



Bishop Lloyd Middle School



BAND HANDBOOK

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Introduction:

Welcome to the Bishop Lloyd Middle School Band Handbook! My hope is that you will find helpful information here that can answer many of the questions that you may have about band at Bishop Lloyd Middle School. My contact information can be found on page 15-16 if you require any further information. I look forward to finally making music with students in a concert band setting!

Mission Statement:

The Bishop Lloyd Middle School music department, in partnership with its community, strives to provide a safe and caring environment for all students where each student can find success in the music making. We are committed to:

- 1) Equipping students with fundamental music competencies to feel confident and successful in lifelong music learning.
- 2) Students gaining and improving on skills such as leadership, responsibility, and teamwork.
- 3) Providing opportunities for learners to connect and expand their individual and collective sense of self, community, and the world by listening to, engaging with, and creating music in a variety of contexts.
- 4) Inquiring into music in ways that invite all students to construct and share their understandings of music as experienced in their own lives and the lives of others.
- 5) Sharing in positive experiences in music and foster a love of learning to develop independent learners capable of responding, living with, and making change in the 21st century.

Band at Bishop Lloyd Middle School

The Bishop Lloyd Middle School band consists of brass, woodwinds, and percussion instruments. There is a Grade 7 Band, Grade 8 Band and a Grade 9 Band. While the bands are split into different classes for rehearsals, classes will come together for concerts and performances each year. Each year, students will work through the Saskatchewan curriculum, with students progressing in musical

skills and knowledge from year to year, adding more to concepts they have already learned. ***Since band is continuous (students continue to build on previously skills and knowledge every year), it can be a challenge to rejoin after dropping it for a year or to change instruments.*** All students interested are welcome to join band. However, it is important for students to be aware that if band is dropped some extra review and work may be needed in the first couple weeks/months of rejoining to regain comfortability in playing their chosen instrument.

Band Fees:

- Grade 7, 8 and 9 band students each have a \$15.00 enrollment fee.

Extracurricular Band Activities
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Note: Depending on the year all or a few of the listed extra curricular activities are offered. Other extra curricular opportunities can be created in collaboration with students to meet their needs and interests.

Jazz band:

Jazz band is an extracurricular group. While participating in this ensemble, students will be offered the opportunity to explore new genres of music including Swing, Latin Jazz, Pop, Rock, and more. Students also have the opportunity to learn a new instrument if they choose to do so while in this ensemble. Standard instrumentation for jazz band includes saxophone, trumpet, trombone, drum kit, bass and piano but no matter what instrument a student plays, all are welcome to join! The only experience required to participate in the Bishop Lloyd Jazz ensembles is one year of playing in Band. This is to allow all students the opportunity to learn the fundamentals of playing their instruments before broadening their horizons.

Drumline:

Drumline is an extracurricular group made up of students from all instruments. Participation in this ensemble will offer students opportunities to strengthen their rhythm skills. No drum or percussion experience is needed!

Rehearsals will likely be held after school once a week. Depending on interests, there may be more than one percussion ensemble.

Grade 7 Honour Band:

Grade 7 Honour Band typically runs once a week and is designed to provide grade 7 students with the opportunity to play with others and further develop their comprehensive musicianship skills. Depending on the number of students who attend and their interests we do a variety of activities that can include: composition, percussion ensembles, concert band, small groups, string instruments (guitar or ukulele), and music technology.

Concerts

Bishop Lloyd Middle School has a history of showcasing student learning through performing several concerts each year. Concerts are crucial to learning at Bishop Lloyd Middle School, as they allow us to share what we are learning in band class and give us an opportunity to perform for our community.

