



## 2026-2027

**PLEASE RECORD THESE IMPORTANT DATES IN YOUR FAMILY CALENDAR.**

**FAQ's such as "Do we have lessons next week? When's vacation? Can the teacher reschedule our lesson?" are all answered in this policy letter**

### Lessons run Sept. 15 – June 10, EXCEPT:

- November 24 - November 26
- December 22 - January 4
- February 23 - 25
- April 27 - 29
- 2 teacher cancellation days *if needed* (TBD)

### Important Dates to remember

- December 12 10 AM Christmas Play-in (American House – Keene)
- May 22 10 AM (at TMK Studio) Duet Day – @ TMK
- May 1 \$45 Recital fee due per family
- June 6 4 PM Annual Spring Recital & Potluck
- Lessons end on June 10, 2025 (Summer session 7/13 - 8/17)

**Communication:** Group texts will be used for frequent announcements. Unless you have an emergency, please avoid texts or calls during lessons.

**Tuition:** Tuition is payable in 10-equal monthly installments, from September through June by check or cash, the first lesson of the month. (Checks may be written to Katharine Bednar, please, *not*, The Music Kit).

**Scheduling:** Please check your schedule carefully before committing to your lesson time as switching spots later is problematic due to my very full program. - Unfortunately, I will not be able to help with rescheduling lessons. If a scheduling conflict prevents you from attending your scheduled lesson, you may change your lesson time by directly contacting another family. (Those who are comfortable sharing their numbers will have them posted in the storageroom at TMK); you may copy or photograph this list but please do not share numbers publicly. The TMK policy is also listed on the website <http://themusickit.org/>

Lesson times are fixed for the year and missed lessons are nonrefundable. Typically, lessons can be maintained in the instance of a hand injury, where additional skills can be practiced such as other-handedness, theory, sightreading, etc.

**Attire:** No hats or hoods to lessons. Girls, please clip or tie hair/bangs back so I can see your face. Modest, semi-formal attire is required for performances. Financial assistance for recital attire is available for those in great need who notify me (or KHKC) before May 1.

**Attendance:** Families are always encouraged to visit other students' lessons before and after lesson times for duet playing, showcasing newly polished pieces, confidence building and two-for-one learning. Please consider arriving early or staying after your lesson for this purpose. Missing greater than 3 lessons per semester will result in a hold on lessons until routine attendance can be established.

**Weather:** During inclement weather, lessons will be held by phone: 1) Please send a photo of your assignment book, 2) All Music you're studying, and 3) Have a pencil handy for notetaking and marking of Music. Phone lessons are for winter-weather conditions only.

**Practice:** Behind every successful student is a supportive family, with parents who communicate often with the teacher, set up practice routines, expose the student to wholesome music, and encourage the student often. Students should practice a minimum of 6 days per week; whenever possible, go over new material right after the lesson, where 30% more learning takes place. Also, when possible, complete your Saturday practices before leaving the house for play dates or embarking on your day! Missing just one practice day per week results in nearly 1 ½ months of practice missed per year!

**Listening:** Students will receive great benefit from listening to good quality classical and folk music and attending local performances whenever possible.

**Lessons:** Please come to your lesson on time, and if needed, set a weekly reminder to bring all lesson materials to every lesson. Parents are encouraged to ask questions during the lesson, but please leave reminders and corrections to the teacher. Please do not take video recordings during lessons without permission. (Thank you!)

**Plan the Week:** Progress in music study requires proper habits, equipment, and materials at the lesson and at home:

#### Lesson readiness – bring to each lesson

All Music Books  
Student's assignment notebook  
Canvas bag or carry sack  
Parent's full attention to lesson  
Phones away except for extreme emergencies

#### Valuable Home-Practice points

Quality tuned instrument  
Seat and feet height same as lesson – VERY important!  
Adequate lighting  
Routine practice time  
Shortened fingernails and clean hands

I'm excited to see how your playing and confidence will improve this year . . . Parents, thank you for entrusting me with your child's music study!