

How To Use This Course

A Guide for Parents

Parents play a vital role in the development of their child's learning. A shared enjoyment of music and the violin will be deeply empowering for your child, and create happy memories for both of you that will last for years to come.

Your enthusiasm and encouragement is crucial to your child's progress. That's why we've written this course for both children *and* their parents to enjoy!

We are assuming that very young children will learn by ear at first. Theoretical concepts (such as how to write the notes) can be introduced later.

You can help your child at home by guiding them through the **Activities** on each page. We also strongly recommend that parents who do *not* already read music should complete the theory (note-reading) exercises themselves first. Then you will be in a much better position to help your child to learn!

Likewise, the Rhythm Banks are an opportunity for you to **clap** and **sing** with your child, to help them develop their sense of **time** and coordination (you will find the **rhythm names** on the inside back cover of this book). Where there are lyrics, **sing** the music together with your child so that they become familiar with the **pitch** of the notes.

Once each child has reached the 'Playing With The Bow' section of the course, they should repeat the pieces they previously plucked with the fingers, but this time using the bow. At this point, if they are ready, place the sheet music in front of them and encourage them to read as they play. (Older learners can use the music from the start).

We are grateful to Faber Music and Edition Peters who have allowed us to include pieces from several of Caroline's other books.

We hope you enjoy the course!

Caroline and Simon
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