

# symonspiano

## Teaching Policy

July 2023

### Lessons / Timetabling Matters

Chris teaches primarily around the Farnham area, within an eight mile radius subject to availability and logistics. All lessons take place at the students' homes.

Students can either commit to a regular weekly or fortnightly slot or take ad-hoc lessons, subject to availability / timetabling.

### Financial Matters

Chris teaches within an eight mile radius of Farnham and lessons are charged at a rate of;

**£37 per hour lesson.**

**£21 per half-hour lesson.**

**Note:** All fees include Chris' travel time and fuel costs.

Consecutive lessons at the same address (for example, siblings having a half-hour lesson each during the same hour) are charged at the hourly rate.

Lessons can either be paid for on a lesson-by-lesson basis or in pre-paid blocks of five lessons. These pre-paid lessons can be used at whatever rate the student wishes (weekly, fortnightly, ad-hoc, etc.). Chris will give a reminder during lesson four of a block that the block of lessons is nearly up. Lessons can be paid for by cheque, cash or bank transfer.

Lessons missed with less than 24 hours notice are charged at the full rate, as are late arrivals. If students who have a weekly or fortnightly lesson are regularly unable to commit to their usual time, they may be asked to move to lessons on an ad-hoc basis. If for any reason Chris needs to reschedule a lesson, he will always try to give at least 48 hours notice.

In addition to lesson fees, students will need to buy their own books. When students enter for exams the fees must be paid in one lump sum by Chris so will need to be reimbursed.

### Teaching

The direction in which the teaching goes will always be agreed between Chris and the student, with the student's wishes, goals and enjoyment being paramount. Chris will teach students with a view to progressing through grades if they so wish, although he is also happy to teach those wanting to play just for enjoyment.

Chris will always recommend material, exercises, and practice techniques to support the student's musical and technical development, as well as pieces and composers to listen to in order to develop greater musical awareness and appreciation.

Although Chris respects the fact that his students' lives can be busy (whether it's school, work, extra-curricular activities, other pastimes, children or grandchildren!), it is essential that a regular practice schedule be maintained by the student. Practice makes perfect and practice makes progress.

## Safeguarding Matters

Chris carries a fully enhanced (and completely clear) DBS disclosure. When teaching children (under 16s) at their own home, Chris requires a parent / guardian to be present at the property. This is a safeguarding requirement to cover the welfare of both the young person and Chris.