

The Fine Print

Please read our general policies carefully and share them with any caregiver(s) who take your child to class as well. Feel free to contact me with any questions.

Music Together® with Alexia

Adult participation is vital. Children learn from watching their loved ones, and you can inspire them to be enthusiastic music-makers just by enjoying the class yourself and singing and moving along. You will be your child's best role model, regardless of your musical ability. Having fun is all that's required!

Listen to the recording and use the songbook at home. Music Together is more than just a 45 minute class once a week. Your child will get even more out of the program when you bring the music and materials into his or her home life -- in the car, at bathtime, changing diapers, or maybe a class for teddy bears led by your own small teacher! As the grownup in class, you'll feel more comfortable singing along when you know the songs. And as we said above, your participation is key!

Your child is free to explore, to play and to discover. Please allow your child to experience the class in his or her own unique way, whether that is by moving constantly, sitting, staring and tasting instruments rather than playing them, etc. Children have the amazing ability to teach themselves through play. Even the most well-meaning adult can disrupt that process by giving too much direction. We know from working with hundreds of children over the years that each child is busily taking in the musical information, even if that is not apparent from his or her behaviors in class. We see musical expression emerging over time (often at home when you play the recording) as the semesters progress. **So, resist the urge to put your hands over your child's to clap for them or play an instrument for them. If you feel the urge to call their name or give them verbal instruction, try singing or dancing instead!**

"Tasting" instruments is developmentally appropriate. All instruments are cleaned regularly. Please leave any instrument or prop your child has put in his or her mouth in the wet bin, and it will be disinfected after class. With that said, you are the only person who knows what you are comfortable with your child putting in his or her mouth. When in doubt, we can swap out for a baby-safe item so your child still gets the input they are seeking in a safe way.

NO FOOD or DRINK/TOYS/CELLPHONES

Please feel free to leave the circle or classroom if it is necessary to give your child a snack or drink during class. Join us back when this break is over. Nursing or bottle feeding in the circle is perfectly acceptable; this is entirely up to you and your comfort level. Water bottles can be kept nearby so we can stay hydrated! Children who have loveys or security items that they need to feel comfortable can certainly bring those. **Please don't have cellphones out where they can be a distraction for the children or the grownups!** If you need your phone for emergencies, certainly keep it on you.

Safety is our priority. The only time we need to address active behavior during class is when a child's behavior becomes dangerous, either to him/her or others. In such cases, we can redirect the child musically, with singing or dancing. I'm happy to help! If you feel the need to speak to your older child about challenging behavior, feel free to step outside of the classroom for a moment to do so.

Sing, don't talk! Do you need to get your child's attention? Go to where he or she is, use your singing voice, or model what you want them to do. Want to chat with your friend? Feel free to come in a few minutes early or stay a few minutes after class to catch up! When we avoid talking in class, we get to enjoy a fully musical experience for 45 minutes, which is a great treat! (We all have to talk once in a while - even me - so this is our goal, not a prohibition!)

Timeliness is appreciated, by the class as a whole, and also by your own child. We will be starting class on time. Don't miss the Hello Song; it is a ritual that helps all the children feel welcomed and it signals the start of their music class. (In fact, it's a good way to get pokey toddlers out the door... "We don't want to miss the Hello Song!") If your child is having difficulty with transitions, or this is a first class experience, try to arrive five minutes early to help them get comfortable in the room.

Make-Up Classes

Are you or your child sick? Please stay home and do make-up later. We offer unlimited makeups within the term. You can make up missed classes in Cold Spring (Thu/Sat) or Peekskill (Fri/Sun). Please use the Make-up Scheduler at <https://secure.mainstreetsites.com/dmn3765/makeups.aspx>. Make-ups can be scheduled in advance, but they cannot be rolled over into the next term.

Videotaping/Photography

We understand you want to tangibly preserve the precious moments of your child making music. There will be a chance on the last day of class to take pictures and video during the play-along. I'll remind everyone so you don't forget your cameras!

Guest Policy

Visiting adults and grandparents are always welcome. Siblings up to 8 months old can attend free of charge. The guest fee of \$20 will be applied to visiting children under 6 who are not a sibling to a registered child. Siblings under 6 can attend free of charge once per semester along with the registered child and \$15/class after the first time. If you're bringing a friend who might be interested in joining, please contact the office to reserve a spot for trial for free in advance. If you are unsure, just call and ask!

Referrals

If you refer a family to Music Together with Alexia, and they sign up for a session and list you as their referral, you will receive \$20 off your next class. There is no limit on referral discounts.

We appreciate your likes, follows and positive reviews online! You can find us at [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [Google Reviews](#), [Yelp](#), and [Winnie](#).

WEATHER RELATED CANCELLATION

If severe weather is anticipated, please check our website or Facebook page to see cancellation announcements by 8am on the day. We will make every effort to make up any missed classes at the end of the term.

www.musictogetherwithalexia.com

www.facebook.com/mtwithalexia

See you in class!