

Riverside Music Together Policies and Procedures

Photo Release: Riverside Music Together may take photographs and video recordings of your child, or you, or both of you together, and use them in printed or electronic formats for advertising and educational purposes. Please notify your teacher if you wish not to have your child's image used on our website or print advertising.

During Class:

- **Please keep class musical by talking as little as possible.** Talk and socialize before and after class. Give your child and everyone in our group a special chance to be musically focused for an entire 45 minutes. Your child only needs guidance if they are doing something unsafe (and in that case it's okay to use words!)
- **Fully participate!** You are the primary role model for your child - and all of the children in class. They will learn from you. If you commit to singing, dancing and playing your children will learn that making music is fun!
- **Allow your child to form their own style in class.** Some children will quietly observe while others need to move. Allowing them to move and explore freely allows them to learn most effectively.
- **For safety reasons, please do not allow your child to run in class:** Most children can understand this rule between the ages of 16 months and 2 years. We understand that our children are "works in progress." We don't expect them to behave perfectly. The best way we've found to enforce no running is to remind them of the rule before each class, and let them know that if they run in class, you'll have them take a break by stepping out for a few moments. Then every time they run, gently remove them from the room without talking or reprimanding. We are happy to talk about this, and can also help by speaking to your child in a "trialogue" including you, before or after class.
- **Set phones to vibrate and keep them in your bag.**
- **Please give snacks before class.** If your child gets hungry during class, please take them out of the room for a snack. Breastfeeding and bottles are OK!
- Please put all mouthed instruments into the wet box. Mouthing is an important part of young children's exploration and it is okay.
- **Minimize photography/video:** We allow for occasional photography/filming of your child. However most of our class time needs to be focused on music making and your child. Please keep it from being a distraction from class.

- If your child has had fever, vomiting or diarrhea in the last 24 hours, do not bring them to class. You can use a make-up and we are flexible about extra make-ups due to sickness.

At Home:

- **Listen to your CD! Repeat!** Enjoy the activities in your songbooks and ideas from class.
- **Start a musical ritual:** Sing a lullaby, dance, beat on some pots and pans! Make up new lyrics to our songs!
- **Every semester for 3 years you get a new CD and songbook.** This enriches learning in class and at home.

Make-ups and Cancelled Classes:

- **Make-ups:** You are allowed 2 per semester. Schedule them yourself on the website or with me, and contact me if you need an additional make-up or if you have any trouble.
- Class may be cancelled due to weather, teacher illness or other unavoidable circumstance. If a class must be cancelled, we will do our best to extend the semester by a week. If that isn't possible, you can do an extra make-up in another class.

Bringing Others to Class:

- **Adult caregivers are welcome at any time.** Please read and explain these guidelines to them before they come. We request that if possible visitors participate rather than watch.
- **Siblings and friends age five and over** may visit occasionally.
- **Siblings and friends age four and under** may visit up to two times. We may make exceptions if you're really in a pinch for childcare.
- **Donations are appreciated when visitors come to class. All donations go toward our scholarship fund.**
- **Refer a new friend** and you *both* get \$15.00 off the semester!
- **Like us on Facebook!** Get research on music and child development and more! A link is on the homepage of our website. Please upload your photos/videos and leave comments on our Facebook page!

#1 Most important guideline:

Have fun!! Your authentic enjoyment of making music is the most influential factor in your child's music learning.

Questions or concerns? **ALWAYS** feel free to contact me or speak with me after class. Email riversidemusictogether@gmail.com or call 316-461-1385.