

Sound Sprouts Policy Agreement

Sowing Creativity. Cultivating Community.

September 2025 - August 2026
 Emmaus, PA 18049
 Call or Text: 215.933.8286
 laurelnolin@gmail.com | soundsproutsmusic.org

Schedule

Lessons follow a weekly schedule agreed upon by the teacher and the student or student's caregiver. Once each month, piano students gather in groups with students of similar ages and pianistic/musical skill. These classes are an essential part of the student's education and are not optional. Either the week before or after the Saturday group class, all students will not have a private lesson. For a schedule of these weeks, please see the calendar at the end of this document.

Early Childhood Music Programs (ECM) meet weekly. Please reference the full calendar for school-wide breaks.

Class	Ages	Schedule
Family Music for Babies	Birth - 18 Months	Thursdays, 10:30-11:00 am
Family Music for Toddlers (section 1)	16 Months - 3 Years	Tuesdays, 3:00-3:45 pm
Family Music for Toddlers (section 2)	16 Months - 3 Years	Thursdays, 10:30-11:00 am
Cycle of Seasons	3 - 5 Years	Thursdays, 3:00-3:45 pm
Nature's Music (summer program)	0-5 Years	TBD

Payment Policy

Monthly payments for private lessons are due on the first lesson of the month. Group class payments are due by the 1st class. Payment can be made via Zelle to 215-933-8286 or laurelnolin@gmail.com, cash, or by check made out to Laurel Nolin. Late payments will incur a \$10.00 late fee. To discontinue private lessons mid-semester, one full month's notice is required prior to cancellation.

Private Lessons September through May

Piano Lessons for the months of September through May are charged at a flat monthly rate. Each month, one week will substitute a **required group class in lieu of the adjacent week's private lessons**. The monthly rate includes scheduled lessons, make up lessons, piano group classes, and recitals.

1 month of 30-minute lessons: \$100

1 month of 45-minute lessons: \$150

1 month of 60-minute lesson: \$200

Private Lessons June through August

There will not be any group piano classes during the summer semester. To accommodate summer plans, students pay per lesson instead of per month. **Each piano student must have a total of 10 lessons from June to August to reserve their spot in the 2026-2027 calendar.** These lessons do not have to be once a week but are flexible in order to accommodate travel, camps, etc.

30-minute lesson: \$25.00

45-minute lesson: \$37.50

60-minute lesson: \$50.00

Travel Fee: \$5 per visit

In-home lessons* add a \$5.00 travel fee per location. Siblings, neighbors, friends, etc. in the same location do not incur an additional travel fee.

*Not enrolling new at-home students at this time.

Early Childhood Music

Enrollment in Sound Sprout's ECM program is divided into three semesters, fall, spring, and summer. Fall and spring classes have 15 classes per semester. Families in the summer can enroll in anywhere from 4-9 classes. Each class includes a materials fee covering the cost of family take-home materials and tuition covering \$10 per class. Only one materials fee is charged per family per class, i.e. two siblings in the same class will be charged one materials fee.

Class	Family Materials	Tuition \$10/Class	Total
Family Music for Babies	\$35	\$150	\$185
Family Music for Toddlers	\$35	\$150	\$185

Cycle of Seasons	\$50	\$150	\$200
Nature's Music (Summer)	\$35	\$40-80	\$75-115

Make-up and Cancelled Lessons

Private Lessons

Up to two private lessons per semester may receive make-up lessons for any of the following reasons: illness, medical appointment, required school activity, family emergency, travel, and religious holidays. Except in the case of illness or family emergency, 24 hours' notice is required in order to qualify for a makeup lesson. Unexcused absences include traffic/travel delay and student no call/no show. If a Sound Sprouts teacher must cancel a lesson due to illness, inclement weather, or any other reason, the students will be notified as soon as possible and qualify for a make-up lesson in addition to the two student-based make-up lessons each semester.

Piano Group Classes

In the unfortunate event that a group class is unexpectedly cancelled, it will not be made up at a later date.

Early Childhood Music

If you need to miss an ECM class for any reason (illness, weather, travel, etc.), you are welcome to make up that class at another scheduled ECM class. Please contact laurelnolin@gmail.com before attending another class, so that Ms. Laurel can prepare materials and space accordingly. Students who wish to withdraw from an ECM class mid-semester will not receive a refund.

No Shows and Late Arrivals

No shows will not receive makeup lessons. Students late to their lessons are not entitled to their full lesson length beyond the scheduled end time. Sound Sprouts reserves the right to discontinue lessons or classes due to inconsistent attendance or persistent lateness.

Practice Policy

Practice instructions will be provided on a weekly basis by the teacher. Students are expected to follow practice requirements in order to maximize their learning. Each student will have their own personalized instructions for what practice routine best suits their needs. Common strategies include slow tempi, short sections, and repetitions. The practicing process will not always sound lovely, but should be respected by the student and members of his/her living unit. In addition, persons living in the same house as the student should respect the student's space and time

during practice sessions. If acoustic, the piano should be well-tuned for efficient practicing and musical development. If digital, an ideal keyboard has 88 weighted keys and a sustain pedal. Keyboards without these functions may service the first year of study but will eventually need to be replaced by an instrument that meets the above description.

