

BEN SCHENSTEAD MUSIC STUDIO

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CALENDAR AND POLICY SHEET FOR 2017-18

Save This for Reference

SEPTEMBER						
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Grey Shaded areas are no-lesson days.
 Term 1: Sept 5 - Dec 23
 Term 2: Jan 8 - April 30
 16 lessons in each term except:
 Term 1: Mon 14 lessons; Tues & Sat 15 lessons
 Term 2: Fridays 15 lessons
 (*Adjustments in fees will be made)
 Student Recital: Fri, May 4, 2018 (tentative)

TUITION FOR 2017-18

REGISTRATION FEE: \$0.00 PER FAMILY FOR SCHOOL YEAR. For the 2017-18 year, there is no registration fee payable. Printouts of song sheets and tabs will be supplied without charge (does not include regular method books).

Lesson length	Lessons with Ben Schenstead:	
30 min lessons	\$480/term (16 lessons per term, @ \$30.00 per lesson) Payment options: Option A: Monthly Installments by Term: Term I: 4 installments of \$120 dated Sept thru Dec, 2017 Term II: 4 installments of \$120 dated Jan thru Apr Option B: Monthly Installments for entire year: 8 installments of \$120 dated Sept 2017 thru Apr 2018	
45 min lessons	\$720/term @ \$45 per lesson	Term 1: 4 installments of \$180 Sept - Dec Term 2: 4 installments of \$180 Jan - Apr Combined Terms: 8 installments of \$180 Sept - Apr
60 min lessons or 2 family members (saving of \$24/term)	\$936/term @ \$58.50 per lesson	Term 1: 4 installments of \$234 Sept - Dec Term 2: 4 installments of \$234 Jan - Apr Combined Terms: 8 installments of \$234 Sept - Apr

New this year: There are two 4-month terms, with lessons ending at the end of April. The year-end recital is planned for Friday, May 4th. Any makeup lessons can be arranged in the first week of May. Registration fees are waived for this year.

Tuition for each term may be paid in equal monthly installments at the beginning of each month by post-dated cheques or cash, or by Interac e-transfer (please use the email address listed at header of this sheet). Most days of the week

have 16 lessons per term, but adjustments will be made for students whose lesson days fall on those days noted in the above calendar. You are welcome to prepay for a term in advance but a discount is no longer available for this.

If you cannot send post-dated cheques, please forward your cheque dated for the 1st of the month on the last lesson of the preceding month. If you pay with cash, be sure to ask for a receipt from your teacher. If a monthly installment is not received by the 15th of the month a \$5.00 overdue fee may be added. 30 days notice must be given for discontinuing lessons, or in lieu one month's installment tuition.

MISSED LESSONS

The tuition you pay is for your time-slot on your teacher's schedule. Make-up lessons cannot be given for any reasons except the following: when 24-hour notice is given for sickness, or if sudden extreme weather conditions occur. If a student cannot attend the lesson for reasons other than those listed above, the lesson is forfeited.

If the teacher cannot attend a lesson, then it is our responsibility to either: (a) provide a qualified substitute teacher, or (b) give a make-up lesson, or (c) give a credit or refund for that lesson. (Adjustments in lesson fees will be given at the end of each term, or upon termination of lessons.) DO NOT expect make-ups for things such as social activities, extra curricular school activities, family outings, and sporting activities.

HOW LONG DO LESSONS GO?

Although we do not require you to sign term contracts, we ask our students and parents to be committed to taking lessons through the end of Term 2 which finishes at the end of April. This will not interfere with school exams and outdoor recreation. If you are interested in continuing with lessons during the summer, please let your instructor know.

PRACTICE

To make your lessons worthwhile, regular practice is ESSENTIAL. We suggest parents sit down with their children and devise a weekly schedule that includes daily music practicing. For very young beginners (5-6), 20 minutes a day may be sufficient. For most young beginners, however, 30 minutes a day is a reasonable goal. Students who have taken lessons for a while should practice 45 minutes on average. Intermediate and advanced students should practice an hour a day. If you miss a day of practicing due to another commitment, don't worry about it; just practice as usual the next day.

If children make an effort to achieve goals while practicing, they will feel a sense of accomplishment, which in turn builds confidence and self-esteem. Some suggestions:

- 1) When children hear their parents say, "*I want to hear you play*", this helps them to see that others enjoy hearing them play their instruments, and they have an "audience". This is better than saying, "Now's your practice time."
- 2) Sit down with your child and do what you can to help them and encourage them when they practice.
- 3) Have practice time scheduled at the same time each day. This will help your child see that it is an important activity, and part of the normal family routine.
- 4) Use a timer. These inexpensive digital timers can be bought at department or discount stores and provide a time goal for your children to meet.
- 5) A reward incentive for practicing will help motivate your child, such as some privilege or activity they may enjoy. Give plenty of encouragement and praise for any effort or progress shown, and look for opportunities where your young ones can perform for others (family gatherings, BBQ's, school, etc.)
- 6) Television, video games, computers, internet, social networking, etc., all compete for your child's time. Extracurricular school clubs, sports, dance, and other activities, if overdone, can also work against music achievement. If music is being "squeezed out" of your children's schedule, consider limiting or adjusting other activities to allow adequate time and energy for music practice.
- 7) If you are a teen or adult student, schedule practice time beforehand in your weekly schedule, and reward yourself at the end of each week (or day) for meeting that practicing goal. Set independent goals for yourself. Take advantage of opportunities to play your musical instrument for others --they will enjoy it!

Thank you for registering with *Ben Schenstead's Music Studio*. It is my goal to help my students achieve their full musical potential. I feel privileged to share the wonderful gift of music with you and am looking forward to working with you over the two terms. Best wishes to everyone for a great musical year!

Ben Schenstead