

TUITION POLICY 2026

Tuition and Payment

- Tuition fees are based on a standard 30-minute private lesson rate of \$49 for regular students. Casual 30-minute lessons are charged at \$55. Longer lesson durations (e.g. 45 or 60 minutes) are also available and are priced proportionally based on the 30-minute rate. Most students find 30-minute lessons suitable, but extended sessions can be arranged depending on individual goals and level. Lessons are billed monthly based on a commitment of 40 lessons per year.
- This 40-week schedule aligns with the Queensland state school terms.
- I do teach on public holidays, and these lessons form part of the regular 40-week teaching year. Please keep this in mind when planning holidays or family events — if you're unable to attend a public holiday lesson, a make-up may be arranged (within the usual rescheduling policy).
- I am generally available during school holidays for make-up or additional lessons.
- Casual lessons are available on request and subject to availability. They are not generally scheduled during regular teaching hours, and casual students do not hold a reserved weekly time slot.
- Accepted payment methods: cash or direct deposit
- Timely payment is appreciated. Repeated late or missed payments may result in lessons being paused until the account is settled.
- Tuition covers all lesson preparation, ongoing progress tracking, access to supplementary materials, and in-lesson support.
- Please note: Exam fees and event participation costs (e.g. competitions, masterclasses) are billed separately as needed.

Missed Lessons and Rescheduling

- One in-studio lesson per term may be rescheduled due to illness or pre-arranged absences (e.g. school camps, specialist appointments).
 - For planned absences, please give at least one week's notice.
 - For illness, provide as much notice as possible.
- As a sign of courtesy and fairness between student and teacher, I also reserve the right to reschedule one lesson per term in the event of my own illness or unavoidable conflict.
- All rescheduled lessons must be completed within the same calendar year, unless otherwise arranged.
- In cases of student or teacher illness, lessons may be moved online at the usual time with at least one hour's notice via text.
- Online make-up lessons can be used as often as needed, provided notice is given.
- It is the parent's/student's responsibility to request a make-up lesson. If no request is made, it will be assumed that no make-up is required.
- Make-up lessons are offered as a courtesy and are subject to availability. Unused make-ups do not carry over.

Communication

- The best way to contact me about absences, rescheduling, or general enquiries is via text message.
- Please provide as much notice as possible so I can manage the studio schedule fairly.

Student Materials and Practice

- Students must bring all relevant books and materials to each lesson.
- Regular practice between lessons is essential – frequency and duration will vary depending on age and stream, but consistent effort is key to progress.

Recording and Photography Policy

With parent and/or student permission, occasional lesson or recital video recordings and photographs may be taken for educational or promotional purposes. These are used respectfully to celebrate student progress and share studio activities.

Lessons may be audio recorded for teaching, quality, and record-keeping purposes. These recordings are stored securely, remain private, and are not shared.

Scheduling and Discontinuation

- Students are expected to maintain a regular weekly time slot throughout the year.
- If you intend to discontinue lessons, please provide at least four weeks' notice so I can adjust scheduling and billing accordingly.

Compliance and Safety

Daniel McFarlane holds a current Queensland Working With Children Blue Card and is a registered member of the Queensland Music Teachers' Association. The studio is appropriately insured for private teaching and events. A current Child and Youth Risk Management Strategy, updated annually in accordance with QLD requirements, is available upon request.

Lesson Environment and Inclusivity

- A calm, respectful environment helps all students thrive. Disruptive, aggressive, or unsafe behaviour may result in lessons being paused or discontinued if necessary.
- Daniel welcomes students with mild to moderate learning, attentional, or physical differences, and works to create a supportive learning space tailored to each individual's needs.
- To ensure lessons run smoothly and safely, please disclose any behavioural, learning, or medical conditions that may affect lesson participation. This allows us to plan appropriate strategies and supports from the outset.

Tuition Streams

I offer three tailored approaches to suit each student's goals and interests:

1. Professional Stream: A comprehensive program covering practical, technical, theoretical, and aural training.

- Students are expected to participate in exams, concerts, and competitions.
- Repertoire includes all major periods of music history.
- Practice commitment: 5-7 days/week, 20-120 minutes (age-dependent)

2. Semi-Professional Stream: A flexible but structured approach with emphasis on practical skills and optional theory/aural work.

- Repertoire is largely student-led.
- Students are encouraged to participate in exams, concerts, and selected competitions.
- Practice commitment: 3-7 days/week, 15-60 minutes

3. Piano for Enjoyment: An interest-led and relaxed learning stream guided by individual goals and musical taste.

- Participation in performances or exams is entirely optional.
- Practice commitment: 3-7 days/week, 10-60 minutes

Please feel free to get in touch if you have any questions or would like to discuss which stream is the best fit.

Warm regards,
Daniel McFarlane

