**Lesson Policy—Parents**

Attendance:

It is imperative that your child attend **all** lessons. Should a scheduling conflict arise, please consult the student contact sheet and arrange to swap with another student. Send me an email to alert me to the swap. If a swap has not been made at least 24 hours before lesson, the lesson and payment will be forfeited.

Cancellations due to an illness or emergency on my part will be made up. Only **two** cancellations due to an illness or emergency of the child will be made up during the year. Should an illness or emergency occur, please call me at once to let me know. If the child does not show for the lesson and I haven’t received a phone call, the lesson and payment will be forfeited.

Arrive for lessons with music and notebook, nails trimmed, hands washed, ready to start! I want to have every minute with your child to work! Feel free to arrive 10 minutes early to give your child a chance to use the restroom, get a drink of water and observe any part of the lesson before your child’s. Show yourself in and please be very quiet. The other student is still working! Lessons will start and end on time.

Parents must attend **every lesson** unless otherwise specified. Please do not drop-off your child! You are an active participant in your child’s learning. You must take notes, practice with your child and you may be asked to participate in the lesson. Please be ready to work with your child—no cellphone calls will be permitted during the lesson.

You will receive a calendar for the entire year, including **summer**. There will be days the child does not have school for conferences, breaks or government holidays, but we may still have lessons. Please consult our schedule for these observances and other major holidays. If your family celebrates observances that are not on the calendar, please let me know so that we can make adjustments. In case of bad weather, use your discretion. If travel seems impossible, we will not have lessons. If schools are still in session, lessons are still in session.

Payment:

Payments are due monthly during the first week of lessons. Please place a check in the envelope with your name on it. Late payments will be accessed a $30 dollar late fee. Please pay on time! Payments will be for four weeks unless otherwise noted. Please refer to the card inside your envelope for the correct amount

Instrument:

We will work together to find your child the best instrument possible. Please refer to harp help sheet.

You will not be required to move your harp to individual lessons, except for the lesson week previous to performance. Therefore you as the parent are in charge of maintaining your child’s instrument. Until your child is able, you must tune your child’s instrument **everyday**! This may seem a daunting task initially, but it will soon take you less than 15 minutes. It is imperative for your child’s aural development that they play on a tuned instrument.

Practice Policies:

You and your child must practice together everyday! Even if it is only for a few minutes, this must be done to maintain technique and repertoire. Without regular practice your child will not excel. I do not base practice on time, but on content. Each practice session must contain repertoire review and warm-ups, working material and assignments from lesson, and work on new pieces. You are there to make sure the assignments I give during the lessons get the work at home! Help your child and always come to the harp with encouragement and a positive attitude. Figure it out together! Come to your lessons well prepared.

You and your child must listen to the music they are working on and will be working on 4 hours per day. This is an essential component in their learning. Do a combination of active and passive listening. Passive meaning, you play the CD while your child is taking their evening bath, reading a book, doing artwork, playing a game or eating their dinner. Active meaning you are sitting and doing focused listening in the car, on the couch or in their bedroom.

Your child will have opportunities to perform throughout the year. The more they practice, the more comfortable they will feel in performance. Create opportunities for them to perform at home. Do an impromptu dinner performance for family or have them play their favorite song for a friend. Help make this a positive experience!

If you go on a trip, or extended vacation bring the harp with you. If this is absolutely impossible, I will assign and coach your child in “non-harp” practicing they can do without their instrument. Your harp CDs must always come with on trips. This is an excellent time to get those songs “in-brained”!

Once a year, there will be a parent-teacher-student conference for goal-setting and assessment.

**Lesson Policy Parent Agreement:**

As the teacher, I understand that Nikki Lemire reserves the right to dismiss the student if either they or the parent is not abiding by the standards set forth by this policy. Therefore, I agree to the following:

I have read the lesson policy and understand what is expected of me and of my child.

I will make it a priority to attend every lesson.

I will make timely payments.

I will consult the calendar often.

I will be an active participant in my child’s lessons and practicing.

I will be positive and encouraging.

I will create a home environment conducive to my child’s learning.

My child and I are both ready and committed to learning to play the harp!

Parent name(s): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Child name(s):\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_nickname(s):\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Home phone(s):\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Emergency contact: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ phone #\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Signature(s):\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_