



8 Hampton gardens avenue,
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Studio Policy

2021-2022

Daily Practice

Every student is expected to practice regularly. It is better to practice each day rather than once or twice a week for a long time. Daily practice develops good habits and a routine, and will develop skills immensely. Practising habits are evident through each lesson. Teaching helps, but only becomes effective through individual practice! My recommendations are as follows:

Ages: 4-7	15 minutes a day
Ages: 8-11	30 minutes a day
Ages 12 and up	60+ minutes a day

Of course everyone is different, so this guideline may be slightly modified. Perhaps a child will need to increase to 45 minutes a day before moving up to 60 minutes, for example. A practice should help build routine. Consider practising every day before school, or right after school, or right after dinner. Another helpful idea is to split the practice time in half, practising once in the morning and once in the evening. Morning time is by far the best time to practice! Be creative and always come to me for more helpful practicing tools and ideas!

Parent's role in developing good practice habits cannot be overestimated. It is often the parents who keep their children motivated and focused on the task. Parents are strongly recommended to monitor student's daily practice and homework completion on a weekly basis.

Make Up Lessons

Your lesson time is reserved just for you. A student who does not attend a lesson will miss the benefits of that lesson time. If a student arrives late to a lesson, lesson will still end at the scheduled time. **There will be no make-ups or refunds for lessons missed due to student's absence.** I will use that time to plan for the student's progress.

I of course understand emergencies do happen. I will do my best to accommodate such request and reschedule to make up for that missed lesson, but I cannot guarantee a reschedule. Please try and always give at least **24hours notice** if a lesson is going to be missed.

Lessons missed by the instructor will be rescheduled at another time agreeable to both the student and the instructor.

Tuition and fees

- **5 lesson block** paid in advance on the first lesson of the five. A lesson time is reserved for the student each week whether or not the student attends. Your tuition pays for this scheduled time. Tuition covers not only the actual lesson time spent with the student, but time preparing for each student as well.

Rates for the lessons are as follows:

€20 for a 30-minute lesson

€30 for a 45-minute lesson

€40 for a 60-minute lesson

- Cash and cheques are accepted. Cheques should be made payable to "Joana Ruskyte".
- You **will not be charged** for lessons cancelled by the music teacher.
- You **will not be charged over the school holidays.**
- Piano Studio's academic year is September to end of June each year. Summer months are July and August. The minimum requirements for summer months are **four** classes to save the spot for coming academic year.

Registration fee

A non-refundable registration fee of €25 per student is due at the time of registration for each academic year. This contributes to the cost of printing, materials, method books, sheet music (except exam books).

Health and Safety

Please wash or disinfect your hands prior to each lesson.

To protect the health of all involved, students who are ill or who have an ill member in their household are asked to stay home from lessons. Do not attend your lesson if you are even mildly ill, have sniffles, or are coughing. If the student is only mildly ill, a virtual lesson can be held in place of an in-person lesson. Students who arrive ill will be sent home. Notify the instructor beforehand to arrange a virtual lesson. If the student is experiencing allergies that cause repeat sneezing or coughing, please wear a mask.

Student and Parent Responsibilities and Expectations

Students must:

- Have an acoustic piano or digital piano with 88 weighted keys available for daily practice.
- Have a metronome or access to a metronome app.
- Arrive promptly to lessons with all musical materials.
- **Practice a minimum of five days a week** for an amount of time deemed appropriate by the instructor.

Parents must:

- Ensure the student is practicing routinely and assist when needed.
- Purchase exam books. (If taking exams with RIAM)
- Tend to the upkeep and tuning of the instrument (acoustic pianos need 1-2 tunings per year)
- Students should be picked up promptly at the end of the scheduled lesson time.

Additional information

- All fees paid are non-refundable.
- A €10 late fee per week will be applied to any late payments.
- One month notice is required for termination of lessons.
- The instructor reserves the right to terminate lessons based on failure to meet the terms of the studio policy.
- The studio policy is subject to change. Rates are reviewed every 12 months.