

STUDENT HANDBOOK
SUZUKI STRINGS OF LUBBOCK

2026-7

Individual Lesson Attendance Policy

1. Attendance Policy

One-on-one lessons are the foundation of your musical training. Consistency is essential for physical muscle memory, technical refinement, and artistic momentum. To ensure steady technical progress and maintain active studio status, students are held to a clear attendance standard across the 15-lesson term:

- **13 of 15 Lessons Required:** Students must attend at least **13 lessons** during the semester to remain in good standing, maintaining their regular lesson time slot for the following term.
- **Unexcused Absence Limit:** A maximum of **1 unexcused absence** is permitted per semester. A second unexcused absence will result in an attendance review and potential loss of your lesson time.

2. Cancellation & Rescheduling Policy

- Because private lesson slots are reserved exclusively for each student, missed time cannot be recovered by extending future lessons.

Scenario	Advance Notice Required	Action / Policy
Planned Absence (Travel, School Event)	24 Hours Minimum	Eligible for a Make-Up Lesson (Up to 2 per 15-lesson term).
Sudden Illness / Emergency	Morning of lesson (by 8:00 AM)	Option to switch to an Online/Zoom Lesson or submit a Video for Feedback during your scheduled slot.
Late Cancellation (<24 Hours)	Less than 24 hours	Marked as Unexcused Absence . Lesson is forfeited; no make-up provided.

Scenario	Advance Notice Required	Action / Policy
No-Show	No notice	Marked as Unexcused Absence . Lesson fee is forfeited; no make-up provided.

Tardiness & "Late-Start" Policy

Punctuality is vital to receiving full lesson value.

- **On-Time Start:** Lessons begin promptly at the scheduled start time. Time lost due to late arrival cannot be added to the end of the lesson.
- **10-Minute Waiting Rule:** If a student is running late, they must notify the teacher. If a student is more than **10 minutes late without communication**, the teacher will log the session as a **No-Show / Unexcused Absence**.

Group Class Attendance Policy

Group classes are **not optional extras**—they are a co-equal, core component of the Suzuki curriculum. Private lessons teach technical mechanics; group classes teach musicianship, ensemble playing, listening, leadership, and stage presence.

- **Mandatory Student Attendance:**
 - Enrollment in group classes is **mandatory** for all students.
 - Unexcused absences from group class impact the entire group's ability to prepare ensemble pieces.
- **Mandatory Parent Attendance:**
 - **Parent presence is required** during group classes for all students.
 - Parents must observe silently, take practice notes, and assist their child with instrument setup, endpin placement (cellos), or help when requested by the instructor.
 - Siblings who are not enrolled in class must remain quietly seated with a quiet activity (books, tablet with headphones) so as not to distract the class.
- **Group Class Absence Protocol:**
 - Advance notification of at least **48 hours** is required if a student must miss a group class due to illness or a scheduled school event.
 - Because group classes rely on peer dynamics, **no make-up classes or tuition refunds/credits** are issued for missed group sessions.

Recitals & Concert Attendance Policy

Recitals are the celebration of our community's hard work. Performing live builds confidence, poise, and artistic expression.

- **Mandatory Solo Recital Attendance:**
 - All active students are required to perform in the **Fall Recital** and **Spring Recital**
 - **Dress Rehearsal Attendance:** Attendance at the scheduled dress rehearsal is **required** to perform in the recital. Students who miss the dress rehearsal will not be permitted to perform unless discussed with the Director for approval.
- **Mandatory Rehearsal/Concert Attendance:**
 - **Full-Concert Presence:** Parents and students must arrive **15 minutes prior** to the concert and stay for the **entire duration** of the recital. Leaving early after a child's individual performance is unsupportive to fellow performers.
 - **Punctuality & Setup:** Parents are responsible for delivering their child to the designated area at the specified call time with all necessary equipment (rosined bow, shoulder rest, cello endpin anchor, and instrument).