

Welcome to Hanford's Piano Studio

Handbook

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Components of Hanford's Teaching



Background

As a child, I **worked** through my graded exams until one day, I decided that **piano playing** was what I wanted to become **great** at. I continued my **studies** and obtained a Bachelor of Music with Honours at the Sir Zelman Cowen School of **Music**, as well as a Master of **Teaching** from the Melbourne Graduate School of Education. Attaining **successes** like the Joan Earle Classical Prize (Monash) and USCI International Gold Award (Malaysia) helped fuel my desire to continue **improving** while **performing** with orchestras like the Monash Academy Orchestra (2018) and Australian International Opera Company (2016) **grew** my performance confidence. After more than a **decade** of teaching **experience**, I can understand and work with a **diverse** range of students and parents. Currently, I am the **treasurer** for the Victorian Music Teachers Association and the 2024 Australasian Piano Pedagogy Conference.

Connection

Developing honest, friendly, and respectful **relationships** with my students and their families is **important**. These kinds of relationships allow me to have candid **conversations** with you and your child so that we can work **together** as a team to set and achieve **goals**, discuss and share concerns, and motivate each other to do our **best** work. Becoming a part of my **studio** means growing and achieving together.

Why Learn?

Learning to play the piano greatly **supports** brain development and offers a multitude of benefits including **building** proprioceptive and abstract **thinking** ability, developing **discipline** for goal attainment, and gaining insight into a longstanding **culture** of sound, movement, and art. Moreover, it is very **enjoyable** to be able to play the piano!

How We Progress

One-to-one **coaching** is the core component of learning to play the piano at my studio where a **rubric** is used to measure and guide improvement. During these **weekly** sessions, we focus on acquiring playing **technique** and **repertoire**. Additionally, there are optional weekly sessions to advance theory knowledge, monthly digital **concerts** with social games for fostering **community** and musical **appreciation**, excursions to live classical concerts, and a termly studio recital. A points-based system rewards progress and is my way of **reinvesting** into my students and their families.

Private Lessons

\$1400 per term (Grade 6 to Grade 8)

\$1200 per term (Grade 3 to Grade 5)

Weekly 60-minute One-to-One Coaching

Discover musical perspectives and learn to play the piano

Online Portal

Access feedback, recordings, rewards

AMEB Exam Preparation

Achieve formal milestones and target progress

Lesson Time Slots

Mondays

4pm (Sophia)

5pm (Michelle)

6pm (Isaac)

Tuesday

4pm (Lucas)

5pm (Leo)

6pm (Austin)

7pm (Emma)

Wednesdays

4pm (Chris)

5pm (Jocelyne)

Thursdays

4pm

5pm (Melissa)

6pm

Fridays

4pm (Elias)

5pm (Girish)

6pm

Group Theory Classes

20-week Grade 1 AMEB course

\$650 per student

Saturdays 8am – 9am

*Includes AMEB workbook and AMEB exam enrolment

20-week Grade 2 AMEB course

\$650 per student

Saturdays 10am – 11am

*Includes AMEB workbook and AMEB exam enrolment

The above courses run on the following dates:

1. 20 April
2. 27 April
3. 4 May
4. 25 May
5. 1 June
6. 8 June
7. 15 June
8. 22 June
9. 29 June
10. 20 July
11. 27 July
12. 3 August
13. 10 August
14. 17 August
15. 24 August
16. 31 August
17. 7 September
18. 14 September
19. 21 September
20. 28 September

Extras

Private Lesson fees + \$150 per term

Group Theory fees + \$150 per term

Studio Recital

3pm-4pm, final Sunday each term

Perform for others and grow your confidence

Theory Time

9am-10am, Saturdays weekly

Dedicated time for completing theory work

Digital Concerts

2pm-3.30pm, first Sunday each month

Casual listening with in-studio social games

Live Concerts

Selected and shared via email before term starts

20% off student ticket

10% off one parent ticket

Agreements

Theory Homework / Piano Practice

- Daily, spaced, focused, goal-oriented piano practice is recommended.
- Theory homework should be completed each week to stay on track.
- Update/check-in with Hanford during the week via the portal as desired.

Student Absences

- No makeup, credit, nor refund.

Teacher Absences

- Makeup, credit, or refund options will be provided.

Book and Exam Costs

- Included as part of the enrolment fees.
- Book swapping system in place.

Fee Schedule

- Fees paid upfront upon enrolment confirmation via invoice.
- Points can be used to offset costs for next enrolment. Please ask.

*** Handbook details may be modified at any time. Issued invoices are unaffected by changes.*