

CLAREMONT COLLEGE 2019



INSPIRED
FOR LIFE

Our Core Values



LEARNING

ENGAGING LEARNING THROUGH
QUALITY TEACHING ACROSS
THE CURRICULUM WITH
INNOVATION AND CREATIVITY



ACADEMIC

BUILDING A PLACE OF
EXCELLENCE WITH FIRM
ACADEMIC FOUNDATIONS



CHARACTER

GROWING AND AFFIRMING
THE CHARACTER, LEADERSHIP
AND A SENSE OF PURPOSE FOR
EACH INDIVIDUAL CHILD



INSPIRED FOR LIFE



COMMUNITY

PROVIDING A NURTURING
SCHOOL COMMUNITY
THROUGH CARE AND
RESPECT FOR SELF, OTHERS
AND THE ENVIRONMENT



HERITAGE

HONOURING THE RICH
HISTORY AND HERITAGE OF
CLAREMONT COLLEGE



FAITH

HAVING FAITH IN CHRIST
AND FOLLOWING HIS
WORD IN OUR LIVES

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CHEAT SHEET

The band program has a Training Band and a Performing Band.

WHAT DOES THE BAND INVOLVE?

Being in the band involves:	Details
One instrument lesson per week, arranged and paid for by parents	Page 7 – Instrument Tuition Appendix F – Instrument Lessons Guide Appendix G – List of Tutors
One rehearsal per week (per band)	Page 6 – Rehearsals
Attendance at performances	Page 6 - Performances
Home practice (20 mins x 4 days pw)	Page 8 – Practising at Home

HOW MUCH WILL IT COST?

The band is self-funding. Expect to pay about \$1400, plus instrument purchase/hire and tuition.

Parents will need to pay for	Details
Annual band fees	Page 10 - Cost
Instrument hire or purchase	Page 9 – Hiring or Purchasing an Instrument
Instrument tuition	Page 7 – Instrument Tuition
Band Uniform	Page 6 - Performances

HOW DO WE JOIN?

Attend the Band Information Night in February. Application forms (Appendix B) are due in March (you can indicate an instrument preference). The Band Director assigns instruments. Children and parents must sign a contract (Appendix D) demonstrating commitment. You then purchase/hire an instrument, arrange and begin instrument lessons, begin attending rehearsals and pay the band fee. (See Appendix A – How do I join the band?). Contact details for the Band Conductor and Band Committee are found on page #.

PART 1 - INTRODUCTION

WHY LEARN MUSIC?

Learning music has wide-ranging benefits in neurodevelopment as well as positive effects on many aspects of a child's education. Being part of a band helps a child to develop the cooperative and social skills required to be a valued member of any team.

"I would teach the children music, physics and philosophy; but the most important is music, for in the patterns of music are the keys to all learning." **Plato**

"The evidence of neuroscience overwhelmingly demonstrates that children studying music have a considerable educational advantage over those who don't. Because of the essentially aural nature of music, together with the requirements of intense listening and concentration, the child's brain responds powerfully to music education, enhancing all other learning." **Richard Gill OAM**, Musical Director of the Victorian Opera, Artistic Director of the Sydney Symphony's education program. Band participation can also lead to future opportunities such as:

- Ensembles¹;
- Performing Arts Selective Secondary Schools²;
- Music scholarships;
- High school and community orchestras, bands and musicals;
- Australian Music Examination Board (AMEB) exams and HSC; and
- Additional points for out of area students seeking entry to Tempe High School.

AIMS OF THE BAND PROGRAM

The Band Program provides leadership in music education with a highly qualified and dedicated band director. The program aims to provide:

- A strong grounding in music - learning an instrument and how to read, play, understand and appreciate music;
- Progression for students from a training band to a performance band and/or stage band
- Performance opportunities;
- Instrument tutoring program supported within Claremont College;
- Student mentoring and the benefits of learning music in a team environment; and
- Scholarships.

