



GOALS AND POLICIES

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<http://www.simplymusicpiano.com>

It's wonderful that you are considering taking advantage of our wonderful world of technology to learn in the comfort of your own home.

The fundamental goal of Simply Music is to maximize the likelihood of students acquiring and retaining music as a lifelong companion.

The students

1. Experience playing as a natural self-expression;
2. Play a vast repertoire covering a broad array of musical styles and genres
3. Develop the ability to self-generate i.e. the ability to progress independently .This includes music reading, writing, composition, improvisation, arrangement, structure and theory etc.
4. Have a highly self-affirming experience.

Achieving these results requires an **above-average commitment** from students, teachers and parents. Retaining music as a life-long companion for beginners takes several years. Three months is enough time to begin experiencing how well Simply Music supports this goal.

Commitments

I (the teacher) promise to

1. be timely
2. Conduct myself in a professional and courteous manner
3. Always do my best to create and maintain a fun and productive environment for learning, and
4. be responsive and helpful

Students also make commitments – this document is intended to explain them.

This is a REQUIREMENT BASED STUDIO as opposed to a 'request-based'.

The following points are *requirements* of our student/teacher relationship.

Home Practice: maintain a schedule of regular and consistent practice throughout each week. Generally this means 15-25 minutes per day, 5-6 days per week, at the same time of day, including practicing newly assigned material later on in the *day of the lesson itself* to reinforce what has been learnt.

Lesson content needs reviewing WHILE FRESH IN YOUR MIND – in the same day.

Keeping Your Playlist Alive: Students must maintain a playlist as repertoire grows

Student Home Materials: you will be given information to order your own home materials from a student site. You can choose to order digital, hard copy or both. I usually give advance warning so you can budget.

Teacher Absence If for personal reasons or illness I am unable to teach, you will be credited your lesson fee in the following fee period.

Unforeseen Major Absences In the event of major, sudden life events which require a break for a month or more e.g. hospitalization, I will offer some leeway with regard to holding your place in the lesson schedule without payment, at my own discretion

Just before your lesson have everything laid out in an orderly way ready to grab quickly particularly your playlist and notes.

Have my **landline number** ready in case connectivity fails. 0011 61 353596246

Punctuality I recommend you be ready to start 5 minutes before calling in.

Advance notice of an absence via email is appreciated for effective running of the teaching day.

Attendance, Cancellations, Make-ups and Refunds: I am under no obligation to make-up or refund any lesson missed by the student.

HOLIDAYS; If you choose not to pay for your allotted time over the time of the holiday that is a month or longer, and are in a private lesson, I'll assume you are aware of running the risk of losing your spot. A registration fee of \$10 to cover admin time will be payable on return from a break of a month or more where the student has elected not to cover missed lessons.

Some Options for Missed Lessons:

Email me regarding lesson content catch-up if needed

In the case of private lessons you may also wish to *gift* a missed lesson to a friend or family member in situations such as your own holiday. (Many students do this for other students in timeslots either before and after so they can have a double lesson – often most appreciated.)

Understanding the Simply Music Journey Please read and download the curriculum from www.simplymusicpiano.com for keyboard requirements and also so that you are au fait with the entire Simply Music journey. **It's a good idea to browse over this** curriculum at least once a year. This will answer any queries that pop up.

TIP FOR GREAT HOME ONLINE LEARNING have a largish whiteboard with coloured markers handy -there will be frequent suggestions for its use during your time with piano lessons.

Dismissal Regrettably I will have to let go a student if the following occurs – failure to pay tuition in a timely fashion, persistent absences without explanation, persistent lateness, persistent disorganization with home material, uncooperative attitude student or parent, lack of progress due to insufficient practice or unfulfilled requirements. There will be no refunds of tuition fees or materials on termination. (Haven't done it yet!)

Students Leaving: As a courtesy to my schedule, I would appreciate a month's notice indicating your last day.

Fee Scale: Equivalent of \$31 AUD per private lesson, or \$25 group.

Referrals; I offer a free 4 weeks tuition for any new student enrolments which have result from a referral from an existing student.

Instrumental Music Events/Recitals: Over human history music has proven to be a deep avenue of fun, social and group bonding. It is an important part of this program, that all students be part of and commit to some of the events run by this studio and the student body. You are still deeply connected with the studio events even if you are an international student. Piano Parties, Piano Club, home gatherings, busking, Play with a Band etc. All Simply Music students are welcome at all events should you be in our neck of the woods!! You never know! I organise skype, pre- recordings and phone attendance as a possibility. Failing that you will be encouraged to find social playing moments in your own locale.

Online students commit to being opportunistic, sourcing communal playing and piano sharing outside the lesson on a regular basis.

For example this means -

1. taking full responsibility for finding others who will sing / and or hold a melody during the accompaniment program
2. taking full responsibility for finding a duet partner for aspects of the program (the partner doesn't need to be a piano 'expert'). I (Unmani) will guide this aspect.

And it's fun!!!!!!

This policy is amended every year as situations change.

If you are uncomfortable with any detail above, now is the time to mention it.