

Engaging Parents for Student Success

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Why engage parents?

- Result: happier parents, happier students, better retention, faster progress
- Parents have enormous influence over their kids
- Most parents want to help, but don't know how

Get to know parents

- What do parents want?
- [Parenting Survey](#) - study by Zero to Three
- [Parenting in America](#) - study by Pew Research Center

What to tell parents

- Kids love to copy → Kids need to *see*, *hear*, and make music *with* others
 - [Set a strong musical foundation](#) (article)
 - [Take kids to hear live music](#) (article)
 - [Sing your instructions](#) (article & video)
- Progress leads to motivation → Focus on consistent & effective practice
 - [Develop a practice habit](#) (article)

How to engage parents

1. Get to know the parents. What are their goals?
2. Communicate regularly - You are the expert
 - Be clear about studio policies
 - How can parents be involved during lessons
 - Be very clear about your practice instructions
 - How can parents be involved at with practicing
 - Schedule time to check in with parents at least 2x a year
 - Mid-year check-in forms for [parent](#) & [student](#)
3. Repeat and repeat
 - Parents are busy, so keep reminding them
 - Use a variety of methods: visual, aural, kinesthetic; talk, email, workshops, articles, parent share sessions
4. Tell parents to take a class

Resources for Parents on Raising Joyful, Musical Kids

- Videos: [YouTube.com/BarbieWong](https://www.youtube.com/BarbieWong)
- Group: [FaceBook.com/Groups/MusicalNest](https://www.facebook.com/Groups/MusicalNest)
- Articles: [BarbieWong.com/blog](https://www.BarbieWong.com/blog)
- Classes: [BarbieWong.com/parents](https://www.BarbieWong.com/parents)