BAND DIRECTOR

Murray Jackson is the Band Director. He is currently band conductor at Clovelly Public School, and also heads the band program at Rose Bay Secondary College.

Murray is a saxophonist who has a Graduate Diploma in Jazz Performance from Australian National University. He studied composition and arranging at the NSW Conservatorium of Music and is a regular performer with many of Australia's best jazz performers at venues throughout NSW.

Murray can be contacted at m.jackson@claremont.nsw.edu.au

¹ Including the Sydney Region Band, the NSW Public Schools Symphonic Wind Ensemble and Symphonic Wind Orchestra (for Years 4, 5 and 6). See www.artsunit.nsw.edu.au and www.sydneymusicregionarts.nsw.edu.au

² Including the Conservatorium of Music and Newtown High School of the Performing Arts

PARENT CONCERNS

If you have concerns regarding the Band Program, including instrument lessons or tutors, these concerns should be directed, in the first instance, to the Band Director either in person or via email to m.jackson@claremont.nsw.edu.au

PART 2 - HOW THE BAND PROGRAM WORKS

The Band Program has two ensembles: a Training Band (mostly Year 3), and a Performing band (graduates of the Training Band). The program has five key elements:

- Performances
- Rehearsals
- Instrument tuition
- Repertoire (sheet music)
- Home practice

The band is self-funding via an annual band fee (see page 9). Parents will also need to pay for instrument purchase or hire (see page 8) and weekly instrument tuition (page 9).

Children and parents are required to sign a contract demonstrating their commitment to the band (see Appendix D)

PERFORMANCES

Performances are a highlight for the band and the result of all their hard work. Participation in major performances is subject to satisfactory attendance and commitment to all rehearsals, especially those leading up to the performance date.

REHEARSALS

- One full rehearsal per week is a mandatory part of the Band Program. Rehearsals are held in the school hall as follows:

Training Band – Monday 7:30am-8:30am

Performing – Friday 3:15pm – 4:30pm

Children must:

- arrive promptly to assist with set-up and to be prepared to play as soon as possible;
- bring their instrument, band book, music folder and a pencil to every rehearsal; and
- have on hand their instrument's accessories such as cork grease, valve oil, spare reeds and cleaning equipment.

If your child cannot attend band rehearsal please send an email to m.jackson@claremont.nsw.edu.au. Similarly, if you intend to be away for an extended period of time during the school term (e.g. illness or holidays), please advise the Director and your tutor. Please try to arrange doctor's appointments etc. outside of band rehearsal times.

The Positive Behaviour Management Policy applies to all band activities, and students must take direction from the Band Director as they would from their classroom teacher, this includes listening to the Band Director, guest conductors and other helpers. No instrument is to be played whilst the Band Director is speaking and exemplary manners are expected at all times.

INSTRUMENTAL TUITION

Instrument lessons are important for building students' musical skills and are mandatory. If lessons are not attended or fees are unpaid, your child will be unable to participate in band rehearsals and performances, until this is rectified.

Students must undertake a lesson each week (minimum 32 lessons per year) which may be either:

- One-on-one
- Shared (2 students), or
- Group (3 students)

A list of professional tutors who teach students at the school is can be found in Appendix G. Parents may organise private tuition outside school hours themselves in addition or as an alternative. Parents can speak with the director if assistance is needed to identify and contact a tutor.

The arrangement between the tutor and the student (including payment of fees) is the responsibility of the student and parents.

Lessons generally focus on the band repertoire, but some students may wish to undertake the external Australian Music Examination Board (AMEB) exams. There is no obligation to sit exams however if you would like your child to sit for AMEB exams, please talk to your tutor about preparation and requirements.

For further information about instrumental lessons and expectations of parents, tutors and students, please refer to Appendix F: The Guide for Parents and Tutors.

REPERTOIRE (SHEET MUSIC)

Copies of sheet music will be issued for use at home and in lessons and rehearsals. Students should place their sheet music in a band folder as soon as it is issued. All sheet music remains the property of the school and should not be copied for any reason.

