

***IMPORTANT* PLEASE READ**

Dear parents and students

Hello and I hope you are all healthy. I am home early because my Chicago conference got cancelled, but I am relieved to be here!

I arrived back on March 14 so I am not required to self-isolate. However, I have chosen to anyway, and it works out perfectly that lessons resume on March 28. (I am perfectly well, by the way, and was not in contact with anyone who was ill.)

In keeping with social distancing recommendations, **all piano lessons will take place online until further notice**. Every piano teacher I know is moving to online lessons now, and it is not a new concept; there are many students whom I have taught via Skype (or FaceTime, or Zoom, or any video medium) when they don't live in Sydney.

Between now and March 28, when lessons were going to resume, I would like to offer everyone a FREE lesson in which we will do tech setup in preparation for online lessons.

Here is the plan for online/video lessons:

- Parents may need to help set up at home using an appropriate device, and hopefully a Bluetooth speaker if possible. The time that would normally be used to commute to the lesson will be the opportunity to do this.
- A reasonable internet connection is required. If this is not possible, we can use instructional videos and the sending of recordings.
- Lessons will take place at your normal lesson time. If school is suspended and you'd like a different or extra lesson time, we can discuss!

I am also going to invest in a fantastic product called Tonara which will basically give us virtual notebooks and a way for everyone to keep track of practice and homework, as well as sending recordings and video. Keep an eye out for the email about this... mums and dads I will need your HELP in the way of feedback!

Please do email me back with any concerns/questions. This period will be more than a little disrupted but I am working hard to make sure that piano lessons can take place as seamlessly as possible, and hopefully be a stable force in what is certainly an unstable time, at least for the next few months!

Samantha