

Course Description and Outline

Course Title	Piano Keyboard Skills				
Level of Course	Experienced Beginners	Course Code	A3230	Duration	10 weeks
Brief Description of the Course What will it cover?	This course is essentially identical to the Beginners course (see the description in that course's outline). However, this All Levels course could include extensions to the Beginners curriculum if at least half of its participants displayed higher levels of practical experience and skill and understanding of musical terms and concepts.				
Entry Requirements	You must have daily private access to a piano or keyboard of at least three octaves, and sufficient free time, desire and willingness to practise for at least a half hour for a majority of the days spanning the duration of the course. You must plan to attend all ten lessons or endeavour to miss one at most.				
Minimum Learning Outcomes (maximum of 5) for all Participants <i>By the end of the course you will be able to...</i>					
1	Play from both memory and written music (in various traditional and abbreviated formats) at least two familiar songs/pieces that contain two parts, one for each hand, e.g. melody and chords;				
2	Play the chromatic scale and other musicianship exercises with either hand, at least single-handed;				
3	Utilise common music terminology for basic music analysis and in discussion and working with others;				
4	Demonstrate and explain essential basic aspects of efficient posture and playing technique;				
5	Utilise both universal and specialised principles, strategies and structures that engender efficient and effective practising.				
Equipment Required What will I need to bring to class?	Aside from having daily access to a piano or keyboard on which to practise... 1) A narrow A4 ring-binder of two or ideally four rings, to hold music and other handouts – and please, no plastic envelopes! 2) A pencil and eraser for notating music, and lined paper for taking notes.				
What courses can I go on to do?	The 'Improvers' level course. Alternatively, you may repeat this course.				

This is a brief description of the course content and is not definitive or exhaustive. The course content may be subject to change without notice, however the details above are intended to give a picture of the types of activities that may be included on the course. Course outlines provide a general summary of the contents and material to be covered during lessons. They are subject to change at the discretion of teachers to meet the needs of learners and should not be regarded as prescriptive lists of activities to be covered.

What examination or assessment will there be and what will it involve?

There are no exams, however, playing to learn or rehearse or perform, individually and with others, will occur throughout the course. Personal and specific feedback and advice from the tutor will also occur regularly in every lesson, and learners will occasionally be asked to evaluate themselves, their 'group' or other individuals (and will be taught how to do this effectively and sensitively). Also, learners will self-assess at the start, middle and end of the course via their Individual Learning Plan (to which they can add personal goals in addition to those defined for the course). At the end of the course, the tutor will provide personal written feedback and learners can give written feedback about the tutor, the course and their learning experience.

How will I know I am making progress?

The tutor will frequently provide specific personal feedback throughout the course, and will present progressively more gently challenging learning material that will not go beyond any learner's capacity to achieve and perform at a slow speed at least. In addition, your Individual Learning Plan provides a method for tracking your progress. The rate and degree of anyone's progress is largely determined by the efficiency, duration, applied effort and content of their practising, and only partially by their talent, which anyway, no one can do anything to improve.

Is there anything else I need to know?

The tutor will provide an ISL email address so that they can be contacted during the course to provide help with your learning, "homework" or for any related reason. If you need to discuss something on the phone with the tutor, send them an email with good times to return your call. If you need to get in touch with the tutor on the day of the lesson, say, to let them know that you'll miss or be late for the lesson – *please do inform the tutor in these situations* – then call the venue switchboard (Shadwell: 020 7364 5684) and ask the receptionist to convey your message. Please also inform the tutor if you must withdraw from the course, and please say why.

What if I want extra support? Contact the Learner Support & Advice Team

The Learner Support and Advice Team wants to support all prospective and current Idea Store learners to achieve their goals. If you want help to decide what to do next or if there are any circumstances that you think may prevent you from studying, such as financial concerns, lack of basic skills, a disability or learning difficulty, we will endeavour to help. Information, advice, guidance and support is given on a range of these learner issues. Come see one of our experienced and friendly advisors who can help you take the next step to attending the course(s) you are interested in. For further information, text **IDEA** and your name to **07950 080 341** or email **ideastorelearning@towerhamlets.gov.uk** and a member of the team will get back to you.