

CODE OF PRACTICE FOR SUZUKI TEACHERS



Vision Statement

To be recognised as providing a music education experience of exceptional quality

Uphold standards of:

- The vision and philosophy of Dr Shinichi Suzuki
 - The potential of early education
 - The belief that every child can learn
 - To promote this understanding throughout the community and with our international professional peers.
- Integrity
- Honesty
- Excellence in teaching practice
- Commitment to maintaining playing standards
- Professionalism

Professional Development:

- Teachers will maintain a commitment to lifelong learning.
- Teachers have a responsibility to maintain awareness of ongoing developments in Suzuki pedagogy, in general and for one's own instrument, specifically.
- Responsibility to maintain knowledge of new research in music education, learning & child development.
- Responsibility to regularly participate in forums for continuing education in Suzuki Approach through workshops and courses.
- Commitment to reflection on and enhancement of own skills in order to further the potential development of students.

Relationship with Students & Parents:

Suzuki teachers:

- Maintain an appropriate teacher-child relationship.
- Encourage and educate parents to have an active involvement in their child's musical education
- Demonstrate respect, confidence and trust in relationships with parents and children, as this is the bedrock on which fine Suzuki teaching is built.
- Demonstrate impartiality
- Demonstrate a high standard of professional conduct at all times
- Demonstrate an understanding of the unique personality and learning style of each student.
- Provide of an encouraging environment in which students can develop their musical potential.
- Demonstrate an excellent personal and musical example for students.
- Demonstrate a knowledge and ability to apply their understanding of child development

- Demonstrate an ability to facilitate a close working relationship between child and parent, supporting parent efforts, and appropriately fostering a child's emerging independence.
- Demonstrate respect for a family's spiritual & moral values.
- Maintain confidentiality in dealings with a family's personal matters
- Work with the parent to nurture a child's ability, character and self-esteem.

Responsibility to Suzuki Music Association:

- To maintain financial membership
- To fulfil annual professional development requirements set by the Professional Development Committee for maintaining currency of teacher registration.
- To support & co-operate with Suzuki Music Association activities:
 - For teacher's own professional development;
 - For the benefit of their students;
 - For the continued and ongoing growth of the Suzuki movement in Australia; and
 - Through voluntary service thus enabling a non-profit organization such as Suzuki Music Association to continue operations.
- Teachers will regularly attend functions and activities organised by Suzuki Music for teachers & students.
- Teachers will actively encourage family membership for students in their teaching programme.
- Teachers will actively promote and encourage student involvement in Suzuki events.
- Teachers will demonstrate respect for and foster collegial relationships with their teacher colleagues.
- Teachers will respect the instruction of a student's regular teacher when working with other teachers' students at a workshop.

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