lesson bag or folder to hold their music and a notebook to record assignments for each class.

Etiquette rules while attending piano lessons

Please be respectful of the studio's learning environment by adhering to the following etiquette rules:

- It is important to allow students and teacher to work together undisturbed and unassisted. Parents who wish to observe a class are welcome to take notes and/or record any or all the piano lessons: their active, interested participation is an important component in assuring a successful academic outcome. To this effect, please observe quietly and do not interrupt the lesson.
- If you need to perform activities such as reading, working on a laptop, resting, please do so in the waiting area outside the studio, by the entry door.
- Please do not use your cellphone or other electronic devices (including laptop computers) in the studio, except when recording the lesson. Make sure to silence or turn off all cell phones at all times. The use of electronics during the lesson is distracting for both the student and the teacher.
- If necessary, you may use your electronic devices in silent mode in the waiting area for texting or emailing during the lesson. If you need to take or place a phone call, please do so outside.
- Siblings in attendance while you observe the lesson need to remain seated and quiet. We understand that this may not always be possible; therefore, if you must bring a sibling, please remain in the waiting area and keep him/her quiet during the lesson.
- No food or drink are allowed in the studio, including snacks or beverages.
- Please, be mindful that the studio is within a private family home: be sure that siblings do not wander into the house during the lesson.

DO's & DON'Ts for parents/guardians

DO's:

- Pay attention during the lesson
- Take notes, record the lesson for the benefit of the student
- Remain quiet during the lesson

DON'Ts:

- No food or drinks
- No use of electronic devices of any kind
- No interruptions or distractions
- No wandering around the house

Practicing

Regular lesson attendance and practicing at home are necessary for consistent progress. Students are expected to practice at least 5 days a week. The amount of practice time is determined by the level of the student. Beginning piano students may only require 20+ minutes per day, whereas more advanced students require 60 minutes per day or more. It is very important that students have daily, non-interrupted practice time.

Please remember the emphasis of practice should be on the quality of the practice and not just on the time spent.

Note for Parents: Parental support is an extremely important factor in musical training. Children whose parents take an active role in their child's progress tend to be more enthusiastic and productive. Parents are encouraged to supervise practice, attend lessons at least occasionally, compliment the student's music at home, and generally serve as the child's cheerleader.

Please contact Mrs. Miri if you have any concerns or questions about your child's progress.

Required Materials

All the students must have access to an acoustic piano for daily practice. Additional materials (metronomes, music, flash cards) will be recommended by the teacher. Parents can purchase all the recommended materials/books or MPS will purchase all required books and materials and will request reimbursement from the parents.

Personal Hygiene

Students will be expected to wash their hands before the piano lesson. Please keep your child's nails trimmed.

Competitions/Events

Students who will be participating in Competitions and/or Events, might need additional lessons. Those lessons are not included in the general tuition and will be charged separately at an hourly rate.

Studio Recitals

- When students reach an appropriate level of advancement, they will be eligible to participate in the studio class recitals. Those students whose piece(s) is/are not performance level two weeks prior to the scheduled event will be withdrawn from the program.
- **The recital fee will vary, depending on the venue.**

- Performing in a formal recital setting is an exciting opportunity for students to showcase their hard work and improvement over the year in the presence of their family and friends.

Tuition (please read this section carefully)

- Lessons payments are paid monthly by check, cash or Zelle.
- Tuition is due in advance, **no later than the 10th of each month.**
- Late payment will incur a late fee of \$15.
- A \$25 returned check will be assessed for any returned checks. MPS reserves the right to raise fees at the beginning of each new academic year.
- Tuition will remain fixed from month to month, regardless of the number of lessons in the month.
- Tuition covers not only the actual lesson time spent with the student but the time preparing for each student's lesson as well. This includes:
 - An individualized plan for each student's course of study.
 - Recital preparation and repertoire planning.
 - Professional organization memberships.
 - Professional journals, meetings, and workshops.
 - Studio expenses: copying, instrument, tuning, repairs, etc.
 - Music lending library.

Make - up lessons (please read this section carefully)

Your lesson is a standing commitment. Missed lessons will not be made up or reimbursed. Parents could use the **swap list** to contact other families to arrange a swap lesson. Please inform Mrs. Miri once the swap lesson has been organized.

MPS will offer Facetime/Zoom lessons for snow days if the student is not able to arrive to the studio.

Summer Lessons Options

It is important that students keep the momentum of their musical progress throughout the year. There will be more flexibility in the summer schedule to accommodate family vacations and other special activities. During the summer months, each lesson will be paid at an hourly rate. If you're interested in securing your child's slot for the upcoming school year, please note that at least 3 – 4 lessons will be required during the summer semester. This will help maintain the continuity in your child's musical education and ensure they're prepared for the year ahead.

Termination of lessons

- MPS reserves the right to terminate the lessons with any student for non-compliance with any of the stated lesson policies and requirements.

- Students who wish to withdraw from piano lessons for any reason should provide one month's advanced notice. The parents/guardians of the student or the student (if not minor) will be financially responsible for all lessons until the termination date, whether the student chooses to attend or be absent.

Media Release

I give permission to MPS and its affiliates to photograph, record or videotape my child(ren) during taking lessons, recitals, and other performances, and use photos/videos and recordings for purposes of promotion, marketing, and archive. I agree that I will not be entitled to receive any compensation whatsoever of any kind as a result of such use.

Parents are welcome to contact Mrs. Miri through the e-mail miri@miripianostudio.com or call at (301) 758-0304 for any questions or concerns.



Please sign this portion, detach and return to your teacher.

Agreement

By signing this agreement, I hereby agree the Miri's Piano Studio is not responsible or liable for any injuries sustained on the studio premises or the premises surrounding. Miri's Piano Studio retains the right to terminate lessons with any student or guardian of student who displays inappropriate behavior or who fails to respect studio policy.

I have read the policy for the Academic Year 2023 - 2024 and agree to the terms.

Child's name

Parent's name

Parent's signature

Date