Uniform:

The following uniform will be worn at all performances (this includes festivals):

- Black shirt
- Black pants
- Black socks or nylons
- Closed-toe black shoes (no bare feet showing)

Concert Attendance Policy:

Band is a group activity, and just like any other group activity we perform as a team and depend on everyone working together to make it successful. There is a set instrumentation for the concert band and we must have all of the instruments to make the group the best it can be. Therefore, students are expected to participate in all local concerts and performances as a requirement of the course. However, if any student is unable to attend a performance, if possible, students are encouraged to let Miss Jardine in writing at least two weeks in advance so that appropriate accommodations and arrangements can be made.

Curriculum and Assessment

Band is part of the Saskatchewan Arts Education curriculum. In band, students learn how to play their band instrument and express themselves through music. Band students learn music theory and literacy, composition and improvisation skills, music history, and how their identity and the world around them is affected by the arts. Band also teaches students how to be excellent leaders, citizens, and team players!

How will I learn it? Band class is primarily a hands-on activity, but we also practice theory, do research, explore how music has impacted our identity, and explore how we can create an impact through the arts. It is expected that all students will play and practice their instrument often in order to learn class content and improve! Most in-class learning would be considered group work, but individual practice also plays a large role in band. Units include composition and improvisation, performances, solo work, historical inquiries into musical genres music, exploring current events, and their ties to the arts, and basic music theory.

How can I be successful in this class? Students are constantly being assessed on their literacy, musicianship skills, and personal growth. This includes theory quizzes, playing tests or activities, composition assignments, practice logs, and self-reflection practice journals. Band class is designed to give students a safe space to build community, and better understand themselves and the world around them through music. Therefore, students are encouraged to take risks by exploring new musical ideas and share their wonders and observations about music as they relate to their own lived experiences. The best way to improve is for students to practice their instrument regularly, prepare for theory quizzes using the resources provided in class or online, try out new ideas when composing, participate in classroom discussions, and hand in any other tasks or assignments!

Practicing at Home and in the Band Room:

Regular individual practice is essential for developing proficiency and musicality on an instrument. It is student's duty to their peers in the ensemble to practice regularly, so we can all grow and get better together. To help guide students individual practice habits, there will be a practice log sheet available through Google Classroom and in class. For students who would prefer to practice

at school, a schedule will be posted to provide access to the band room for individual or small group practice.

Practicing Hints and Tips:

- Warm up your instrument by playing long notes. Focus on your sound, have a relaxed posture and most importantly: use fast air.
- Brass players should always start with buzzing on their mouthpieces.
- Focus on the notes that you have learned, the exercises in your method book, and the pieces you are playing.
- Practice when you can. For example, even if you only have a few minutes between supper and hockey try to pick one small goal to achieve, like learning the fingering for one note, or mastering one tricky measure in a piece. You will find a huge improvement in your musical abilities with just a little practice! Remember: it is better to practice a little bit everyday than a long period of time once a week.

Google Classroom

Typically, there will be one Google Classroom set up for each grade. Each grad level Google Classroom will provide a place to hand in specific assignments and provides other class specific information. Any other technology or apps being used in band will be introduced to students in class as needed.

Behavioural Expectations

In the Bishop Lloyd Middle School band room, students are still expected to demonstrate Lancer Pride (<https://bishoplloyd.lpsd.ca/download/23026>).

What does Lancer Pride look like in band?

Lancer Pride in band can be summed up by demonstrating the proper behaviours of a musician: arriving on time, bringing the proper supplies to class (found below), appropriately contributing to classroom discussions, and putting effort into musical performances, task, activities, and assignments. As well, part of the proper behaviours of a musician is to always be respectful of peers, teachers, clinicians, special guests, musical instruments/equipment, and the music we learn or engage with.

Attendance and Participation

Students will be expected to participate in scheduled band events including rehearsals, concerts, clinics, fund-raising, etc., some of which may take place outside of school time such as during the lunch hour.

Students are expected to be prepared for rehearsals by practicing their individual parts & assignments at home so that valuable rehearsal time is not wasted; class rehearsals are for learning other's parts, not their own. Individual problems may be addressed either at the beginning or end of class time or by making an appointment outside of school time (lunch, before or after school). If students require extra support in learning their individual parts, resources will be made available through Google Classroom or by connecting with Miss Jardine.

