M D Music, Dance & Art School A S of Douglaston

Piano curriculum and levels

Levels	Skills and areas to work on	Repertory
Preparatory Level (first 5-6 months of study)	1. Orientation on the keyboard.(Black and white keys pattern, correlation between direction and pitch, finding all 7 keys in all octaves) 2. Finger numbers 3. Basic principles of notation. 4. Knowledge of basic note durations (whole, half, quarter notes) 5. Concept of basic time signatures (2/4, 4/4) 6. Notation within the range of one octave	J.Bastien - Piano Primer A E.Burnam- Dozen a day Minibook
Beginner Level 1 6 months to 1 year of study	1.Posture/hands: (arm and wrist ease, balance, hands coordination) 2. Dynamics 3.Expanding of notation range (2 to 3 octaves)	J.Bastien- Piano primer B J.Bastien – Piano Level 1 E.Burnam -Dozen a day – Preparatory Book

Level 1 (cont.)	4.More time values (Dotted-half, eight, dotted quarter, rests) 5.Accidentals 6.Basics of articulation (staccato, legato) 7.Usage of both hands simultaneously 9.Tempo markings 10.Basic pedal 11. Exploration of Primary chords 12.Learning about simple forms in music (AB,ABA)	
Beginner Level 2 1½ - 2 years of study	13.Hands positions shifts. 1. Flexibility and velocity of hands 2. Basic scales 3.Intro to triads and inversions 4.Steadiness of beat 5.Exploration of new time signatures 6.Exploration of new key signatures (Up to 4 sharps)	J.Bastien -Piano Level 1 J.Bastien -Piano Level 2 E.Burnam - Dozen a day, Book 1

Beginner Level 3 3 years of study	1.Introduction to minor keys 2.New rhythm patterns (triplets),time signatures(3/8,6/8) 3. Different left hand accompaniment patterns 4.Chromatic scales	J.Bastien Piano Level 2 J.Bastien Piano Level 3 E.Burnam – Dozen a day book 2

Beginner Level 4 4 years of study	1.Mastering the full range of the keyboard (adding ledger lines) 2.Being comfortable in all key signatures 3.Being able to play all major scales (at least 2 octaves) 4.Ability to play sixteen notes at moderate tempo (quarter note = 60 metronom marking)	J.Bastien - Piano Literature 1 D.Agay - Bach to Bartok vol A,B Junior Hanon - Exercises
Intermediate Level 1 5 years of study	1.Developing more independence of each hand 2.Developing more Pedal skills 3.Phrasing, expression, tone quality	J.Bastien- Piano Literature 2 Junior Hanon Exercises book 2 Czerni/Hermer - Etudes J.S.Bach - Notebook of Anna Magdalena Bach Faber&Faber- Piano Literature Book 1
Intermediate Level 2 6 years of study	 Chord playing technic Finger dexterity Three octave scales, arpeggios. More nuance playing Expanding on structure, mood, character 	Czerni – Etudes Op 599 Faber&Faber - Piano Literature Book 2 J.Bastien -Piano Literature 3 J.S.Bach - Little Preludes and Fugues
Intermediate Level 3 7 years of study	1.Four note chords (V7 with inversions) 2.4 octaves Scales 3.Scales in contrary motion in 2 octaves (MM – quarter note = 72) 4. Una corda. 5.Sonata form.	Czerni - Etudes Hanon Exercises J.Bastien - Piano Literature 3,4 M.Clementi - Sonatinas F.Chopin - Easy Piano pieces J.S.Bach - Little Preludes and Fugues

Intermediate Level 4 8 years of study	1.4 octave scales 2 3 octave contrary motion scales 3. Increase of velocity 4.Increase of texture density 5.Homophonic versus contrapuntal 6.Style differentiation and interpretation	Czerni - Etudes I.S.Bach Two Part Inventions I.S.Bach Little Preludes and Fugues J.Bastien Piano Literature 4 L.V.Beethoven –Sonatinas F.Chopin – Easy piano pieces
Advanced Levels 1 to 4	At all Advanced Levels each student's curriculum is individually designed in accordance with musical Preferences (classical,jazz,pop,composition Etc), goals and aspirations	