

# *New Bern Christian Academy*

*2911 Old Cherry Point Rd.  
New Bern, NC 28560*

Dear Parents,

On behalf of the music program of NBCA, we would like to welcome you and your child to our music program. Music is a wonderful tool that can be used for worship of our great God. It is our goal to teach music in a way that the child will fall in love with it. There are a few details that I would like to make you aware of before the first music lesson.

There will be lessons offered from September to the end of the school year. The monthly tuition of \$60 is to be paid the first week of every month to the business office.

Private music lessons begin the week of September 6. Music books will be given in the first lesson and will be assigned by the teacher. The method books are very important and your child must bring them to every lesson. The student must also bring a 3-ring binder to all lessons.

In addition, your child is required to practice an assigned amount of time and it is the parents and child's responsibility to see that his practice time is met weekly. We ask the parents to sign their child's practice sheet every week to keep them aware of the child's practice and for him to have the responsibility of practicing.

During the spring, there will be a Spring Recital and your child is required to participate. This is a great opportunity for the student to demonstrate his skills and improvement for the year. We ask that parents attend this recital to support their child.

With this letter, there is a list of procedures that you will need to go over together with your child. You must both understand that taking private music lessons is a responsibility and these requirements must be fulfilled.

We are truly looking forward to teach your child about how wonderful music is and how to play music successfully.

Sincerely,

Meagan Berry  
Music Chairman

# *NBCA Music Handbook*

## **I. Introduction**

The Music Program of New Bern Christian Academy would like to welcome you to the music program. It is our desire that your child will grow in love for music and ultimately use it to serve our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. The goal of the music program is to teach techniques and skills that will better the student in the area of music.

This handbook is a presentation of the requirements the student is expected to observe during the year. These guidelines are to be carefully looked over with both the parent and student together so they both understand this is a year commitment. NBCA's music program is held to a high level of excellence, and we ask that our students do their part and strive to do their best throughout the year. Through this handbook, you and your child will better understand our expectations of our students and the commitment you are making.

## **II. Piano Lessons**

Piano lessons are offered to students in grades 1 – 12. Lessons will be offered during the normal school hours Monday through Friday. The cost of music lessons is \$60 per month, and must be paid to the school office. Parents play a vital role in the music lessons of the child, which is why we ask the parents to encourage their child not to quit piano until the school year has been completed. Music is a great way to serve the Lord, and it is our goal to teach the student that music is worship. We ask that each parent read the following guidelines with the student so both the parent and child understand their commitment to piano lessons this year.

**Be on time for each lesson:** This lesson time is reserved specifically for you. When you are late, you miss valuable time that is necessary for you to improve your skills in piano.

**Make-up Lessons :** Make-up lessons are given for reasons such as sickness, doctor appointments, or death in the family, but *the music teacher must be notified by 8:30 a.m. the day of the lesson.* Lessons will also be made up for personal vacations if notified *one week* in advance to the teacher.

**Music Notebook:** Students need to follow their weekly assignment sheet and record their practice time for each day. **The student is to bring a 3 ring binder to the first lesson and all following lessons.** In order to be aware of the child's assignments, the parents should look at their child's notebook after the lesson. This notebook will allow the parent and student to see

how the student has progressed throughout the year and will be aware of the new assignments for the upcoming week. Parents are required to sign their child's practice sheet each week. This signature affirms that the parent and student have read the practice sheet and the student has practiced the amount of time indicated in his notebook.

**Practice Time:** Practice time at home is critical in learning to play the piano. Piano practice must be done daily and made a priority like any other school homework. Practice time is not just playing the piano. Practice time is only counted when the student plays exactly everything that was assigned by the teacher for that week. Playing for fun is wonderful for the student and encouraged but cannot be counted for practice time.

**Spring Recital:** The Spring Recital is held every year in May. All students are required to participate in this recital to demonstrate how they have progressed throughout the year by performing. This recital is a dressy affair for the students. Boys are to wear a dress shirt, tie, dress pants, and dress shoes. Girls should wear a tea-length dress. Failure to perform in the recital will result in dismissal from the piano program the following year. The importance of the recital cannot be stressed enough. This is for the student to show how hard he has worked through the year and gives him the success of performing publicly.

**Piano Probation:** A notice will be sent home with students who do not reasonably comply with the basic requirements of piano practice or consistently forget their books. After this, their lesson time will be reviewed by the NBCA music faculty. Piano probation will be given to the student, and if significant progress is not seen, the student's enrollment in piano lessons will be terminated. Piano probation will never be given to the diligent student who remembers to practice and strives to do his best in every lesson!

**Practice Requirements:** Beginner students must practice 15 minutes at least five times a week and then will be moved up to 20 minutes five times a week when notified by the teacher. Intermediate and Advanced students must practice 30-45 minutes at least five times a week.

***Amount of practice time will be determined by the teacher and written in the music notebook of the student.***

### **III. Voice Lessons**

Voice lessons are offered to students in grades 6 – 12. Lessons will be offered during the normal school hours Monday through Friday. The cost of music lessons is \$60 per month, and must be paid to the school office. Parents play a vital role in the music lessons of the child, which is why we ask the parents to encourage their child not to quit voice until the school year has been completed. Singing is a great way to serve the Lord and it is our goal to teach the student that

singing is worship. We ask that each parent read the following guidelines with the student so both the parent and child understand their commitment to voice lessons this year.

