

## Terms and Conditions for weekly lessons with Dara Black

Students are expected to practice/study/complete homework as assigned every week. A reasonable rate of progress is expected. If practice/study/homework is not being completed regularly and progress is not being made the student may not be offered a place in the next term.

### *Fees:*

- Fees are to be paid in full at the beginning of each term. Should a student wish to discontinue lessons in the middle of term, fees will only be refunded once and if their place can be filled by another student
- Lessons are non-transferrable - places are assigned to a particular student with a particular goal. Should that student be absent or wish to discontinue another student may not take their place unless this has been agreed upon beforehand.

### *Lesson cancellations:*

- If I cancel a lesson I will arrange to make it up at a time that suits the student. The lesson will be considered to have been made up if two or more agreed rescheduled lessons are cancelled by the student at short notice (less than seven days in advance).
- If the student cancels any lesson, I am not obliged to make it up. If ample notice is given, I will endeavour to rearrange that lesson with the student if there is a time that suits us both.

### *Role of the Parent:*

Parents are very welcome to observe or take part in the lesson so as to enable them to better assist the student with their practice at home. Assistance with practice at home is necessary, especially for young students, for the first term. After this, parents should ensure that their child practices (ideally at a set time each day) but assistance can be minimal – I encourage students to take charge of their own practice time from a very early stage.

Each student is given a practice journal in which weekly practice/assignments is written during the lesson. I also use this journal to communicate with parents (lessons to be rearranged, if more practice is needed, information on upcoming events) and ask parents (especially parents of primary school students) to check the journal each week.

### *Theory:*

Students of piano/recorder learn theory of music. Theory is very important when learning an instrument as it teaches a better understanding of music and musical notation. Usually, theory takes place within the lesson from beginner to Grade 1. I offer free 45min theory class for Grades 1-5. Theory is compulsory for students under the age of 12 and I strongly recommend that theory is continued after that.

Dara

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