

Hello there,

Welcome to Hanford's Piano Studio

2023 Enrolment Information

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How Hanford supports students to excel



Program and Lesson Information

The main ingredients for playing the piano are imagination and refined muscle control. My role is to help your child develop these skills in a safe and welcoming environment.

2023 Education Services	Piano Program	Piano Lessons
Music Mentoring <i>Explore how music and life connect</i>	✓	✓
Weekly Private Coaching <i>Learn to play the piano at your own pace</i>	✓	✓
Online Portal <i>Access feedback, recordings, missions, and rewards</i>	✓	✓
Exam Preparation <i>Achieve milestones with experienced guidance</i>	✓	✓
Theory Club <i>Think and speak like a musician</i>	✓	
Performance Workshops <i>Develop powerful coping skills</i>	✓	
Cultural Excursions <i>Experience the arts in Melbourne city</i>	✓	
Holiday Fun Days <i>Unwind after each term with creative activities</i>	✓	
Upfront fees per school term (based on 10 weeks)	\$1800	\$1200

Music Mentoring

Helping students develop a musical lens for understanding the world is paramount to my philosophy about quality music education so this is a core aspect of my personal service to you and your child. Over two and a half decades of music training has led me to appreciate the world through diverse perspectives which have proved useful to me so I wish to help others discover these powerful concepts for themselves. Sometimes, students get down about things happening in their lives. When this happens, observing with a musical perspective can often broaden and create new understanding.

Weekly Private Coaching

Weekly sessions provide live contact time between me and the student so that we can evaluate the progress that has been made each week to help decide what the next steps should be. Progress can be evidenced in different ways such as playing more fluently, learning new musical terms, or understanding how to reproduce a rhythm correctly. Similarly, progress can be made through various activities like sight-reading, improvising, theory and cultural study, ear training, and piano playing. There is a lot that we can do in our weekly lessons.

Online Portal

This is the place for lesson playbacks, weekly feedback, and more. Completed missions are stored on your profile and give evidence of work through *engagement with extension activities*. Asking questions thoughtfully via the conversation box gives evidence of work through *showing initiative for learning*. Consequently, the accumulation of points gives an overall idea of how much work has been done.

We all look for evidence to help us feel confident in our current level of achievement. A powerful form of evidence is the feeling of music in our bodies. However, short term rewards act as milestones while pursuing the deeper, intrinsic joy that comes from years of piano progress.

Exam Support

Exam experiences are another form of evidence. With a scientific attitude, you also appreciate that the interpretation of evidence is important. Exam experiences can always be interpreted constructively to motivate improvement. Imagine how you and your child might use exams as a way to experience growth and develop a more nuanced understanding of piano playing.

Theory Club

Music theory gives us tried-and-tested ways to think about music. Being able to understand musical structures and elements gives students the freedom to create in their mind. Mind creations are essential for refined piano playing so theory is an extremely helpful factor. Theory club covers content from the Victorian Music Curriculum (<https://victoriancurriculum.vcaa.vic.edu.au/the-arts/music/curriculum/f-10>). Group learning, games, and individual book work will be juggled in 10 to 20 minute intervals.

Performance Workshops

Music performance develops students' self-regulation skills. Being able to direct our mind and behaviour in stressful situations gives us an advantage because calm, clear thinking is critical for succeeding against life's challenges. Performance workshops introduce practical skills such as breath control, muscle relaxation, and positive self-talk which give students opportunities to practice and become adept at applying these skills. Students also view and discuss a selection of videos from expert musicians all over the world.

Cultural Excursions

Experiencing music and other arts in places beyond the classroom grows students' understanding of what culture means in the modern world. This change of environment allows students to explore diverse perspectives which contribute to development of creativity and sensitivity, including awareness of self and others.

Holiday Fun Days

Children work very hard to keep up in a world run by adults so they need lots of support and space to unwind from the stresses of learning. I have discovered that most of my students love working with their hands and building things so *creating* will definitely be a part of our programs. Spreading activities over two days allows us to explore more projects as well as have more time to enjoy the activities. Fun Days will feature applied fitness strategies, creative challenges, and food making experiences.

Want to start learning?

Get in touch and let's meet for a chat!

