

BEN SCHENSTEAD MUSIC STUDIO

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CALENDAR AND POLICY SHEET FOR 2025-26

Save This for Reference

Term 1:

SEPTEMBER							OCTOBER							NOVEMBER							DECEMBER						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6				1	2	3	4							1		1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30					26	27	28	29	30	31		23	24	25	26	27	28	29	28	29	30	31			
														30													

Term 2:

JANUARY							FEBRUARY							MARCH							APRIL						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	4	5	6	7				1	2	3	4
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
25	26	27	28	29	30	31								29	30	31					26	27	28	29	30		

Grey Shaded areas are no-lesson days.

Year-end **Guitar Twang 2026: TBA**

Please note that the Term 2 calendar for Jan - Apr is subject to change.

Term 1: Sept 2 - Dec 23, 2025

Mon - 15 lessons, Tue 15 lessons, Wed 16 lessons, Thur 16 lessons

Term 2: Jan 5 - April 30, 2026 (subject to change)

Mon - 16 lessons, Tue - 16 lessons, Wed - 16 lessons, Thur - 16 lessons

TUITION FOR 2025-26

REGISTRATION FEE: \$0.00 PER FAMILY FOR SCHOOL YEAR. For the 2025-26 year, there is no registration fee payable.

Printouts of song sheets and tabs will be supplied without charge (does not include regular method books).

Fees for the term will be calculated by the number of weekdays that your lesson is on, times the per lesson rate.		
Payment options:		
Option A: Payment may be made for a single term in advance, or		
Option B: 2 - 4 equal installments based on the total number of lessons in the term		
Tuition Fees:		
30 min lessons	@ \$32 per lesson	12 lesson term \$384, 13 lesson term \$416, 14 lesson \$448, 15 lesson term \$480, 16 lesson term \$512.
45 min lessons	@ \$48 per lesson	12 lesson term \$576, 13 lesson term \$624, 14 lesson \$672, 15 lesson term \$720, 16 lesson term \$768.
60 min lessons or 2 family members (saving of \$64/term)	@ \$60 per lesson	12 lesson term \$720, 13 lesson term \$780, 14 lesson \$840, 15 lesson term \$900, 16 lesson term \$960.
90 min lessons or 3 family members (saving of \$80/term)	@ \$91 per lesson	12 lesson term \$1092, 13 lesson term \$1183, 14 lesson \$1274, 15 lesson term \$1365, 16 lesson term \$1456.

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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). The default number of lessons per term is 16 lessons per term, but fees will be calculated based on the number of lessons scheduled for the day of the week your lesson is on. 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. At this time, summer lessons are not offered, but students are encouraged to study and practice over the summer months.

PRACTICE

To make your lessons worthwhile, regular practice is **ESSENTIAL**. We suggest parents sit down with their children and plan a weekly schedule that includes daily music practicing. Sample schedule templates are available from your teacher. 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." Give plenty of encouragement and praise for any effort or progress shown.
- 2) Sit down with your child and do what you can to help them. This could be looking up the weeks assigned pieces or exercises and helping them get organized.
- 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. This could be on your phone or a separate device such as a food prep timer.
- 5) A reward incentive for practicing will help motivate your child, such as some privilege or activity they may enjoy.
- 6) Look for opportunities where your young ones can perform for others (family gatherings, BBQ's, school, etc.). Even small performance opportunities can mean a lot to young people (and older ones as well!).
- 7) 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.
- 8) If you are a teen or adult student, schedule practice time into your weekly schedule, and reward yourself at the end of each week (or day) for meeting that practicing goal. Keep a record of your practicing, and make notes of whether your goals were reached. Continue to set goals for each practice session. Take advantage of opportunities to play your musical instrument for others, whether in person or by sharing videos or recordings of your playing—they will enjoy it!
- 9) When lessons are done at the end of the spring term, plan ahead for your summer months and set some goals for yourself. This can include playing the guitar each week, learning or recording a tune or two, performing for friends or family, exploring new songs, or working on specific guitar techniques.

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!