Music should only be annotated with pencil, and students should keep a pencil with an eraser with their band folder.

PRACTISING AT HOME

As a guide, children are to practise their instrument a minimum of four times per week for at least 20 minutes. Regular practise at home is important for your child' s musical development and is an expectation of band membership. Experience has shown that students who practise are more likely to continue learning their instrument in the long term. If this is difficult for your child, please contact Murray Jackson.

When and where to practise:

- A quiet, enclosed room with no distractions;
- Early morning is best. Avoid late evening when body and mind are tired; and
- 4 practises per week, as a minimum, for at least 20 minutes, increasing the time as endurance increases.

What to practise:

- Warm ups – long tones that can be played comfortably;
- Technical work – set scales and exercises;
- Specific pieces of music – band pieces (priority), solo pieces set in lessons, duets; and
- ensembles.

HOW TO PRACTISE:

- Concentrate on small pieces of a tune – maybe one or two bars;
- Start slowly and build up speed gradually and repeat several times until it you improve;
- Don't repeat until concentration is lost – there is always tomorrow; and
- After practice, clean your instrument to maintain it in good order.

PART 3 - HIRING OR PURCHASING AN INSTRUMENT

HIRING AN INSTRUMENT

The School does not have instruments available to rent/hire. Please speak to your music tutor for a list of reputable companies who hire instruments. Should you choose to hire an instrument it is recommended that parents consider adding the instrument to their household insurance as a specified portable item, to limit their financial exposure in case of loss or damage of the instrument.

Many retailers offer rent-to-buy or rent-only options. You should shop around when buying a new instrument, and avoid buying from the internet. Please speak to your tutor and/or the Band Director beforehand, as they will be able to advise you regarding an appropriate make and model of instrument.

PURCHASING AN INSTRUMENT

If you choose not to hire your selected instrument, you will need to buy an instrument. A rough guide to the approximate cost of new instruments is:

- Flute: \$500–\$700
- Clarinet: \$600–\$800 (plus cost of reeds is about \$70 per year)
- Trumpet: \$500–\$900
- Alto saxophone: \$1,000–\$1,600 (plus cost of reeds is about \$70 per year)
- Drums: \$100–\$200 (we suggest you buy a snare drum to start)]

Percussion students will need to purchase a percussion kit for \$250 (glockenspiel, mallet hammers, practice pad) and sticks \$40. Available from Optimum Percussion www.optimumpercussion.com.au , 02 9744 1829.

RECOMMENDED INSTRUMENT SUPPLIERS INCLUDE:

- Prestige Woodwind and Brass, Bondi Junction (Lucy Marks) 9389 0166
- Sax and Woodwind, Camperdown 9557 4588
- The Music Place, Annandale (Scott McKenzie) 9550 0100
- Frank Fordham Music, West Ryde 8014 0574
- Polygon Group (hire specialist) - David Howell 0417 872 631

INSTRUMENT SERVICING

Instruments should be serviced about once a year (roughly \$150-\$250 - may be more if there is damage eg dents). If you think your instrument needs a service or repair, please talk to your tutor in the first instance. If required, contact the Band Director who has a network of trusted instrument repairers and can arrange.

PART 4 - COST

Being in the Band is a significant financial commitment. It will cost around \$1800 per year for the band program and tuition. On top of this you will also need to hire or buy an instrument.

The Band Program is self-funding and the fees paid by parents are the only source of income. Major program expenses include the Band Director's fees, instrument purchases, repair and maintenance, music stands, sheet music, and music folders. Prompt payment by parents is essential to maintain the smooth running of the program. If band fees are not paid on time, your child will be unable to participate in rehearsals and performances.

Band fee	\$190 Half Year	\$380
Accent on Achievement student book	\$20 (distributed at first rehearsal)	
Private Lessons	\$49 per lesson	\$392 per term (8 lessons)
Group Lessons (3)	\$20-\$25 per lesson	\$160 - \$200 per term (8 lessons)

METHODS OF PAYMENT

Band fees are charged to your school account in Terms 2 and 4.

