

BEGINNER PIANO PROGRAM

Overview



PAIGE ESHUIS

Contents

01 WELCOME



02 YEAR ONE



03 CURRICULUM



04 WHAT WE WILL COVER THIS YEAR



05 PRACTICE EXPECTATIONS



06 PERFORMANCE OPPORTUNITIES

ABOUT ME

I started piano lessons when I was 10 years old, 23 years ago. What began as a childhood lesson became a lifelong love, a classical and church background that shaped the way I hear and experience music.

These skills unlocked something in me that nothing else could, a creative, capable side that I believe our screen-saturated world is quietly stealing from our children. I started Reclaimed Hands Studio because I want every child to have the chance to discover that side of themselves.



01

WELCOME!

Thank you for allowing me to work with your child this year.

I believe early musical experiences shape not only skill, but confidence and discipline as well, and it's a privilege to be part of their musical beginnings.

My goal is to provide a warm, encouraging environment where students feel safe to learn and make mistakes while also building strong foundational skills, focus, and a genuine enjoyment of music.

In this first year, we will move steadily and intentionally. The focus is on proper technique, early music reading, rhythm development, and building the confidence to play independently. Rather than rushing ahead, we will focus on mastering the basics I believe strong fundamentals in the beginning make everything that follows more natural and enjoyable.

I am truly excited to share music with your child this year. Learning to play the piano opens up an entirely new world, one of creativity, expression, discipline, and joy, and I look forward to watching that world unfold for them, one piece at a time.

02

YEAR 1 GOALS

By the end of the first year,
student will be able to:

01

Read beginner-level
music on the treble and
bass staff

02

Maintain steady rhythm
in 4/4 and 3/4 time

03

Play hands together in
five-finger positions

04

Demonstrate basic
dynamics (loud/soft)

05

Perform 1-2 recital
pieces confidently

06

Practice independently
with guidance

03

CURRICULUM STRUCTURE

We will primarily use:

Faber Piano Adventures – Primer Level

This method provides structured, age-appropriate progression in reading, rhythm, and technique.

Lessons are 30 minutes weekly and include:

- Technique & hand position
- Rhythm development
- Staff reading
- Repertoire study
- Review & reinforcement

04

WHAT WE WILL COVER THIS YEAR

Fall Term

Months 1-3

- Finger numbers & hand position
- High vs. low sounds
- Quarter & half notes
- Middle C reading
- Basic rhythm counting

Winter Term

Months 4-6

- Treble & bass clef introduction
- Five-finger C position
- Hands together playing
- Whole notes & rests
- Simple recital preparation

Spring Term

Months 7-9

- Expanded note reading range
- Basic dynamics
- Stronger left-hand coordination
- Eighth notes
- Performance confidence

Late Spring Term

Months 10-12

- C 5-finger scale
- Smooth transitions between hands
- Longer beginner pieces
- Spring recital performance

05

PRACTICE EXPECTATIONS

Consistent practice is essential
for progress.

Recommended practice:

- 5 days per week
- 10–15 minutes per day

Students will receive clear weekly
assignments to guide home practice.

06

PERFORMANCE OPPORTUNITIES

Students will have:

- One informal winter performance
- One spring recital

Performance builds confidence and gives students meaningful goals.

My Teaching Philosophy

In my lessons, I value:

- **Steady, structured progress** – Children thrive when learning feels clear and predictable. We move forward gradually, making sure each new skill feels comfortable before adding something new.
- **Clear guidance for practice** – I aim to make practice expectations simple and manageable so families feel confident supporting progress at home.
- **Gentle, encouraging correction** – Learning music naturally includes mistakes. I guide students patiently, helping them grow in discipline while still feeling supported and capable.
- **Confidence built through small successes** – Completing a piece, reading a new note, or keeping a steady rhythm are meaningful milestones. Celebrating these moments helps students develop pride in their work and a lasting love for music.

Every child progresses at their own pace. The goal isn't to rush ahead, but to help each student feel secure and comfortable as they grow. When the basics are strong, confidence follows naturally.