

Band Handbook

Welcome to the Hope/Legacy Charter School band program. This year promises to be an exciting year as we begin a tradition of excellence in music.

To produce an outstanding band requires that each student accept certain responsibilities:

1. Responsible Behavior
2. Dependability
3. Musical Excellence
4. Dedication

The purpose of this handbook is to provide valuable information about the band program and the standards expected of each band member.

Choosing An Instrument

In the beginning band program students may choose from the following instruments: flute, clarinet, alto sax., tenor sax., trumpet, French horn, trombone, baritone, tuba and percussion.

It is important to find the instrument on which your child will experience the greatest opportunity for success.

Factors considered in this decision are:

1. Your child's interest in the instrument.
2. Your child's physical characteristics.
3. Your child's musical and rhythmic ability.
4. Balancing the instrumentation in the band ensemble.

Obtaining An Instrument

Parents are expected to provide an instrument for their child to play that is in good repair.

These can be purchased or rented from many different sources. One of the principal causes of pupil frustration is an inferior instrument, so if you have any questions about a brand, please do not hesitate to contact the director. A local music store will visit our school once a week to pick up any repairs and drop off any accessories needed.

Instrument supplies

All students should bring the following materials to class every day: instrument, music stand, band book and pencil.

Clarinet and saxophone players should maintain 4 good reeds (Strengths #2 or #2 1/2) at all times. A reed clip is an inexpensive but safe way to store the reeds.

Brass players should have proper lubricant for their instrument (valve oil, tuning slide grease, trombone slide cream)

Instrumental Expectations

Instrumental Class Rules

1. Always come to class, even if you forget your instrument.
2. Be on time.
3. If you're absent, get your assignment from another student.
4. Enter classroom quietly and quickly set up for band.
5. No gum chewing, eating or drinking in class.

6. Respect other people's property. Do not handle any instrument that is not yours.
7. Only play your instrument when you are asked to. Playing out of turn is inconsiderate to your classmates and your teacher.
8. Put all equipment away when asked.

Students should not be in the band room before class time and parents should pick students up within 10 minutes of class ending or they will be sent to aftercare (at a charge).

Concert Expectations

All students are expected to attend the band concerts as part of the curriculum. Concert dates are planned at the beginning of the year, so conflicts should be avoided with advance notice to private instructors or coaches.

How To Practice

1. Place music at eye level on your music stand.
 2. Make sure that you are playing your instrument correctly -- good posture, correct hand positions and support of the instrument.
 3. Practice slowly and carefully -- quickly adjust wrong notes and poor tone -- Only mistakes are learned in careless, fast playing through a song over and over.
 4. Work on short musical sections, perfecting them for good tone and in-tune notes.
 5. Practice all of the weekly assignment, not just the easy parts.
 6. Play with steady, accurate rhythm.
 7. Learn the weekly assignment so that you can play it without hesitating in spots.
- Students should practice 70 minutes per week (10 minutes per day).*

Class Fees

All class fees should be payed on a semester or monthly schedule to the director.

Students behind on payments will be unable to continue in class until their account is brought up to date.