All lessons with tutors are paid directly to them upon issue of their invoice.

APPENDIX A – HOW DO I JOIN THE BAND?

- **Step 1 – Attend the Band information night**

An information night for the 2019 band year will be held on **20 February 2019** in the school hall. The Band Conductor, Murray Jackson will be available to answer your questions about the program.

- **Step 2 – Complete the Application Form**

Fill in the Application Form (Appendix A) and return it to Mrs Wiggins in the school office by **1 March 2019**. The Form asks you to indicate **three** instruments your child would like to play, in order of preference.

- **Step 3 – Conductor assigns instruments**

Murray will assign instruments to children based on their preferences *and* the requirements of the Band. Your child may be asked to meet with Murray so he can assess their pitch, rhythm, tone and physical suitability to play certain instruments.

The Band Conductor will advise you of the instrument your child has been assigned.

- **Step 4 – Sign the contract**

After an instrument has been assigned to your child (on or around 8 March 2019), you and your child will be asked to sign the contract (Appendix D). This contract commits families to the program for a **half a year**. Please read it carefully and remind your child of the responsibilities of band membership, including regular attendance at rehearsals and commitment to practice. The signed contracts should be returned to Mrs Karen Wiggins by **1 March 2019**.

- **Step 5 – Buy or hire an instrument**

- **Step 6 – Contact a tutor**

As well as attending weekly rehearsals, band members are tutored at the school once per week. The tutors are listed at Appendix G. The Band Committee may update this list later in the year. You should make arrangements for your child's tutorial as soon as possible.

- **Step 7 – Attend the first Band rehearsal**

The first Training Band rehearsal will be held in **Week 7 Monday 18 March** of Term 1. The Band fee will be billed on your Term 2 School account.

APPENDIX B – APPLICATION FORM

TRAINING BAND

Child's name:Class.....

Contact details:

	Parent/ Carer 1	Parent / Carer 2
Name		
Email address		
Mobile phone		
Home phone		

Musical experience in family?

Do you have access to an instrument your child wants to play?.....

The Training Band includes the following instruments:

- Low brass: baritone, euphonium or tuba
- Flutes
- Clarinets
- Saxophones
- Trumpets
- Percussion (Glockenspiel, Drums)
- Electric Bass

Please indicate, in order of preference, which instruments you would like to play:

1.....

2.....

3.....

Please e-mail to k.wiggins@claremont.nsw.edu.au by 1 March 2019.

APPENDIX C – CONDITIONS OF ACCEPTANCE

TRAINING BAND

(Student and parent to sign and keep at home for personal reference)

The following conditions are to be met as part of the acceptance into the Band. **Please read carefully and discuss points with your child before accepting a place in the Band.**

1. A child accepted into the Training Band will be required to remain in the band for the rest of the school year. If the child and parent agree, the child may then choose not to continue at the end of the year. It is expected however that all members will **continue in the band through to Years 5 and 6.**
2. Your child will be required to practice a minimum of **20 minutes per day**, 4-6 days a week. Rehearsals and lessons are not included. Experience has shown that parents and students that adhere to this are much more successful and are more likely to continue their learning of their instrument long term.
3. Parents agree to notify the **Band Conductor in advance** if their child will be absent from any rehearsals or part of the school term (eg. holidays taken during school term), especially near scheduled concerts. Please try to organise doctor's appointments, etc, outside band rehearsal times.
4. Parents agree to notify the **Band Conductor and their tutor** if their child intends to be away for an extended period or leave the Band
5. All fees will be paid on time.
6. Parents will help their child by reminding him/her to bring their instrument, music book, band folder and pencil to all rehearsals.
7. Band members are expected to attend all performances, both in and outside of school hours. Participation in major performances is subject to satisfactory attendance and commitment to all rehearsals, especially those leading up to the performance date.

Personal copy. Please keep this page for future reference. Do not return.

We/I have read the above and agree to the conditions of acceptance of my child into the Training Band.

