



# CATHERINE'S STUDIO

*"Nurtured by love" teaching sound, heart, mind and soul*

38/31 Langport Pde Mudgeeraba 4213  
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0466 512 811

## Studio Policy 2020

### *About the Studio*

With previous experience in school contexts, Catherine is currently a new full-time mum, specialising in the Suzuki Method in her home studio in Mudgeeraba. Catherine upholds a strict level of discipline and pedagogy though delivers her expectations in a structured, compassionate, fun and intuitive manner.

Catherine has received her training as a professional classical musician by the QLD Conservatorium, Griffith University and furthered her musical pedagogy training with the Kodaly Institute of Music Education Australia (KIMEA), the Australian String Teachers Association (AUSTA), Colourstrings Australia and the International Suzuki Teachers Association. To uphold her qualification as a Suzuki teacher, Catherine commits to ongoing world-class professional development and pays membership fees to the many informative associations listed above.

For families joining the studio, Catherine's expectations following the Suzuki Method are as below:

- ❖ Observation of other student lessons → to prepare the student and parent prior to commencing lessons
- ❖ Daily Listening to pieces → to develop the ear
- ❖ Parental Involvement/ Engagement → to best encourage and support children
- ❖ Memorisation of pieces → to develop the skills of discipline, perseverance and mastery
- ❖ Attendance of occasional group lessons → for observation of others and social motivation
- ❖ Practise with other musical parts → for development of timing and ensemble playing (other instruments or backing track)
- ❖ Regular Practice Routine → for the development of muscle memory
- ❖ Participation in Performances → to motivate and encourage the mastery achieved

### *Lesson Venue*

**38/31 Langport Pde Mudgeeraba 4213**

The studio is located in the residential complex “Somerset Views” which will require you to ring “38 bell” on entry. **Please do not follow cars in the complex as the bell will notify Catherine of your arrival.**

Please park in the designated “visitor parks” marked with a white “V” opposite the house. Please do not park on the street and call if unsure.

As you are expected, please come into the house and sit in the waiting area. Please feel free to keep your shoes on.

### *Lesson Fees*

Current lesson fees are: **\$35 for 30min, \$52.50 for 45 min and \$70**

- Payment is via bank transfer either **prior** to the lesson or during the lesson to the below account. Please send a copy of the receipt via text immediately after each transaction.

Account Name: Catherine Goldspring

BSB: 084 899

Account Number: 121 722 288

- Lesson duration depends on the individual however on average, half hour lessons are recommended for beginners and primary school children whilst intermediate students should opt. for longer lessons to cover more theory and musicianship elements. Please check every now and again, if the lesson time is enough for the student as this may be hindering the progress of the student if not suitable.

- Bulk Payments are gratefully received as a sum of 10 lesson credits to be used within a term. Cancelled lessons within a term can be used during the holidays, or as a secondary lesson during the week if cancellation policies are adhered to. These payments are not refundable and must be agreed upon prior to payment.

- Group Lessons, graduation fees and concert fees will mostly be payable to Catherine who will organise and forward to the relevant bodies in a lump sum with the combined Studio total to participate/run. Please do not be late with such payments as this delays the entire process of organising an event. Payment will secure your spot in the event so please organise it as early as possible. On average, about \$20 can be budgeted for such events which will cover tuition, venue hire and often an accompanist. Invoices will be administered as required.

### *Punctuality*

- Lesson times must be strictly adhered to e.g. 5:15-5:45 as there are often plans before and after, e.g. other students/rehearsals etc.
- If *running late*, a text informing me is appreciated. The full lesson fee will still be charged despite not providing the full lesson time, as the time would have been spent waiting for you. If possible the missed lesson time will be made up but it is not always the case and should not be expected.
- It is a good idea to come 5 minutes earlier and sit outside in the waiting area and set up and tune to not use up lesson time.
- If quite *early* please also do not expect to be taught until the arranged time.

### *Cancellation*

Please let Catherine know of your cancellation 12 hours prior to the arranged lesson otherwise the full lesson fee will be charged. This is as the time has already been set-aside for you and cannot be rescheduled on short notice.

It is possible also for Catherine to cancel or reschedule your lesson time, but with the same amount of minimum notice. If a foreseeable lesson is to be cancelled or will require rescheduling, where possible, at least a weeks' notice will be given.

### *Communication*

Due to varying lesson times, communication is vital in this lesson arrangement

- Both parties must ensure communication between them is prompt and clear
- Unless it is a regular time; a confirmation text from the studio will often be sent to the student before the lesson
- Text is preferred but emails and phone calls are welcome for any queries

### *Media*

Please let Catherine know if you do **NOT** wish for photo/videos of your child to be posted on the Studio media platforms such as the website or Instagram which are for the public.

There is also a closed portal on the studio website for studio families only which you may be happy to disclose photos/videos on but not to the public.

### *What to buy/bring to lesson*

Prior to commencing, the student should have their own **quality** instrument, bow, rosin, stand, suitable chair, music book, recordings and notebook.

The following retailers are recommended suppliers for instruments, accessories and books. Catherine's preferred shop for instruments is Animato Strings in Brisbane, however, please consult Catherine before shopping as there are specific set-ups that are preferred for her students.

<http://www.dalsenostudio.com/> (Nerang- please call and check opening times)

<https://animato.com.au/> (Online/Brisbane)

<http://www.simplyforstrings.com.au/> (Online/Brisbane)

<https://www.violins.com.au/> (Online/Sydney)

The Suzuki Method will use books 1-10 and the accompanying CDs, averaging about \$20 a year (though certainly more than one book/level can be achieved within a year depending on the effectiveness and regularity of practice). There are also supplementary books to be budgeted for at various points of development which will be recommended by Catherine. Please be prompt to organise these books- please check the edition before purchasing. At times, Catherine may order the book or have it in stock to invoice you directly.

Recordings are recommended to be purchased on iTunes and loaded onto portable devices for easy access for listening in the car, or home speaker. Youtube also offers many great resources and play-a-longs or tutorials which can offer visual assistance during practice however regular aural training without visual prompts are important.

It is vital to the effectiveness of the lesson that all materials are brought to lessons. In the case that something is not brought, with notice, Catherine can *lend instruments, books or use the lesson for a theory or musicianship lesson*. Please do not cancel lessons if possible as this is Catherine's primary source of income and her outgoings towards professional development, memberships and resources do not reduce simply by your cancellations. There are plenty of elements to learn without certain materials.

### *Initial Consultation*

During the initial consultation, **only the parent** is to attend. The Suzuki Method is about ensuring the success of the student by creating the right environment and assisting the development of character required as all students that quit simply do so because of a lack in support, motivation, skill (lack of a developed ear, reading issues, poor sound) or character quality (such as discipline, patience and perseverance). These are elements that all music teachers should teach and monitor however often are not able to provide in the short 30mins a week hence the Suzuki structure was developed as a wholesome way to keep parents accountable at home and in partnership with the teacher.

Evidently, the responsibility of the parent in this Method is greater and may not be appealing for all parents hence the assessment of the parent is required prior to commencing. If as a parent, you are truly interested in giving your child the opportunity to flourish on the cello- the investment is truly recommended and the journey together is undoubtedly rewarding.

In the past, Catherine has taught cello to many pupils of different abilities, backgrounds and goals however she is now selectively journeying only with serious families who will to commit to the artform wholeheartedly and not drop out due to preventable insufficiencies in their environment.

*Please bring this printed policy to the initial consultation to discuss with Catherine.*

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Sign to agree to the terms of Catherine's Studio \_\_\_\_\_