

## Private Lesson Policies

Our goal for our Art With Heart Studio (AWHS) private lessons is to provide a fun learning experience for all students! We want to help build the skills and confidence needed to partake in the joy of music making! In order to maximize how many students we are able to take on, and to ensure that our instructors' time is being respected, all private lessons students and their adults must agree to the following guidelines:

### Lesson Fees

#### MEMBERS

##### Full Year Registration:

\$22/30 minutes ~ \$32/60 minutes

##### Per Session Registration:

\$25/30 minutes ~ \$35/60 minutes

#### NON-MEMBERS

##### Full Year Registration:

\$25/30 minutes ~ \$35/60 minutes

##### Per Session Registration:

\$28/30 minutes ~ \$38/60 minutes

*\*New students are subject to a one time \$25 registration fee.*

*\*Students aged 14+ are subject to HST.*

### Payment Schedule

#### PER SESSION REGISTRATION:

100% of your fees are due one week prior to the session start date to hold your spot. If you have registered for a session, you take responsibility for all fees for that session. In the event that session fees are not paid by the due date, your lessons will be paused at your expense until payment is made. In the event that you need to withdraw mid session, *no refunds or credits will be provided.*

#### FULL YEAR REGISTRATION:

Your fees will be split into 3 instalments, based on the number of lessons in each session. Each payment instalment is due 1 week prior to each session start date. If you have registered for the full year, **you take responsibility for all fees for all three sessions.** In the event that the session fees are not paid by the due date, your lessons will be paused at your expense until payment is made. In the event that you need to withdraw from lessons mid year, *no refunds or credits will be provided.* **You will be reverted back to the per session rate and be billed for the difference on all lessons received between Sept. 8th, 2025 to June 5th, 2026.**

If you are unable to pay in one bulk payment please get in touch with us at [info@artwithheartstudio.ca](mailto:info@artwithheartstudio.ca) to discuss alternatives.

If cost is a challenge, you can also apply for an AWHS Get Cre8ive scholarship!

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## **CANCELLATIONS & MAKEUP LESSONS**

So long as the lesson has been cancelled at least 24 hours in advance, students will be offered a makeup credit that can be used towards a makeup group session, or a cancellation slot. Group sessions will be offered on 1 pre-scheduled date per session, and cancellation slots will be opened up on Duet Partner when/if they become available. If you are unable to attend the makeup group session or any cancellation slots, you forfeit the cost of the lesson.

In the event that Art With Heart Studio has to cancel a lesson, we will do our very best to offer a reschedule date. If AWHS is unable to provide a reschedule date you will be offered credit for either a makeup group session or cancellation slot. All credits must be used within the session they were provided.

All cancellations must be done by the participant/participant's guardian via Duet Partner. **Cancellations via email, phone, or text, will not be valid for a makeup credit.** If you need assistance with Duet Partner please reach out and we will do what we can!

## **LENDING LIBRARY**

All students are provided with a loaner lesson book at their first lesson. Students are only permitted to use the book while they remain registered in lessons here at AWHS. In the event that a student no longer wishes to take lessons, the book must be returned by the first day of the next session. If the book is not returned by the due date, or is returned in an unusable state and a replacement must be ordered, the student/parent is responsible for reimbursing Art With Heart Studio for the cost of the book before being allowed to register for future AWHS programs.

## **PRACTISING & ADULT EXPECTATIONS**

While music is a fun experience that many will carry with them for years to come, one only gets out of music what they put into it. As teachers, above all else, we strive to help students develop a loving and healthy relationship with music but it is important to note that learning a musical instrument takes *practice*. Most children lack the maturity to accept the responsibility of building good practice habits, which is where YOU come in! We would love for our students' adults to work with them on establishing a healthy practice routine. This way we can set our young musicians up for success and they'll get the most out of their lessons!

**Please read our Practice Guidelines on pages 3&4!**

As an additional note: If your child practices on an acoustic piano at home, it's important to keep it in tune to the best of your ability. We often hear "But it doesn't sound like this on my piano!" which typically stems from practising on an out-of-tune piano. It can be very confusing and frustrating for students when their music sounds different at home than at their lesson. Acoustic pianos should be tuned at least once a year. If you don't already have the name of a piano tuner, we would be happy to provide the name and number of ours!

