

Strings and Things Music Studio Policy

2020-2021

Attendance

Student and parent/guardian will attend lessons at the agreed upon day and time. Ms. Klopfenstein will send a complimentary reminder via text the day of lessons.

For safety and liability reasons, a parent/guardian must be present during the lesson (no drop-offs).

If unable to attend lessons, 24 hour notice is requested.

STMS does not give refunds for missed lessons. If advanced notice is given and another lesson time is available, Ms. Klopfenstein will offer you this space as a make-up but make-up lessons are not guaranteed. Please do your best to come during your scheduled lesson time.

If Ms. Klopfenstein has an emergency and is unable to attend a lesson, your lesson will be credited the following month.

Siblings are welcome to come to lessons but must not be a distraction. Please bring a quiet activity like homework, coloring book, or an iPad (please use headphones).

During the lesson, please refrain from eating food. Covered drinks are acceptable.

Please plan to arrive no earlier than 5 minutes before your scheduled lesson time. Enter quietly so as not to distract or interrupt the other student's lesson.

If Ms. Klopfenstein is coming to your home, please be sure that the lesson space is distraction free and contain any large dogs in a separate area.

COVID-19

Healthy students are encouraged to attend lessons at the music studio in order to receive the best possible instruction. However, if you have any symptoms, have been exposed to someone with COVID 19, live with or care for a loved one that is high risk, please stay home. Lessons may be conducted online via Zoom, FaceTime, or WhatsApp.

Performances

There are two formal recitals per year, one in December and one in the May. Please make every effort to attend. Performance is an important part of being a musician and essential for personal growth and confidence.

There is a \$10 participation fee per student. Friends and family are welcome at no additional cost.

Refreshments will be served following the performance. Beverages, plates, and napkins will be provided.

Each family is asked to bring a snack or sweet treat to share.

Additional performance opportunities may be presented throughout the year. STMS is all about sharing music with the community. If you have an elderly loved one in a retirement facility, please let me know.

Senior citizens are wonderful audiences and love interacting with children. (COVID-19 permitting)

COVID-19

STMS follows the CDC and state guidelines in regard to performances and gatherings. If unable to gather, performances will be recorded and submitted online, and participation fees would be waived.

Lesson Fees

Payment for the month is due by the first lesson of each month, prior to the lesson. Cash, checks, or online payments via Zelle or Venmo are accepted. Ms. Klopfenstein will send a reminder via text the day payment is due, confirming the amount.

30 minute lesson = \$26.25 60 minute lesson = \$52.50

If you live within a 10 mile radius of the studio, have 2 or more children taking music lessons, and time permits, Ms. Klopfenstein may be able come to your home for lessons. Please add \$10 driving fee. (Example: 2 students taking 30-minute lessons = \$52.50 + \$10 = \$62.50 each week).

Student Expectations

Students will bring their instrument, music books, and a notebook to each lesson.

Students will do their best to stay focused, listen, and follow directions.

Students will set aside a time every day as “practice time.” Practice carefully and correctly.

Parent Expectations, Learning Plans, and Rewards

Ms. Klopfenstein works with the parent/guardian and student to create a learning plan that is tailored to each student’s age, ability level, learning style, and needs. Assignments for the week are written in the student’s notebook. A practice chart may be requested for added accountability and motivation.

Ms. Klopfenstein believes that the best reward for learning to play correctly is the satisfaction that you created beautiful music. However, she also has a bunch of fun stickers for students to collect as a reward for playing well and staying focused during lessons.

Parent/guardian of a young student, approximately 5-8, will need to help them practice correctly. Practice time will be brief due to their short attention span. Focus should be placed on correct repetition - 5 times a day - as opposed to how many minutes. That being said, a realistic goal is the student’s age, multiplied by 2. If you are not familiar with how to play the specific instrument they are learning or are unable to read music, remember, neither are they. Ms. Klopfenstein will help you and your student understand each weeks lesson and assignments.

Parent/guardians who are not able to be present at the lessons, please pass along this lesson policy to your son or daughter’s caregiver and be sure they are familiar with these expectations.

COVID-19

If learning online, please assist with set-up and be nearby should any issues arise. Please be sure your wifi connection is working properly as learning cannot happen without both audio and visual.

STMS will be Closed for the following Holidays:

Labor Day (9/7)

Fall Break (10/5-10/9)

Thanksgiving (11/25-27)

Christmas (12/21-1/1) Lessons will resume on January 4th.

Success is not Guaranteed - it is Earned

Learning to play an instrument is a huge undertaking and requires time, effort, and patience. It is not easy. Careful and correct practice will not always be fun but it is essential for success. Your son or daughter will experience difficulty, become frustrated, cry, and may even beg you to let them quit. This is normal and should be expected. Understand that what the student wants may not be what is best for them. If quitting is an option, they will. I ask you to be strong in these moments and remind them that anything worthwhile in life is worth fighting for. If they stick with it and keep trying, eventually they will reach a point where they see how amazing music is and they will start to love it.

My goal for each of my students is for them to do and be their best. In the process of learning, they will become more skilled as a musician, and a more confident and beautiful human. I believe that music has the power to change the world. I am looking for students that are willing to learn, work hard, and share their music with others.

At Strings and Things Music Studio, we work together to accomplish these 3 goals:

I will learn.
I will be strong.
I will change the world
With my song.

Thank you for reading this lesson policy and for giving me the opportunity to work with your son/daughter.

By signing below, I acknowledge that I have read and understand the Strings and Things Music Studio Policy and commit to attending lessons for the 2020-2021 school year at the agreed upon day and time. If I am unable to complete the year, I agree to give Ms. Klopfenstein 1 month's notice prior to discontinuing.

Parent/Guardian printed name

Date

Parent/Guardian signature

Date

Please return this printed and signed page to Ms. Klopfenstein by September 8th, 2020. Thank you!!