

# Robin Hutt

PIANOFORTE

Some **helpful things** for piano pupils:

Fluency in the **language of music** – reading, writing, listening, speaking – and expertise in the skill set of instrumental performance, are now widely recognised to have hugely beneficial effects on developing cognitive and muscular function, on academic progress across the curriculum, and on mental health and well-being and personal fulfilment.

The piano is an **especially exciting** instrument, enabling performance as a soloist, accompanist, ensemble or orchestral musician, and in time giving access to arguably the greatest repertory of music in Western Art.

The first aim of practising is to develop a **behavioural habit**. For the very youngest beginner, around 10 minutes daily will suffice. This habit should gradually rise to 20-30 minutes, getting accustomed to concentrating at the instrument for the same length of time as a lesson. More advanced pupils will of course develop a greater commitment over time. It can help to timetable a **regular slot of time** for music-making, and use rewards liberally.

You will need a **lined A5 jotter**; it will be a lesson and homework diary, and a valuable source of record and communication. You will need a **metronome**; free smartphone apps are now widely available, digital pianos often have this as a built-in function, or the most basic physical model from a shop is all that will ever be required.

You will need some **music and tutor books**. If possible, I will order these directly into school for you as we go along. Alternatively, I will tell you where to get the correct materials.

**Holidays** are holidays! Regular work during term time should be punctuated by a controlled break from normal routines. This rhythm is actually beneficial, but do aim to return to the normal practice habit one week before resuming lessons.

Do not hesitate to **contact me**, either directly or through the school if you have any questions or concerns regarding piano tuition

**Robin Hutt**

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