In-home Lessons*

In-home lessons must take place in a quiet, uninterrupted, smoke-free environment. Pets are not an issue. The piano must be regularly tuned and in full working condition. As mentioned above, in-home lessons incur a \$5.00 travel fee. At least one other older child or adult must be present in the living space during in-home lessons. This could be a babysitter, significantly older sibling, adult relative, or trusted friend. This person's presence is not needed in the room of the lesson but should be within earshot.

*Not enrolling new at-home students at this time.

Photo and Media Release Policy

By participating in Sound Sprouts programs, you consent to the taking of photographs, audio recordings, video recordings, and/or other digital images or recordings during auditions, performances, and/or at other events by staff, volunteers, or outside media. Sound Sprouts may use, edit, alter, copy, publish, and/or distribute those photos and recordings in any and all of its publications, including social media and web-based publications, and/or for any other lawful purpose, without payment, compensation, royalties, or other consideration. Sound Sprouts bears no responsibility for any unauthorized use of images or recordings by a third party.

If you do not wish to have your or your child's photo used for marketing purposes, you must email laurelnolin@gmail.com to make a written request.

FAQ

Why is December still the full monthly fee if we only receive piano instruction for three weeks?

While December may only have three weeks of instruction, the fall semester from Sept-Dec includes sixteen weeks of instruction. By keeping a flat monthly rate this semester, payments are more straightforward and even out to a 4-week month with each payment.

Will we still have Early Childhood Music classes if there are no piano lessons?

Many times, piano students will attend a group class in lieu of their private lesson. For most of these weeks, ECM programs are still in session. However, school-wide closures in December, January, and March do affect both piano lessons and ECM programs. Please reference the calendar below.

Why is the break in March split between two weeks?

The Music Teachers National Association is hosting their 150th Anniversary Year National Conference in Chicago, IL in March, 2026. In order to maintain our 3:1 ratio of lessons to group classes, all programming will not take place March 19-24.

If you have further questions, please reach out to me by call or text at 215.933.8286 or by email at laurelnolin@gmail.com. Our FAQ Page is [available here](#).

Student Information

Name: Birthdate (MM/DD/YYYY):

School District: Allergies:

Any accommodations or other things you'd wish to share voluntarily:

Caregiver Information

Name(s):

Phone number: Email:

Any accommodations or other information you'd wish to share voluntarily:

For Group Classes:

Additional Emergency Contact:

Additional Emergency Contact Phone Number:

Signature

Parent Signature

Date

Teacher Signature

Date

Calendar

September

Fall Semester Starts	Sept. 2, 2025
Early Childhood Music (ECM) Classes Begin	Sept. 2, 2025
No Piano Lessons	Sept. 15-19, 2025
Group Class for Piano Students	Sept. 20, 2025

October

No Piano Lessons	Oct. 13-17, 2025
Group Class for Piano Students	Oct. 18, 2025

November

Piano Recital	Nov. 1, 2025
Piano Group Class	Nov. 22, 2025
School Closed, No Lessons or Classes	Nov. 24-28, 2025

December

No Piano Lessons	Dec. 8-12, 2025
Group Class for Piano Students	Dec. 13, 2025
Last Day of ECM Classes	Dec. 18, 2025
School Closed, No Lessons or Classes	Dec. 22-Jan. 2

January

School Closed, No Lessons or Classes	Dec. 22-Jan. 2
Spring Semester Starts	Jan. 5, 2026
ECM Classes Begin	Jan. 6, 2026
No Piano Lessons	Jan. 19-23, 2026
Group Class for Piano Students	Jan. 24, 2026

February

Piano Recital	Feb. 14, 2026
No Piano Lessons	Feb. 16-20, 2026
Group Class for Piano Students	Feb. 21, 2026

March

School Closed, No Lessons or Classes	March 19-24, 2026
Group Class for Piano Students	March 28, 2026

April

Piano Recital	April 18, 2026
Last Day of ECM Classes	April 23, 2026
Group Class for Piano Students	April 25, 2026
No Piano Lessons	April 27-May 1

May

No Piano Lessons	April 27-May 1
Group Class for Piano Students	May 16, 2026

No Piano Lessons

May 18-22, 2026

June

Summer Semester Starts

June 1, 2026

First Day of ECM Classes

June 2, 2026

July

Last Day of ECM Classes

July 30, 2026

August

End of Summer Semester

August 30, 2026

SOUND SPROUTS CALENDAR 2025-2026

 No Piano Lessons	 Recital	 Last Day of ECM Classes
 Group Class	 First Day of ECM Classes	 Closed, No Lessons or ECM Classes

SEP

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

OCT

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

NOV

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

DEC

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

JAN

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

FEB

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

MAR

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

APR

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

MAY

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

JUN

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

JUL

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

AUG

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						