

Piano Paws Studio Policy



2024-2025



Your Piano

- You must have an acoustic or digital piano, with a working damper pedal, to practice on at home.
- Please have your piano well-kept and tuned once a year.

Practicing The Piano

Piano is an instrument that must be practiced daily to enhance the students ability to play.

Students who practice the piano as much as needed grow to love and appreciate it.

These are the requirements for all piano practice:

- The student must practice 4-5 days a week unless they are sick, traveling, or have an unexpected family emergency. They have to practice consistently, or else the child won't grow in their skills.
- The student must practice each piano piece/activity the amount of times listed on the assignment sheet or more.
- Supervise your student's piano practice and help them as needed. No music knowledge is required of you, but it is still your job to help the student with their assignments and make sure they are practicing the amount of repetitions required. If you or the student have any questions about an assignment, you can ask me by text or email, if possible, before the next lesson.

The Lessons

- **A parent of the student MUST be in the house / on the property for the entirety of every lesson.** No exceptions unless another relative / guardian of at least 18 is present.
- If the student happens to arrive late for a lesson, there will not be extra time added to make up for the missed time.
- In the event of a medical emergency, and for some reason the parent/guardian is not present, I will use my best judgment in obtaining medical care for the student. Parents are responsible for all related expenses.
- Summer lessons are required. Even so, my summers are always busy, so I will not be able to do a lesson every week. I will tell you if and when I cannot do a lesson. I will also understand if you cannot do a lesson every week in the summer either due to your schedule.

Use and Cost of Piano Books

- Usually the student will need 3-4 new books every six months. When a new book is needed for the student's piano growth, I will email you so you may purchase it.
- If the student wants to learn a specific song from online, and it costs money, I will first ask the parent for permission and then add the cost for the song to the end-of-the-month invoice.

Lesson Fees

- Each thirty minute lesson is \$25, unless lessons are taken through a charter school OR your house is located about 25 or more minutes away from where I live. In either of those cases, I charge \$30 per lesson.
- I will charge according to the amount of lessons attended each month.
- Payment is due by the first lesson of each month to pay for the *previous* month's lessons. Because the number of lessons per month varies, I don't charge for future lessons but for the lessons completed during the past month (this may change in the future).
- A fee of \$15 will be added for late payments.
- The fee per lesson may be raised. I will notify you in advance if this happens.
- Summer lessons are required in order to secure a student's spot in lessons for the fall. If you are paying for lessons through a charter school, you will need to pay out of pocket for summer lessons if charter funds are not available during the summer.
- A non-refundable fee of \$35 must be paid to begin lessons *every year*. It must be paid in the beginning of September, after school starts. If you are first starting lessons at any other time during the year, it must also be paid then. This is used for the cost of materials I need for teaching students and for business expenses.

Missed Lessons

- If the student or anyone living in your household is sick, please let me know. We may need to cancel in that case.
- If I am unable to attend the lesson for any reason, I will notify you as soon as possible.
- If you cancel a lesson in advance, then find out the student can attend after all, your lesson time may already have been filled with other plans on my part. In which case, that lesson will have to be missed.
- If there is traffic or road work on the way to your house, and I arrive late, I will not be able to add extra time to the lesson to make up for it. If possible you can notify me of the inconvenience beforehand, but due to my schedule I still may not be able to arrive on time.

Dismissal

A dismissal of a student may be necessary if the following reasons arise:

- Repeated late lesson fees at the beginning of each month.
- Failure to show consistency for lessons or repeated lateness to lessons.
- The student refuses to show any effort in learning or any sort of commitment.
- If you choose to stop lessons, please notify me at least 2 weeks in advance.
- If I must dismiss a student, for any reason at all that may or may not be listed above, I will notify you.

(Don't feel stressed about this. Dismissals rarely happen.)

Please feel free to ask me about any questions or concerns you may have.

"I have read and agree to all the 2024-2025 policies of Shaylin Cummins' Piano Paws Studio."

Parent Signature: _____

Date: _____

Student Signature: _____