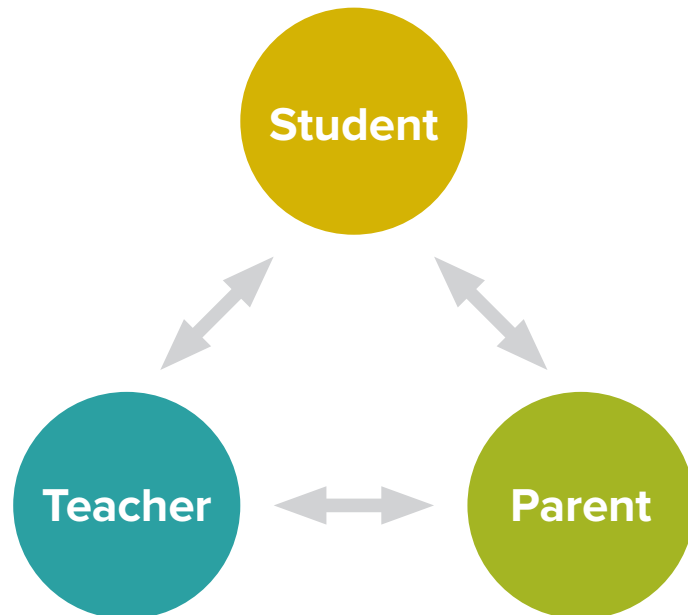


The success of your child's music education in the Junior Music Course relies on there being good communication between the student, parent and teacher.

Please speak to your teacher if ever you have any educational questions or concerns, or even just to provide some positive feedback!



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# WELCOME TO THE JUNIOR MUSIC COURSE



## A GUIDE FOR PARENTS

**You and your child are about to begin on a wonderful music journey together in the Yamaha Junior Music Course (JMC). The information below will help you to understand about the very important role which you will be playing in your child's music education and will give you guidelines and suggestions on how you can assist your child in their lessons and at home.**

## **In the Lesson**

- It is a requirement that one parent or adult guardian attends every JMC lesson with their child and remains in the classroom for the duration of the lesson.
- No siblings (younger or older), or any other children not enrolled into the class are permitted in the classroom.
- Please show how much you are enjoying the lessons and how much you are enjoying the music. Young children naturally imitate their parent's behaviour so this will greatly assist in your child also enjoying the lessons.
- Make sure that you are always listening carefully to what the teacher has to say—your child will also reflect this behaviour and will also listen to the teacher attentively.
- Please do not repeat the teacher's instructions to your child. Your child will develop the habit of not listening to the teacher as they know that their parent will just repeat any instructions given to them. Your teacher will confirm again any instructions that not everyone has followed or remembered, but this is impossible to do if there are 10 parents all talking at the same time.
- It is important that the children begin to develop some independence and not wholly rely on their parents doing everything for them. For example, please let your child try to find their starting hand position on the keyboard by themselves—do not automatically place their hand in the correct position. Your teacher will visually confirm that everyone is ready before starting to play.
- Never use your phone in class to check emails, text messages, Facebook etc. This is showing your child that you do not find the lessons to be interesting and so they will also think that the lessons are not interesting.

## **At Home**

- In the early stages, the most important thing is to help your child to develop a habit of playing the keyboard every day. At the beginning, the music might seem so easy that you feel that your child does not need to review and confirm what they have learnt in class, but it is still important to start establishing a regular practise routine – even if they play for just 1 minute each day.
- In Junior Music Course, home practise is always reviewing and confirming what has already been learnt in the lesson. Please encourage your child by asking them questions like *“Do you remember how your teacher asked you to play this part of the music?”* Always be positive and remember that some things may appear easy to you but could be quite challenging for your child and take a little time to be able to master.
- Ensure that you provide a suitable environment for your child to practise. Have the keyboard easily accessible (no child will feel motivated to practise if the keyboard has to be constantly pulled out from under the bed or taken out of a cupboard) and away from distractions like the television, younger siblings etc.
- Please do not go ahead in the textbooks and try to “teach” anything new to your child from the textbooks.
- Encourage your children to listen to the CD and watch the DVD as often as possible. This will help your child to really enjoy listening to music and will help your child with internalising all the pieces, which will greatly assist with their learning in class.