**Be on time for each lesson:** This lesson time is reserved specifically for you. When you are late, you miss valuable time that is necessary for you to improve your vocal skills.

Please bring a water bottle to each lesson.

**Make-up Lessons:** Make-up lessons are given for reasons such as sickness, doctor appointments, or death in the family, but *the music teacher must be notified by 8:30 a.m. the day of the lesson*. Lessons will also be made up for personal vacations if notified *one week* in advance to the teacher.

**Music Notebook:** Students need to follow their weekly assignment sheet and record their practice time for each day. **The student is to bring a 3 ring binder to the first lesson and all following lessons.** In order to be aware of the child's assignments, the parents should look at their child's notebook after the lesson. This notebook will allow the parent and student to see how the student has progressed throughout the year and will be aware of the new assignments for the upcoming week. Parents are required to sign their child's practice sheet each week. This signature affirms that the parent and student have read the practice sheet and the student has practiced the amount of time indicated in his notebook.

**Practice Time:** Practice time at home is critical in learning to sing. Vocal practice must be done daily and made a priority just as homework is. Practice time is not just a singing time. Practice time is only counted when the student sings exactly everything that was assigned by the teacher for that week. Singing for fun is wonderful for the student and encouraged, but cannot be counted for practice time.

**Spring Recital:** The Spring Recital is held every year in May. All students are required to participate in this recital to demonstrate how they have progressed this year by performing. This recital is a dressy affair for the students. Boys are to wear a dress shirt, tie, dress pants, and dress shoes. Girls should wear a tea-length dress. Failure to perform the recital will result in dismissal from the voice program for the following year. The importance of the recital cannot be stressed enough. This is for the student to show how hard he has worked through the year and allows him the success of performing publicly.

**Voice Probation:** A notice will be sent home with students who do not reasonably comply with the basic requirements of voice practice or consistently forget their books. After this, their lesson time will be reviewed by the NBCA music faculty. Voice probation will be given to the student, and if significant progress is not seen then the student's enrollment in voice lessons will be terminated. Voice probation will never be given to the diligent student who remembers to practice and strives to do his best in every lesson!

**Practice Requirements:** Voice students must practice 30 minutes at least five times a week.

*Amount of practice time will be determined by the teacher and written in the music notebook of the student.*

#### **IV. Band Instrument Lessons**

Band instrument lessons are offered for grades 3-12. Lessons will be offered during the normal school hours Monday through Friday. The cost of music lessons is \$60 per month, and must be paid to the school office. Parents play a vital role in the music lessons of the child, which is why we ask the parents to encourage their child not to quit his instrument until the school year has been completed. Music is a great way to serve the Lord, and it is our goal to teach the student that music is worship. We ask that each parent read the following guidelines with the student so both the parent and child understand their commitment to instrument lessons this year.

**Be on time for each lesson:** This lesson time is reserved specifically for you. When you are late, you miss valuable time that is necessary for you to improve your music skills.

**Make-up Lessons:** Make-up lessons are given for reasons such as sickness, doctor appointments, or death in the family, but *the music teacher must be notified by 8:30 a.m. the day of the lesson.* Lessons will also be made up for personal vacations if notified *one week* in advance to the teacher.

**Have the Proper Instrument:** It is vital for the student to have an instrument that is in good working condition. The student is required to have his instrument no later than the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of his lessons. Many sites online sell good quality instruments as well as local pawn shops. The music teacher will be available to help the parents in the purchasing of an instrument for the student. Please understand that the instrument will be costly but it is an investment for your child.

**Bring your instrument every week!**

**Music Notebook:** Students need to follow their weekly assignment sheet and record their practice time for each day. **The student is to bring a 3 ring binder to the first lesson and all following lessons.** In order to be aware of the child's assignments, the parents should look at their child's notebook after the lesson. This notebook will allow the parent and student to see how the student has progressed throughout the year and will be aware of the new assignments for the upcoming week. Parents are required to sign their child's practice sheet each week. This

signature affirms that the parent and student have read the practice sheet and the student has practiced the amount of time indicated in his notebook.

**Practice Time:** Practice time at home is critical in learning to play any instrument. Practicing must be done daily and made a priority like any other school homework. Practice time is not just playing the instrument. Practice time is only counted when the student plays exactly everything that was assigned by the teacher for that week. Playing for fun is wonderful for the student and encouraged but cannot be counted for practice time.

**Spring Recital:** The Spring Recital is held every year in May. All students are required to participate in this recital to demonstrate how they have progressed throughout the year by performing. This recital is a dressy affair for the students. Boys are to wear a dress shirt, tie, dress pants, and dress shoes. Girls should wear a tea-length dress. Failure to perform in the recital will result in dismissal from the music program the following year. The importance of the recital cannot be stressed enough. This is for the student to show how hard he has worked through the year and gives him the success in performing publicly.

**Music Probation:** A notice will be sent home with students who do not reasonably comply with the basic requirements of instrument practice or consistently forget their books. After this, their lesson time will be reviewed by the NBCA music faculty. Music probation will be given to the student, and if significant progress is not seen, the student's enrollment in instrument lessons will be terminated. Music probation will never be given to the diligent student who remembers to practice and strives to do his best in every lesson!

**Practice Requirements:** Beginner students must practice 15 minutes at least five times a week and then will be moved up to 20 minutes five times a week when notified by the teacher. Intermediate and Advanced students must practice 30-45 minutes at least five times a week.

***Amount of practice time will be determined by the teacher and written in the music notebook of the student.***