

CORNERSTONE

CHRISTIAN ♦ ACADEMY

POLICIES AND PARENT INFORMATION LETTER CORNERSTONE CHRISTIAN ACADEMY APPLIED LESSONS PIANO STUDIO

Dear Cornerstone parents,

We are excited to offer **private piano lessons** as part of our Fine Arts program at Cornerstone Christian Academy. If you are interested in enrolling your child piano lessons, please read the following information carefully and fill out the interest form and return it to Mrs. Plate. At this time, we anticipate more interest than available spots, so we will be in contact with you as we determine placement and schedules.

PAYMENT: Lessons will be contracted per semester/summer sessions. When you sign up for lessons, you are committing to an entire semester/summer of lessons. Lessons are given weekly for 30 minutes (the summer session is abbreviated). There are some weeks during the school year when there will be no lessons (school holidays, major programs, etc.) Lessons are \$560 per semester, paid to Cornerstone, and the full amount is due the first day of school for the first semester and the first day of the second semester. You may also choose to take lessons in the summer. Summer lessons are \$260 and are available on Wednesday & Thursday afternoons. Payment for summer lessons is due the last day of school. During the 2015-16 school year, piano lessons will be offered before school (7:30 a.m.) and Wednesday & Thursday after school. Once you enroll in lessons, you will be given a calendar of specific lesson dates. **Please make note of payment dates and be prompt with your payment. You will be billed through Renweb.**

POLICIES:

1. You must have an instrument to practice on at home. It does not need to be a top of the line instrument. When choosing a keyboard, please make sure the KEYS are full size. The KEYBOARD does not have to be a full 88 keys as the standard piano. If you can purchase a keyboard with weighted keys, even better, This allows the student the ability to play loud and soft, and generally gives the “feel” of a traditional piano. If you have a piano, you will want to make sure it is tuned. These things will make the experience much more pleasurable for your child!
2. Regular practice is the key to success. As with any skill, a child cannot learn to play an instrument if he/she does not practice regularly. Please work on setting a practice time with your child, just as you would for their homework. Lessons are a wonderful experience when steady progress is being made. A beginning student should plan to practice 20 minutes per day, 4-5 times per week.

3. Students need to bring a 1” binder to the first lesson. Each week, the assignment for the week will be placed in the binder. Students will also record their practice time on the assignment page. This is also a great place for correspondence to and from the parents/teacher. Make sure you check the binder each week.
4. Music books will be supplied by your teacher and you will receive an invoice for payment each time books are given to the student. The invoice will be placed in the binders and is due the very next lesson. If the books are not paid, lessons will be suspended until the music is paid for.
5. Cornerstone has a policy of no make-up for missed lessons. Just like dance classes, baseball practices, games and other activities, while it is unfortunate to miss a lesson for another activity, the teacher is under no obligation to make up your lesson. However, if the TEACHER cancels a lesson, it will be made up.
6. Cornerstone has a no refund policy. Please understand that you are committing to a full semester of lessons. When you are assigned a day and time, the teacher has committed that time and will most likely be unable to fill the spot.
7. Please be prepared and come to school on the day of your lesson WITH YOUR BOOKS. It is important that all students have the “tools” they need on their lesson day. If a child consistently comes to their lesson without their materials, lessons may be suspended. This is a great opportunity to work on those organizational skills!
8. Please be on time for your lesson. If you do not arrive on time, the teacher cannot guarantee a full 30 minute lesson.
9. There will be opportunity for recitals and performances. Music is meant to be shared! Additionally, preparing to perform a piece in front of others motivates students to refine and polish their skills.

COMMUNICATION:

1. The teacher will do everything possible to keep you informed of your child’s progress. Please read the weekly assignment page. Help your child keep track of their practicing. Please make note of any questions or concerns.
2. Aside from the weekly binder, email will be the best form of communication regarding scheduling and day to day questions. HOWEVER, if you have a concern about your child’s progress, etc. email is NOT the best way to communicate. Please call the teacher or come in during the lesson to set up an appointment.
3. Please inform the teacher as far in advance as possible if you will miss a lesson. **If your child is sick on their lesson day, please email Mrs. Plate ASAP.**

MUSIC IS FUN!! The goal of the piano studio at Cornerstone is develop a lifelong enjoyment of making music and help students discover their God-given gifts and passions. And, there is a ton of research out there that links participation in music lessons to better brain health, better math skills, higher levels of achievement, and better problem solving skills. Additionally, music fosters creativity, individuality, self-discipline and commitment. The list goes on! We are excited to offer our students this opportunity as we grow our Fine Arts department.

For additional information, please contact Mrs. Laurie Plate at:
lplate@cornerstonecougars.net