

P-K and Lower School Applied Music Information Guide

The Applied Music Program is a valuable opportunity for our students and families and strives to make private lessons a seamless extension of the school day whenever possible. All lessons take place before or after the academic day in the Performing Arts Center. Students are encouraged to register for the full year option as it supports more consistent musical growth and long-term goal setting as opposed to the single-semester option.

Registration and Contract Link: <https://www.gfs.org/arts/music/applied-music-contract>

2026-27 Lesson Fees:

- Full year (September 8-May 7)
 - 60-minute lesson: \$2,750
 - 45-minute lesson: \$2,200
 - 30-minute lesson: \$1,600
- One semester (September 8-December 18 OR January 25-May 7)
 - 60-minute lesson: \$1,450
 - 45-minute lesson: \$1,150
 - 30-minute lesson: \$850

Preschool

Preschool students *must* be accompanied by a parent or guardian. This includes the walk or drive from the Preschool to the Performing Arts Center and supervision in the Arts Center before and after a lesson. Applied Music instructors will not be able to watch students outside of their lesson time. Parents/guardians are strongly encouraged to stay for the entirety of the lesson to avoid unsupervised students immediately before or after a lesson. Seating will be provided in the hallway directly outside the music studios.

Students will have the option to participate in an end-of-year recital. Instructors are expected to prepare students accordingly. Students making significant progress may also be encouraged by their instructor to perform in a select recital in the fall.

See contract at end of packet.

Lower School

When schedules align, students may walk to and from lessons with other students; students may not walk alone. While the school helps coordinate these walking groups, dedicated adult supervision is not provided during the walk between buildings. For a student to be allowed to walk, parents must sign the required permission form.

Because lesson schedules vary, some students, particularly those with later afternoon lesson times, may not have another student with whom to walk. In these cases, families may be asked to provide supervision. Students may also attend Aftercare before a lesson, and we will coordinate walking groups when possible, though not all lesson times can be accommodated.

Students are expected to participate in an end-of-year recital and will be prepared accordingly through the guidance of their music instructor. Students making significant progress may also be encouraged by their instructor to perform in a select recital in the fall.

See lesson policy at end of packet.

Middle and Upper School Applied Music Information Guide

The Applied Music Program is a valuable opportunity for our students and families and strives to make private lessons a seamless extension of the school day whenever possible. All lessons take place before or after the academic day in the Performing Arts Center. Some extenuating circumstances allow students to take lessons during a free period in their school day. Students are encouraged to register for the full-year option as it supports more consistent musical growth and long-term goal setting as opposed to the single-semester option.

Registration and Contract Link: <https://www.gfs.org/arts/music/applied-music-contract>

2026-27 Lesson Fees:

- Full year (September 8-May 7)
 - 60-minute lesson: \$2,750
 - 45-minute lesson: \$2,200
 - 30-minute lesson: \$1,600
- One semester (September 8-December 18 OR January 25-May 7)
 - 60-minute lesson: \$1,450
 - 45-minute lesson: \$1,150
 - 30-minute lesson: \$850

Middle School

Students may arrive at the Performing Arts Center no more than 15 minutes before their scheduled lesson time.

Students with a 3:45pm lesson (or earlier) may walk over to the Performing Arts Center immediately following GIT. Students with a 4:00pm lesson (or later) must sign into Extended Day and may not sign out until 15 minutes before their lesson.

Middle and Upper School

Students are expected to participate in an end-of-year recital and will be prepared accordingly through the guidance of their music instructor. Students making significant progress may also be encouraged by their instructor to perform in a select recital in the fall.

See lesson policy at end of packet.

GARRISON FOREST SCHOOL'S APPLIED MUSIC PROGRAM: LESSON POLICY

I understand and agree to the following policies regarding applied music lessons at Garrison Forest School:

1. **PAYMENT PROCEDURE.** Payment in full is due at the time of registration.
2. **REFUND POLICY.** If, following enrollment, you decide to withdraw your child from music lessons, you must do so in writing by emailing Allie Charney, Applied Music Director (alexandracharney@gfs.org) before the 4th lesson. Otherwise, the School will consider your child enrolled for lessons, and you will be obligated to pay for the full contract amount. No portion of such fees so paid or outstanding will be refunded or prorated.
3. **SCHEDULING.** Each Applied Music Instructor arranges his/her own schedule in consultation with families in September. Families should start by filling out the registration form listing ALL possible lesson times for Semester 1, then complete the Calendly link, which will be referenced when determining lesson times. With nearly 100 students enrolled in our Applied Music Program, it may not be possible to accommodate all scheduling requests. Once a mutually convenient time has been agreed upon for the semester, it is exceedingly difficult and usually impossible to change it until Semester 2. Please consider sports schedules and other extracurricular commitments when selecting your lesson time, as instructors are not required to reschedule lessons missed due to other extracurricular activities.
4. **MAKE-UP POLICY.** Any lessons canceled by the instructor will be rescheduled. Lessons missed by students for any reason (e.g. sports, sickness, family trips) will not be rescheduled. Lessons missed due to school closures, field trips, or other special school events will not be made up. Students will not have lessons on scheduled school holidays or days off. However, if those days off result in two or more consecutive weeks without a lesson, the teacher and student may choose to plan one make-up lesson at no additional cost. Students may not participate in their after-school lesson if they arrive at school past 1:30pm without informing their instructor ahead of time. Lessons will still be held on full and half school days, even if other after-school activities or clubs are canceled. The only exceptions are holidays where we end activities at 5pm and in cases of extreme weather.
5. **RECITALS.** Preschool, Lower School, Middle School and Upper School student musicians present one recital at the end of the school year. Some quickly-advancing students may be chosen to perform in the select Applied Music Showcase in November. Students perform in recitals at the discretion of their Applied Music instructor. Instructors are expected to prepare students accordingly.
 - PreSchool / Lower School Select Student Showcase: 11/17
 - Middle / Upper School Select Student Showcase: 11/18
 - Preschool / Lower School End-of-Year Recitals: 5/3
 - Middle School End-of-Year Recitals: 5/4
 - Upper School End-of-Year Recitals: 4/19 (Vocal) and 4/22 (Instrumental)
6. **INSTRUMENTS & MUSIC.** Garrison Forest School does not provide instruments or music for students. Students who are signed up for lessons must have an instrument at home so they are able to practice regularly. Parents/guardians will provide or be charged for sheet music and/or music books.