Best wishes,
Hanford

Piano Program Schedule

Term 1 2023 Dates	Activity and Time	RSVP
30 Jan – 5 Feb	Home visits and planning discussions	<i>Please request</i>
Sunday 12 Feb	Theory Club <i>2pm – 3.30pm</i>	<i>No need to RSVP</i>
Sunday 19 Feb	Excursion: Mary Poppins <i>11.30am – 5.30pm</i>	<i>Before 19 Jan 2023</i>
Sunday 26 Feb	Performance Workshop + Theory Club <i>1pm – 3.30pm</i>	<i>No need to RSVP</i>
Sunday 12 Mar	Theory Club <i>2pm – 3.30pm</i>	<i>No need to RSVP</i>
Sunday 19 Mar	Excursion: Monet and Friends <i>1pm – 5.30pm</i>	<i>Before 19 Jan 2023</i>
Sunday 26 Mar	Performance Workshop + Theory Club <i>1pm – 3.30pm</i>	<i>No need to RSVP</i>
10 – 11 Apr (Mon + Tue)	Holiday Fun Days <i>9am – 4pm each day</i>	<i>Before 19 Jan 2023</i>

Studio Policies

Practice

- Students are encouraged to practice every day and to use the weekly feedback as a guide to develop their own practice styles.
- Frequent, short, and focused practice produces enjoyable progress.
- Students are encouraged to update/advise Hanford during the week using the online Conversation Box.

Student absence (lessons)

- You can request to reschedule for any reason, up to the moment of your lesson time.
- Reschedules will be offered within the term and only if there is availability to do so.

Student absence (activities)

- 80% credit provided (i.e. \$480 if you miss all ten activities).
- There are 4 theory club sessions, 2 performance workshops, 2 excursions, and 2 holiday fun days each term.

Teacher absence

- 100% credit or refund provided (i.e. \$120 per lesson and \$60 per activity).

Holiday Fun Days Snapshot

Term 1 (Monday and Tuesday)

Students get active outdoors and connect to nature. Listening thoughtfully to the sounds around them enriches their experience of life and creative improvisation exercises develops confidence!

Day 1	
9am-10.30am	Picnic preparation (sandwiches, salad, drinks, fruit).
11am-12.30pm	Soundwalk (Currawong Bush Park, 20min drive). Find sounds while exploring and imagine a piano version of it. Write down your ideas for an improvisation activity at the studio later.
12.30pm-1.30pm	Picnic lunch.
2pm-3pm	Show and Tell improvised piano soundscape from the sounds you heard on the walk.
3pm-4pm	Free time for games and puzzles.

Day 2	
9am-12pm	Watch a nature documentary. Choose something from the documentary to paint with acrylic.
12pm-2pm	Sushi and miso soup preparation and lunch.
2pm-3.30pm	Piano improvisation on each other's paintings.
3.30pm-4pm	Free time for games and puzzles.

Term 2 (Monday and Tuesday)

Students work together to put on a puppet show, combining creative storytelling and instruments made using simple materials!

Day 1	
9am-12pm	Homemade instruments (flute, reed, maracas, tambourine).
12pm-2pm	Inventive stir fry and split pea soup lunch.
2pm-4pm	Learning about creating a puppet show. Write a short puppet play. Start making puppet characters.

Day 2	
9am-12pm	Finish puppet characters and props.
12pm-2pm	Taco lunch.
2pm-4pm	Video record puppet story with improvised piano soundtrack and creative instruments (yesterday).

Term 3 (Monday and Tuesday)

Students dive into the ancient practice of "playing the bones", now known as spoon playing, and combine it with modern hip hop storytelling in the form of rap!

Day 1	
9am-11am	Learn to play spoons.
11am-1.30pm	Lasagne lunch.
1.30pm-4pm	Movie.

Day 2	
9am-11am	Write a rap to tell the story of yesterday's movie.
11am-1.30pm	Emma's favourite beef noodle restaurant.
1.30pm-3pm	Record a performance of the rap accompanied by spoons.
3pm-4pm	Free time for games and puzzles.

Term 4 (*Sundays during the term*)

Students transform a creative story into piano music and present a concert to demonstrate their learning and progress after a year of lessons and practice!

Day 1	
9am-9.30am	Choose an unfinished short story and read it.
9.30am-11am	Transform the English story into a piano fantasy and add your own ending using music.
11am-1pm	Puttanesca pasta and garlic bread.
1pm-3pm	Continue composing your piano fantasy.
3pm-4pm	Share a draft performance of your piano fantasy.

Day 2	
9am-10am	Train to city.
10am-12pm	Rock climbing at Hardrock CBD.
12pm-2pm	Lunch in the city.
2pm-3pm	Train to studio.
3pm-6.30pm	Free time (home or nap/dinner/shower at studio).
6.30pm-7.30pm	End of year showcase.