

# MY TEACHING PHILOSOPHY

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Violin teaching is an intellectually, emotionally and artistically stimulating profession. I believe that through teaching music, one can have a strong impact on a student's life and in general make a valuable contribution to the arts and humanity.

It is important to create a positive learning environment and to bring out the best in each student. Mutual trust and open communication need to be established, and a pathway to the student's thought processes needs to be found. The student needs to understand what is expected and how it can be achieved.

Students are highly motivated by success and can become fine players through developing self-awareness (artistically, aurally, and kinaesthetically) and by taking responsibility for their own learning. As a teacher, I therefore act as a guide while challenging students to think for themselves. To support this role, I strive always to be reliable and encouraging, honouring my responsibility to foster students' careers. Patience and consistency are crucial to my teaching style, and it is my expectation that students will adopt the same attitude in their practicing and performing.

Organising learning tasks systematically and in measured steps that take account of a student's ability is a hallmark of my approach to teaching. I aim to give clear instruction and set achievable goals; to sequence technical tasks, apply technique and repertoire logically; and to ensure that all given tasks are mastered. Learning will be successful at any level if approached in this way.



To guide my analytical approach, I also feel it is important to establish a vision for each of my students. I aim to give students the confidence to believe in themselves, to become courageous and resilient, and to excel even beyond their own expectations.

