



Private Lesson Studio Policy Aiden Schnell, Guitar

Intro, Teaching Philosophy, and Goals:

Hello! And thank you for considering working on your musical journey with me! I have worked to create a method of teaching that is based on patience and collaboration. I feel that these foundational concepts are crucial to teaching as they require the teacher to have great respect for the students musical journey, and the collaboration is then geared towards a mutual understanding of the experience of music and allows the teacher to gently guide the student based on their expertise. I am also aware that for every person wanting to learn music, there is a near equal number of ways in which a person best interprets the necessary information, so I see it as my job to work with the student to figure out how to best aid them. Throughout my time teaching, I have taught musicians at nearly every level, and at many different ages: young children, folks in their retirement years, and some in between. I consider it a strength of mine that I am able to communicate with all kinds of people and I feel very comfortable doing so, and in fact enjoy it.

Required Materials:

- Notebook, pencils, metronome/tuner, water bottle, flat-pick (Guitar/Mandolin) and fingerpicks (banjo)

Syllabus:

Students will work on learning songs and instrumental tunes. Theory and sight reading will be taught through the learning of these tunes.

Student Responsibilities:

- **Practicing:** Students should practice a minimum of 15 minutes a day. For more rapid growth an hour of purposeful practice is recommended.
- **Recitals:** Students who elect to participate in recitals will perform music that is agreed upon and prepared during lesson time.
- **Exams:** At the end of each semester I will assess what the student has learned as a means to plan what we will work on during the next semester.
- **Music Theory:** I will expect students to learn applied music theory and practice such concept through exercises that I will provide.

Recommendations for Parents:

I will be providing a detailed weekly practice time checklist, so if your child is having trouble organizing their practice time, then you can aid them by referencing this list.

To Get in Contact:

If you need to contact me, you can reach me by phone or text by calling 269-487-6470. Text will be the best option for a rapid response. If your concern requires a longer explanation then you can feel free to call me. If I do not answer please feel free to leave a message. You can also email me at schnellaiden@gmail.com. You can expect to hear from me within the same day as long as you contact me before 8 o'clock at night. I am available 7 days a week, but please understand that I lead a busy schedule and may have to set sensible boundaries for myself regarding contact outside of work, that being said, I want to make myself as available to you as possible.

How to report a student absence: Please contact the WCMS main office by calling 781-721-2950 – you may leave a message at any time and the message will be date & time stamped. You may also email the school at wcms@winchestermusic.org Absences reported 24 hours in advance of the lesson time are considered an excused absence. Less than 24 hours in advance are unexcused absences.

WCMS Make up Policy: One excused absence from private lessons will be made up (per semester) if a student has a commitment that conflicts with a scheduled lesson. A student absence must be reported to the WCMS office 24 hours in advance to be considered an excused absence. There are no make-ups for classes or ensembles missed by the student. All lessons, classes and workshops missed because of teacher absence or school closing will be made up. Make-up lessons may be given during or between semesters. Make-up lessons missed by a student for any reason will not be rescheduled or refunded.

Health and Safety: For updates about the WCMS response to COVID-19, please refer to the COVID-19 page of our website (<https://www.winchestermusic.org/covid-19-information>)