Students will be expected to have all necessary equipment, music and supplies (pencil, reeds, valve oil, etc.) in good working order. Repair facilities are available at Sew in Tune for non LPSD rented instruments. All arrangements and payment for personal instruments are the responsibility of the individual student/parent. Students are responsible for all music, instruments, and folders loaned to them and are expected to return them when requested.

Students will be expected to participate in rehearsals and classes in such a manner as to not interfere with the learning of others. Students whose behavior/attitude is not seen as productive to themselves or to the group will meet with the teacher, parents, and/or administrator to determine a further course of action.

Cell Phones and Technology

In the band room we will follow the specific cellphone policy that is outlined by administration. Students are asked to respect cell phone and technology policies. In band, there will be times when technology use is permitted for learning. However, cellphones are not to be used during rehearsal unless instructed to and if it is appropriate given specific school policies. If cellphones or technology get in the way of the learning of self or others it may be taken for the remainder of the period or turned into the office for end of the day pick up.

Forgetting Instrument

There may be legitimate reasons for a student to not have their instrument in class such as an instrument being sent off for repairs. However, when an instrument is sent away this is often discussed with Miss Jardine prior to it being sent. If a student forgets their instrument or consistently shows up without it, they will be expected to complete music theory (possibly in an alternative location) during rehearsal time. Students will also be expected to make up the rehearsal time lost by practicing at lunch or at home. Students will then submit evidence of their learning/being caught up in Google Classroom.

Rehearsals

Rehearsals will be held in the band room during class. If there are any changes to the rehearsal schedule or format, students will be notified in class and/or through Google Classroom. Prior to concerts or performances, specific rehearsal times will be scheduled. Since students typically perform with all other students in their grade, finding time for all students to play together is crucial prior to a concert. In the event that a specific section/instrument group requires extra assistance, sectionals may be scheduled during lunch or Lancer Time.

Band Trips

In a normal school year, each grade level will get some kind of band trip. Grade 7 band can expect a one-day trip, and grade 8 and 9 bands can expect an overnight trip. Generally, BLMS bands will travel to music festivals or perform for different communities to experience a variety of learning opportunities. Band events may be planned according to the level of interest and participation in daily classes of the majority of the students. Band trips are a PRIVILEGE, and as such any student who does not display mature & appropriate behavior in class may not be allowed to travel with the band. Students should practice good behaviors to ensure that when a band trip occurs they are able to attend.

Fundraising

Bishop Lloyd Middle School has a history of fundraising to allow for unique learning opportunities for students such as band trips or having clinicians/professional musicians or composers join our class. Throughout the year, there will be a variety of fundraisers for the band program. Some of the fundraising opportunities may include: candy grams, Panago Pizza coupons and volunteering at the Lloydminster Craft Fair. These fundraising opportunities also allow for students to acquire leadership opportunities.

Acquiring your Instrument

Students playing clarinet, trumpet, flute, or trombone are encouraged to rent their instrument through St. John's music or one of the other listed music stores (see below). If you choose to purchase an instrument, please discuss it with Miss Jardine beforehand to ensure the instrument is in good quality. Typically, at the start of every year LPSD band teachers arrange an instrument rental night where band students and their parents or guardians can come to a school (usually Bishop Lloyd) to acquire an instrument.

Recommended Music Stores

1. Bandstand

4824 93 Ave NW,

Edmonton, Alberta

T6B 2P8

Phone: (780) 465- 7264

2. St. John's Music Saskatoon

640 Broadway Avenue

Saskatoon, Saskatchewan

S7N 1A9

Phone: (306) 242-6292

Email: saskatoon@stjohnsmusic.com

3. Long & McQuade Edmonton

6633 118 Ave NW,

Edmonton, AB

T5B 0P1

Phone: (780) 471-2001

Note: There are three Long and McQuade locations in Edmonton.

