



Information for students

Hello and welcome to Little Bo Beats! We can't wait to meet you and your little music makers.

What do I need to bring?

Please bring a blanket or rug to put your baby on. Make sure you're all wearing clothing that is comfortable and easy to both move around and sit on the floor in.

Make sure you've had a drink and a bite to eat before the class – we ask that there is no food or drink during lessons to protect the instruments. Breast or bottle feeding a baby is of course the exception.

What do we do when we arrive?

Try to arrive 5 minutes early so you have time to settle in. Pop your belongings and prams against the wall, take off your shoes, grab a name tag and ensure your hands are clean. PLEASE turn your phone to silent or turn it off and leave it in your bag – Little Bo Beats is a phone-free zone! Your child will need your help and having phones ringing or beeping during teaching is obviously very disruptive to the class.

Once you are ready come and join the circle – we will endeavour to always start on time!

What do we do during the lesson?

If you're ever unsure about what to do the best answer is to copy what the teacher is doing, but here are some guidelines for what to expect during different activities:

- ♪ Circle Time: Many activities at Little Bo Beats will happen while sitting in a circle. Try and keep the circle tight and gather your child to sit with you.
- ♪ Movements and Actions: You will be presented with options. There is no hierarchy, no levels of development or expectation of progression. Just choose the option that is most comfortable for you and your child.
- ♪ Playing instruments: the stages of development are listening, holding, discovering, and performing on cue. Again, it doesn't matter what stage your child is at.
- ♪ Instruments and Props: We make an effort to choose the most child-safe instruments and props possible. However, children have a super power of destruction - please ensure that your children are using them safely and appropriately.



- ♪ Sing! Whilst there are some songs where it will be okay to listen, most songs will be singable. We may not stop to teach you the song but once you hear it a few times please join in, even just the little bits you know. The good news is that you probably already know a lot of the songs we sing.

What if I'm not a good singer?

Here at Little Bo Beats we don't believe there is any such thing! Everyone has been given a beautiful voice for self expression. Your child needs to hear your voice - please don't underestimate the importance of singing to your children. It is one of the most valuable things you can do for them. There is no better way to develop your singing voice than singing together with a room full of people. We promise not to judge!

How do I know if my child is learning?

Be aware that your child is learning in this class just by listening, especially babies under 4 months. Our music and activities are carefully chosen so that your child is learning just by being in the room and hearing the music going on around them. It is important that you join in so they will hear the sound of your voice and feel you moving to the beat.

If you are worried that there is something preventing your child from participating to their full capacity then please talk to your teacher - Little Bo Beats is an inclusive environment and we will work with you to find a solution.

Any new situation can be daunting for kids (and adults). We recommend that you stick with the program for a while even if you didn't enjoy one particular lesson or activity.

Safety in the class:

We always give options for different levels of ability within the baby class. If you feel a particular option is not suitable for your child then please go with what you feel is safest. Many of the movement exercises are not suitable for newborns.

When you leave:

You will go home with a song sheet for the "Song of the Week". Overtime this will build your repertoire of nursery rhymes and folk songs. The benefits of singing regularly with babies is well documented so why not try to sing your new song with your baby every day, or maybe go back and sing some of your favourite songs from weeks past. You can keep the fun going all week.



We also provide recordings of some of the songs that can be streamed from our member's only "Mother Hubbard's Cupboard" on our website.

Expect to be smiling and singing all the way home.

If you have any questions or special requirements please contact me at bec@littlebo Beats.com.au, or on 0401 351 447.

Looking forward to meeting you soon!

Bec
Little Bo Beats.