Parent's name Signature

Student's name Signature

APPENDIX D - CONTRACT

2019 TRAINING BAND

PARENT/CARER: We have read the Training Band contract and Handbook and agree to the conditions of acceptance of my child into the Band Program.

Parent Name:

Student's Name:

Address:

Phone: Mobile:

E-mail:

Parent Signature:

STUDENT: I have read the Band Booklet and I undertake to:

1. Show respect to the Band Director, guest conductors, rehearsal assistants, tutors, parent helpers, my fellow students, and my instrument.
2. Practice at home for a minimum of 20 minutes per day, 4–6 days a week.
3. Bring instrument, band music and all necessary equipment to rehearsals, lessons and performances.
4. Be punctual. I will arrive 10 minutes early to rehearsal and be set up and ready to play by the time rehearsal is due to start. I will assist with the setting-up and packing away of all equipment, including chairs and stands.
5. Attend all performances, both in and outside of school hours wearing full school uniform.

Signature of Student: **Date:**

Please e-mail to k.wiggins@claremont.nsw.edu.au by 1 March 2019.

APPENDIX F – INSTRUMENT LESSONS – GUIDE FOR TUTORS AND PARENTS

All children playing instruments must have at least one 30-minute music lesson per week. The Band Director can help facilitate initial contact with tutors, but **all lessons are a private arrangement between the family and the tutor**. A list of tutors is at Appendix G.

Lessons:

- may be one-on-one, shared or group lessons;
- will be held at school; and
- meet the minimum of 28 lessons a year (7 per term).

Expect to pay roughly \$49/half-hour one-on-one lesson, \$20-\$25 per student/half hour for group lessons (three students). GST may apply.

COMMITTEE / TUTOR RELATIONSHIP

The Band Director will:

- Provide parents with a list of tutors who meet professional music standard, appropriate experience and meet Department of Education 'Working with Children' requirements;
- Allocate session times for the tutors to use the school;
- Maintain an up-to-date timetable of all lessons/tutors; and
- Provide regular communication and support for the tutors.

Tutors will:

- Provide the Band Director with a timetable of student lessons as soon as they have allocated lesson times at the beginning of the year. This will be forwarded to Mrs Karen Wiggins, so teachers are aware of where students are.
- Advise the Band director in advance if the tutor will be absent for 3 or more weeks

TUTORS AND PARENTS/STUDENT RELATIONSHIP

Tutors obligations

The tutor is expected to run their own business and is responsible for regular communication with the parents and child, invoicing and collecting of lesson fees.

In the first week, the tutor should outline their policy directly to the parents, regarding:

- Attendance, punctuality;
- Fees, invoicing and payment options;
- Refunds (most tutors will not refund or make-up a lesson that is missed with no notice);
- Amount of notice required in times of child illness, holidays and extended leave;
- Catch-up/ make-up lessons;
- Withdrawal of child from lessons and notice required; and

- Best means of communication (e.g. SMS, voicemail, email etc) and contact details.

Ongoing it is expected the tutors will:

- Notify parents and students BEFORE each term starts when lessons will resume and the number of lessons there will be in the term;
- Schedule lessons outside school hours and communicate all changes directly to parents and students. At least 24 hours' notice must be given of cancellation or rescheduled lessons;
- Ensure families have up-to-date contact details;
- Have all student contact details (phone and email);
- Actively communicate with parents by email, phone calls and student practice diaries;
- Be punctual and prepared for lessons;
- Set clear practice requirements and help develop a realistic practice schedule;
- Prioritise the learning and practice of Band Program music;
- Provide appropriate level, interesting and challenging music;
- Teach music theory;
- Teach instrument care and where necessary recommend instrument servicing; and
- Provide opportunity and encourage participation in music exams (e.g. AMEB) and auditions for other bands (e.g. Dept of Education & Communities Sydney Public Schools Concert Band).

EXPECTATIONS OF STUDENTS

- Know exactly when and where the lessons are (including any changes to lessons);
- Be punctual for lessons – ideally arrive five minutes early;
- Be prepared for the lesson – have instrument, reeds etc, music, note books; and
- Practise!