LPSD Owned Instruments

Students also have the option of renting a school owned instrument. The instrument rental fee is \$100.00. Students playing larger instruments such as tuba, or baritone are encouraged to rent their instrument through the school if they do not have their own. An instrument rental form will need to be complete before an instrument can be assigned to a student. For percussionists, practice pads can be signed out at no cost for at home practice use. Percussionists are also required to purchase their own set of sticks for in class and at home practice (see the below supply list).

Commonly Asked Questions About Acquiring an Instrument:

***Q:** I missed instrument rental night at the start of the year How do I acquire an instrument for my student?*

A: There are two options for acquiring an instrument for your student:

1. Renting from a music dealer.
2. Renting from the school.

***Q:** How do I acquire an instrument from a music dealer and which music dealer should I use?*

A: Parents are encouraged to rent from any of the dealers listed in this section of the Band Handbook. However, Bandstand provides the option of renting online which makes it easier to arrange in the event that you and your student missed instrument rental night.

- Parents or guardians rent an instrument from Bandstand using the online instrument rental form
<http://www.bandstand.ca/home.htm?location=rentalreserve>
- If you rent from Bandstand, you have the option of the instrument being shipped directly to you or having it delivered to your school.
- Parents or guardians are also welcome to arrange to rent from St. John's Music or Long & McQuade.

Q: *How do I find out the cost of an instrument rental?*

A: The price of an instrument rental will vary depending on the make and model of the instrument. Typically, dealers will have a variety of different price ranges for rentals.

- Bandstand has a variety of new, lightly used, or older instruments available to rent. Instrument costs will vary depending on the quality (new, lightly used, or older) and type of instrument.
- Please use the following link to find out more about specific instrument types and costs
<http://www.bandstand.ca/home.htm?location=rentals/pricing.html>
- You can contact other music dealers to inquire about instrument pricing as it will vary.

Q: *How do I acquire a school rental?*

A: If you are interested in a school rental, an instrument rental form can be sent home with your student or emailed to you directly. The instrument rental form will need to be returned to Miss Jardine or the office. Please let Miss Jardine know if you are interested in renting through the school by emailing katelyn.jardine@lpsd.ca Typically, the instrument rental forms are sent home at the beginning of the school year. However, instrument rental forms can be made available at any time throughout the year. Once the form with payment is received by Miss Jardine, it will take 1-3 business days to have an instrument issued to a student.

Q: *Are students being assigned instruments and which instruments can they pick from?*

It is important that students learn to play an instrument that they will want to learn. Students are allowed to pick from a traditional concert band instrument. The instruments students can pick from are: *flute, clarinet, alto saxophone, tenor saxophone, trumpet, French horn, trombone, baritone, tuba or percussion.*

Instrument Repairs and Care

Students are expected to take care of their instrument and keep it in good working shape. However, there are times where instruments will need to be repaired due to the regular wear and tear of the instrument. *Please note that if a student is renting an LPSD instrument, the \$100.00 rental fee only covers regular wear and tear only. The individual student is responsible for costs over and above regular wear and tear.* If your instrument is a LPSD owned instrument give it to Miss Jardine so she can arrange for repair. If a student feels their instruments may need a repair, please let Miss Jardine know. If you are renting an instrument from a music store (St. John's or Long and McQuade) or own your own instrument, you can take the instrument to Sew in Tune for maintenance and repair.

Instrument Repair Common Questions:

Q: *My student owns their own instrument and it is in need of repair, where do I take the instrument for repair?*

A: Student owned instruments can be taken to Sew in Tune for maintenance and repair. If you are visiting Saskatoon or Edmonton St. John's music or Long and McQuade also offer instrument repair services.