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## GENERAL PRACTICE GUIDELINES

### How important is practising when learning an instrument?

While music is a fun experience that many will carry with them for years to come, one only gets out of music what they put into it. As teachers, above all else, we strive to help students develop a loving and healthy relationship with music. But it is important to note that learning a musical instrument *takes practice*. **Lesson time is** for learning something new, and getting assistance with any troubles that came up during home practice so that the student can progress. **Lesson time is not** for practice. If students do not practice at home, often what happens is the teacher ends up re-teaching the previous lesson.

**Parents & Guardians:** It is important to set good practice habits & routines from the very beginning! Most children lack the maturity to accept the responsibility of establishing a healthy practice routine. We hope that you will carefully look over this document & assist your young musician at home! This way we set young musicians up for success and they get the most out of their lessons!

#### **BEGINNER**

15 - 20 minutes/day, 3 - 4 times a week

#### **INTERMEDIATE**

30 - 45 minutes/day, 4 - 5 times a week

#### **ADVANCED**

60 - 90 minutes/day, 5 - 6 times a week

#### **PROCESS**

1. Start with some technique! Whether that's playing an exercise or two, a couple of scales, etc. Songs are made of technique, so if your technique is solid, your songs will be too! The more advanced the player the more technique exercises you should warm up with.
2. Play something that you've learned previously and can play to refresh your memory and get in the groove!
3. Play the song you're currently learning from start to finish.
4. Practice any spots that are giving you trouble, or that you couldn't play smoothly or without pausing.
5. Play the song once again from start to finish.
6. Repeat steps 3 - 5 until you've made it through any assigned songs. Then close out by playing a couple things just for fun!



Great for  
guitar &  
ukulele!

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## PIANO PRACTICE GUIDELINES

### RECOMMENDED TIMES:

#### **My First Piano Adventures**

10 min/day  
3 times/week

#### **Primer Level**

10 min/day  
4 times/week

#### **Level 1**

15 min/day  
3 times/week

#### **Level 2A**

20 min/day  
4 times/week

#### **Level 2B**

30 min/day  
4 times/week

#### **Level 3A**

45 min/day  
4 times/week

#### **Level 3B**

45 min/day  
4-5 times/week

#### **Level 4**

60 min/day  
5 times/week

#### **Level 5**

60 min/day  
6 times/week

### PRACTICE STRUCTURE:

#### **My First Piano Adventures to Primer Level:**

1. Warm up - check your technique sheet and pick one checked off item to run through (a scale, chord, etc.)
2. Warm up - pick a song you've learned from earlier in your book and run through it!
3. Play your new song 3 times!

#### **Level 1 - 2A**

1. Warm up - check your technique sheet and pick 2-3 checked off items to run through (scales, chords, etc.)
2. Warm up - pick a song you've learned from earlier in your book and run through it!
3. Run through your song(s) & note any tricky spots. Go through and practice the tricky spots until they get easier. Then play your whole song from start to finish again! Do this for each song you are currently working on mastering.

#### **Level 2B to Level 3B**

1. Warm up - check your technique sheet and pick 3-4 checked off items to run through (scales, chords, etc.)
2. Warm up - pick a song you've learned from earlier in your book and run through it!
3. Run through your song(s) & note any tricky spots. Go through and practice the tricky spots until they get easier. Then play your whole song from start to finish again! Do this for each song you are currently working on mastering.
4. Play something you like just for fun!

#### **Level 4 to Level 5**

1. Warm up - check your technique sheet and pick 5-6 checked off items to run through (scales, chords, etc.)
2. Warm up - pick a song you've learned from earlier in your book and run through it!
3. Run through your song(s) & note any tricky spots. Go through and practice the tricky spots until they get easier. Then play your whole song from start to finish again! Do this for each song you are currently working on mastering.
4. Play something you like just for fun!

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