

Pearl Public Schools - Private Percussion Lessons

Policies and Lesson Agreement

Matt Little
mattlittle1@gmail.com
mlittle@pearl.k12.ms.us

Dear Student/Parent/Guardian,

The following information explains the policies of the private percussion lesson studio of the Pearl Public Schools. If you are interested in this great opportunity for your child, please fill out the contact information and lesson agreement form and have your child bring it to me anytime during the normal school day. Once I receive the completed document, I will contact you about scheduling.

Thank you,
Matt Little

Policies

Teachers

All lessons for high school students will be taught by me.

All lessons for junior high school students will be taught by high school percussionists that I've selected on the basis of their achievements in the Pearl Band and their ability to simplify information and relate to students in an efficient manner. I take this very seriously and I don't let just anyone teach lessons.

Instruction Rates:

Twelve (12) dollars per thirty-minute lesson from Mr. Little

Ten (10) dollars per thirty-minute lesson from selected Pearl High School students

Lesson Location

The location for all lessons taught after school will be the Fine Arts Wing/Band Hall of Pearl High School. The location for all lessons taught before school will be the Band Hall of Pearl Junior High School.

Payment Policy

Payment for each lesson should be made at the beginning of each lesson every week. I want to be as accommodating as possible to each family's financial situation, but if a student's payment is delinquent by two weeks, then that student's time slot may be given away to another student.

Your student will be given an envelope at their first lesson. This envelope will contain a list of lesson dates/times for the month and notes on student progress, possible concerns, overpayments, delinquent payments, etc. Please be certain that your child brings this envelope to each lesson and does not leave the lesson without it.

Checks for lessons with me should be made out to Matt Little. If your child is taking lessons from one of my high school students, I would prefer that you pay by cash, but if you must pay by check, please make it payable to your child's teacher.

If there is a cancellation, your account will be adjusted accordingly.

Cancellation Policy

Please notify me of any conflicts that you have with your weekly lesson time as soon as you can. If last-second notifications become habitual, it may be necessary to begin having the student pay for lessons on a monthly basis.

In the event that the teacher cancels a lesson with less than twenty-four hours' notice, the very next lesson will be free.

Student Expectations

Students will be responsible for bringing the following items to all of their lessons:

1. Lesson folder/binder with notebook/loose-leaf paper.
2. Pencil
3. Sticks/mallets (of teacher's choosing)
4. Practice pad (of teacher's choosing)
5. Method books (of teacher's choosing)

If these items are not acquired by the fifth lesson, then the student's lesson time slot may be given away.

Additionally, students should also have the following items at home, as they are crucial to effective practice and improvement:

1. Full-length mirror to observe stick movement, posture, consistency
2. Metronome (Recommended: Boss DB-30 or DB-60)
3. Fifteen-inch (15") ruler for checking stick heights

Most importantly, the student **must** be able to practice for at least thirty (30) minutes a day, for a minimum of five (5) days a week. Percussion is a physical activity and muscles have "memory". That muscle memory will never develop if the student's practice habits are intermittent and unreliable.

You can't train for a marathon by simply running for a few hours the day before the race!

Contact Information and Lesson Agreement

Student Name: _____

Parent/Guardian Name(s): _____

Best Contact Phone Number: _____

May we communicate by text message? _____

Email: _____

Please sign below, where appropriate.

I have read and agree to adhere to the policies and guidelines as outlined in this document.

Student Signature

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