Q: *My student rented an instrument from Bandstand, how can I ensure my students' instrument gets repaired?*

A: Bishop Lloyd has a Bandstand instrument rep that visits once a month. If you send Miss Jardine and email letting her know your students instrument is broken she can send the instrument with our student rep. Alternatively, you are welcome to reach out to Bandstand to let them know that your students' instrument is in need of repair.

Q: My student has an LPSD instrument how do I get my students instrument repaired?

A: If your student requires an LPSD instrument to be repaired please let Miss Jardine know. Emails are always appreciated letting Miss Jardine know your student requires a repair. Alternatively, if it is a LPSD instrument your student can also let Miss Jardine know at the start or end of class.

Q: My students instrument is sent off for repair, how long will the repair take?

A: The length of time it takes to repair an instrument varies depending on the time of year and the repair that is needed. Typically, a repair can range from taking 1 to 3 months.

Q: *Are students being assigned instruments and which instruments can they pick from?*

A: It is important that students learn to play an instrument that they will want to learn. Students are allowed to pick from a traditional concert band instrument. The instruments students can pick from are: *flute, clarinet, alto saxophone, tenor saxophone, trumpet, French horn, trombone, baritone, tuba or percussion.*

Q: *My student wants to learn guitar is this an option for band class?*

A: Typical concert band instrumentation does not allow for guitar to be learned in class. However, to provide students with opportunities to learn string instruments typically there is a ukulele or guitar unit that occurs in June once our yearly concert band performances are complete. For students wanting to learn guitar or for students who have already learned guitar, jazz band provides the opportunity for students to play guitar.

Supply Lists

Students are responsible for bringing the required instrument, instrument supplies, method books, music, paper, and pencils to every band class. ***Students will be starting this year by playing their instruments, but will be expected to***

use an instrument mask (provided by the school) at all times. It is recommended but not required that students purchase a collapsible music stand for practicing at home. All supplies can be purchased from any of the recommended music stores on page 6 and music stands can be purchased either online or at a music store.

Method Books:

Grade 7, 8, and 9 band students may be assigned a method book. These method books will be assigned to the students at the start of the year and will be returned to Miss Jardine in June if requested. Students are not permitted to write in their assigned method book using pen as method books may be reused from year to year.

Instrument Supplies:

Flute	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Tuning Rod -Cleaning Cloth
Oboe	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -2x medium soft reeds (as needed) -Cleaning Swab
Clarinet and Bass Clarinet	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -1 box of clarinet or bass clarinet reeds: strength 2 ½ (Rico Royal, Mitchell Lurie or Vandoren) -Plastic reed guard or reed holder -Cleaning swab - Cork grease
Alto Saxophone, Tenor Saxophone or Baritone Saxophone	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -1 box of alto, tenor or baritone saxophone reeds strength 2 ½ or 3 (Rico Royal or Vandoren) -Plastic reed guard or reed holder -Cleaning swab -Cork grease

	-Neck strap (avoid straps that are very stretchy and/or very cushioned)
Trumpet, French Horn, Euphonium or Tuba	-Valve oil -Tuning slide grease
Trombone	-Slide cream -Small water spray bottle -Tuning slide grease
Percussion	-A pair of Vic Firth SD1 drumsticks for at school and at home practice - Optional: Practice pad for at home practice.

*Note: Reed players please discuss with Miss Jardine if you are considering changing reed strengths or mouth pieces. *As well, parents or guardians are responsible for ensuring their student has the supplies they need to participate in concerts and rehearsals (reeds, valve oil etc.).* If you are not sure what to order or are having issues finding the supplies needed feel free to reach out to Miss Jardine.

Band Parent and Guardian Participation

Throughout the year when/if there are band trips or other important information to be shared with parents and guardians, a meeting may be held in addition to information packets being shared to provide further details on concerts, events and/or trips. All band parents and/or guardians are welcome! Concert and trip details are communicated out as soon as available.

Contact Information

If you have any questions regarding band at Bishop Lloyd Middle School please contact Katie Jardine at katelyn.jardine@lpsd.ca

Important Dates

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