EXPECTATIONS OF PARENTS

- Try to meet your tutor to say 'hello' and perhaps ask to attend early lessons;
- Ensure your tutor has up-to-date contact details (both phone and email);
- Encourage and supervise practice (to progress well 4 x 20 minutes/week is needed);
- Tell the tutor if you have concerns about your child's progress. Regular contact builds rapport and helps you assist your child's practice;
- Make sure your child knows their lesson time and any schedule changes. Remind them
- to bring their instrument and music on the right day;
- Abide by the tutor's fee paying policy, withdrawal notice requirements etc; and
- Give the tutor at least 24 hour's notice of your child's absence. You may ask for a make-up lesson, but this is not always possible. Missed lessons are not refunded.

APPENDIX G – LIST OF TUTORS

Brass: Sam Golding
sambeenz@yahoo.com
Ph: 0414 283 161

Saxophone: Steve Fitzmaurice
sfitzmaurice@hotmail.com
Ph: 0411 150 590

Clarinet: Owen Torr
o.torr@claremont.nsw.edu.au

Flute: Visnja Kosanovic
v.kosanovic@claremont.nsw.edu.au

Band Conductor: Murray Jackson
m.jackson@claremont.nsw.edu.au
Ph: 0403 391 446

Bass guitar: Luke Galea
l.galea@claremont.nsw.edu.au

Percussion: Percy Reddy
p.reddy@claremont.nsw.edu.au

APPENDIX H – GETTING THE BEST FROM THE BAND PROGRAM

Of course, there is a level of commitment involved in being part of a Band Program. Sometimes, especially in the first few weeks, students may reach a point where the novelty of playing a new instrument wears off and interest begins to wane. Persevering through this initial difficult phase will lead to positive outcomes and parents are asked to encourage their child to continue practicing until their proficiency improves and they start to see the fruits of their hard work.

We encourage you to read the following list of responsibilities and discuss any relevant points with your child before accepting a place in the Band Program.

- Practice at home for a minimum of 20 minutes per day, 4 – 6 days a week.
- Notify the Band Director and tutor if absent from rehearsals or lessons.
- Pay fees on time.
- Bring instrument and all necessary equipment to rehearsals, lessons and performances.
- Attend all performances, both in and outside of school hours wearing the band uniform.
- Keep up to date with the Band Program by reading emails from the committee and joining the band Facebook page.
- Participate in fundraising activities and attend Committee meetings and events if possible.
- Show respect. Students to respect each other, the Band Director, guest conductors, tutors, parent helpers, and their instruments.
- Be punctual. Students should be set up and ready to play at the start time of each rehearsal. All band members assist with the setting-up and packing away of all equipment, including chairs and stands.
- Parents, students, and tutors agree to meet the expectations for instrumental lessons listed in Appendix F.
- Enjoy the beginning of your child's musical journey!

APPENDIX I – WITHDRAWAL FORM

I _____ wish to withdraw my child
_____ from the Claremont College band
program.

SEMESTER 1 WITHDRAWALS

I understand that I am not liable to pay for Semester 1 Band fee provided that this form is **received** by the Band Committee prior to COB on Friday, Week 9 of Term 1.

I understand and that if this withdrawal form is not received by 5pm on Friday, Week 9 of Term 1, I am required to pay the full (half year) band fee for Semester 1.

SEMESTER 2 WITHDRAWALS

I understand that I am not liable to pay for Semester 2 Band fee provided that this form is **received** by the Band Committee prior to COB on Friday, Week 4 of Term 3.

I understand and that if this withdrawal form is not received by 5pm on Friday, Week 4 of Term 3, I am required to pay the full (half year) band fee for Semester 2.

LODGING THIS FORM

This form is to be emailed to offic@claremont.nsw.edu.au

Signature of Parent/Guardian: _____ **Date:** _____

Name of Parent/Guardian: _____