

KINDERMUSIK IMAGINE THAT!® COURTESY INFORMATION

1. **Please be on time for class.** Upon arrival, wait in the waiting room until the teacher comes to greet your child before class begins. If you are late for class, please come directly to the studio room. Leave extra time in inclement weather and at heavy traffic times.
2. **Encourage your child to use the washroom before class begins.** If your child needs to use the washroom during class, you, your child's teacher or another parent will accompany your child to and from the washroom. It is helpful if parents take turns each week serving as "washroom monitor".
3. The **Imagine That! Backpack** should be brought to class each week. Please make sure your child's backpack is labeled with his/her full name. Leave the other materials in a safe place to use and play with at home.
4. During the first 30-35 minutes of class your child will participate with the other children for their lesson. For the remaining 10-15 minutes, parents and siblings will be invited in to participate in activities with us. Please do not come into the classroom until the teacher invites you in or the children come to get you. It is very important to your child that you are **on time** for their "**Sharing Time**". **Please restrict social talk with other adults during Sharing Time...** take advantage of this wonderful and rare opportunity to fully focus on your child.
5. **Separation anxiety is a normal part of the child's developing independence at this age.** If your child has difficulty leaving you on the first day, you are more than welcome to stay in the classroom until he/she is comfortable. It is often helpful to physically show your child where you will be waiting while he/she is in class. If your child needs weekly reassurance, you may want to speak with the teacher to work out a gradual process to help your child progress through this stage.
6. **Much of your child's musical responses may occur at home and not in class.** This is nothing to worry about, as long as you're observing musical response somewhere. There are many factors that will affect this, for instance, the personality, age and learning style of the child, the child's comfort level and day-to-day temperament, the level and enthusiasm of the parent or caregiver, the amount of music-making enjoyed in the home, the consistency of attendance and the length of time the child is involved in the program. The purpose of this program is to start where the child is developmentally, and then to guide them toward more focused learning. **The Kindermusik philosophy is based on the process involved in learning to learn.** It's a great preparation for school!
7. You may observe that **children will often respond differently** during Sharing Time (when you are present) than when they are together with their peers and the teacher. This is quite normal and not usually something to worry about. Observing through the viewing window should help to reassure you that your child is enjoying him/herself. **Remember to look for the little signs that show your child is engaged** (ie. eye contact, body posture, and spontaneous musical play at home).
8. **If you observe your child is having difficulty managing in class,** please take him/her out of the room for a brief "cooling down" period. Restating, in simple terms, what is expected in class, may also be beneficial. You may need to repeat this procedure more than once, but soon your child will understand what is appropriate behavior. Do not allow your child to play with the toys in the waiting area at this time as this makes it more difficult to rejoin the group.
9. You are encouraged to **be as consistent with your child's attendance as possible** so that he/she will gain the most out of the program. If your child is absent, you will need to refer to your **Family Activity Book** in order to complete the home activity for the missed week. In addition, from time to time your child will be required to bring an activity back to class. The Family Activity Book specifies all details and in the case of absence, your teacher will call or email you with a reminder if something is to be brought to class the next week.
10. **Don't be afraid to sing to/with your child.** He/she loves the sound of your voice no matter how badly you think you sound! Please attempt to sing using a light "head voice" in a higher register than you may be used to. The Home CD and your teacher will provide you with an appropriate vocal model that will encourage tuneful, joyful singing in your child. Don't hesitate to ask your teacher for help if you're feeling uncomfortable with singing.

Thank you for choosing Kindermusik® – where a good beginning never ends!