

DISCIPLINE IN LESSONS

How to Handle Behavioral Issues

Music is fun, exciting, and can create some high-energy moments! Sometimes, our students can become just a little TOO excited, or may present some other behavioral issues. In the event that your student is disruptive, combative, aggressive, or refusing to cooperate, you are NOT obligated to serve as a “babysitter” for the duration of the lesson.

If the behavior is actively detrimental to the lesson, to you, or to other students, you have a few options for mitigating the situation.

- You can speak with your student to remind them that their focus and attention is essential, and more or less take a “pause” during the lesson to re-center and gather thoughts before diving back into learning.
- You are encouraged to notify the office staff that your student is posing a problem and may need a few minutes in the lobby to calm down or focus enough to continue the lesson.
- If this does not resolve the problem, you are also able to communicate with the parent(s) about the issue and, if the behavior is severe, speak with the office staff and move to terminate the lesson for that day.

Should any student engage in physical activity, including but not limited to the following: hitting, pushing, kicking, spitting, throwing objects, damaging property, or making threats, the lesson will be terminated immediately by the office staff and parents will be notified.

Occasionally, students will need a minute to collect themselves in order to successfully finish out a lesson without any roadblocks. If you can sense your student starting to encroach upon losing focus, fidgeting, or not engaging as intently, please feel free to take a minute or two to have them walk around, clear their head, change the topic briefly, or even do some very light physical exercise to ground them and bring their focus back into frame. For younger students, 30 minutes can truly feel like an eternity, and sometimes we need to break those longer stretches into smaller, more manageable chunks to keep them focused and attentive.

If you have persistent problems with a student, please reach out to your Lead Teacher to talk about some potential curriculum changes or classroom techniques, or reach out to the front desk to explore some possibilities for class changes/teacher changes/possible meetings with parents to discuss solutions.