



JPPS Band

— Advance Together

BAND PROGRAM 2020

A Word from the Band Committee

John Purchase has a proud tradition of excellence with its band program and we take great pride in giving children at the school the opportunity to learn an instrument and grow musically. Our bands have been very successful over the years, receiving awards and recognition for their efforts.

Every year we are amazed that we can take students that cannot play or read music and within the year turn them into a band. There is no greater praise than the expressions on new band parents faces at the Band Camp concert when they hear the Training Band play.

As a volunteer committee we offer what we consider to be a comprehensive band program that caters for a very diverse range of musical abilities. Naturally as part of the program your child will learn to play an instrument but, it is learning to play together as a band that adds the extra dimension to their musical education and develops skills that will help them in all sorts of non-musical ways as well.

The Band Committee is committed to ensuring that the band program is as musically accessible as possible to our students and as financially accessible as possible to parents and we hope to see your child as part of the program.

JPPS Band Committee



Band Program Goals

- To give students the opportunity to learn and experience music.
- To make the program as accessible as possible to all students at the school by keeping fees low and providing instrument hire.
- To instill a sense of team spirit and a sense of responsibility in all band members.

Our Bands

John Purchase offers several bands that perform at different levels to meet the various musical abilities of our students. The ensembles offered at JPPS are dependent upon student numbers, interest and ability, so over time the number of ensembles offered may increase/decrease.

All our bands currently are what are referred to as concert bands comprising woodwind, brass, percussion, keyboards and bass guitar. Please note our Band Program currently does not cater for string instruments.

Training Band

The Training Band as the name suggests, is for those students with little or no musical experience. Students are eligible to join Training Band from Year 3. Students normally spend at least a year in the training band before moving up to the next band.

Concert Band

The Concert Band is for those with some musical experience. Students are eligible to join Concert Band after they have completed one year of Training Band, or have had some previous experience in a band outside of JPPS. Students in Concert Band are expected to be at approximately a Grade 2 AMEB level.

Moving up from the Training Band is automatic but the conductor may choose to audition students for positions in the Concert Band. The conductor may also choose to hold back students that they feel need additional time in the Training Band.

Joining the Band

Students join the band through our annual intake process that takes place in Term 4 each year. All interested parents and students can attend the Band Information Evening (see school calendar for dates). All students from Year 2 and interested students from Year 3/4/5 have the opportunity to play some instruments during an instrument try out session during school, and also at the Band Information Evening. No previous music experience is required from students.

When the student and family are ready to make the commitment, they can enrol using our online website, My School Music

<https://portal.msmusic.com.au/jppsband>

Please note that the Band Conductor must ensure that the band's sound is balanced. While we ask students to nominate their preferred instrument, the Band Conductor however may need to allocate students alternate instruments that are not their first choice.

For those that are joining the band program outside of our normal intake process you can contact the band committee by email at JPPSBandCommittee@gmail.com We can organise for your child to attend one of the band rehearsals to see what is involved. Our band director will then determine which band best suits your child's abilities and if there is a vacancy they will become a band member.



Instruments

Each child enrolled in the JPPS Band Program will need access to an instrument. Instruments can either be hired through the school, or purchased from a reputable music shop.

Hiring an Instrument

The Band Program has a limited range of instruments for hire including flutes, clarinets, saxophones (alto and tenor), trumpets, trombones, bass guitars and amplifiers, and, drum kits. Hiring is a great way to start with instruments as it means you do not have to commit to purchasing one just to have your child decide it's all too hard.

Instruments are hired out on a first come, first served basis for the whole year. A refundable deposit is required to secure an instrument with a refund subject to the terms and conditions of hire.

The Hire Agreement will last for the length of your child's membership with the Band unless you terminate the hire agreement beforehand. By default you will keep the hired instrument over the Christmas break into the following year unless you return the instrument to us before the end of Term 4. You can rehire an instrument at any time after this if you wish.

During the hire period the servicing, repair and care of the hired instrument is your responsibility. We provide the instrument to you in a serviced condition and we expect it to be cared for as if the instrument was owned by you. When returning the instrument, you have to get it serviced and provide us with a receipt. Consult the Instrument Hire Agreement for terms and conditions.

Instruments returned in a damaged or non-functional state will be repaired or serviced and the cost taken from your instrument deposit. If the repair or service is more than that the deposit the balance will be charged back to you.

Students who play percussion or keyboard don't hire instruments but are charged a fee to use the band's percussion instruments and keyboards during the year.

If you would like your child to start learning their allocated instrument over the Christmas break so they can get a head start for next year, you can arrange to hire before the end of term 4. Please contact the Band Committee for any special arrangement.

Buying an Instrument

Although hiring is a great way to get your child started there will likely be a point where you may decide that your child's interests are best served by owning their own instrument. There is no doubt that this is a more expensive option and in order to give you some idea the table below shows indicative price ranges for various entry level (referred to as Student) instruments.

Instrument	Entry Level Price
Clarinet	\$535 - \$700
Flute	\$475 - \$700
Saxophone (Alto)	\$900 - \$1300
Saxophone (Tenor)	\$1200 - \$2000
Trumpet	\$500 - \$800
Trombone	\$900 - \$1200
French Horn	\$1560 - \$2500
Euphonium	\$1800-\$2500
Bass Guitar	\$300 - \$400

Prices are an estimate only and are subject to change



Private Tuition

All band students are required to obtain private music tuition. Tuition is absolutely essential, not only for learning an instrument but to keep up with the band program. Band members lagging in ability not only let themselves down but their fellow band members. Playing in a band is a team activity. Children who do not engage a tutor on a regular basis may be asked why they should remain in the band. The band conductor will assess musical abilities. We reserve the right to remove your child from the band program. Fees will not be refunded.

We would stress that it is very important to find a qualified music tutor for your child. Having them tutored by someone without music teaching qualifications is doing a great disservice to your child and may not provide them with the knowledge and support they need to start to play an instrument properly for the first time.

We recommend that you shop around for a tutor. A large part of making tuition successful is a good connection between your child and the tutor. If a tutor does not appear to be working for your child, discuss this with your tutor and outline your expectations. If it is still not working then shop around until you find a tutor that does work. Just remember you are paying for the service and you should be getting good value for it.

To make things a little simpler we have put a tutor list on our website. 30 mins private lesson each week during school term is highly recommended for each student. Tutors range in price from \$15-\$35 per half hour session depending on the experience of the tutor. Some tutors work individually from their own homes while others make home visits. All arrangements for tuition are between you and the tutor and their fees **are not included** as part of the band program. Some tutors may be a registered Creative Kids provider, and therefore will allow you to redeem the Creative Kids Voucher.

One thing to consider when choosing a tutor is if you wish for your child to participate in music examinations, such as those offered by the AMEB. Most music tutors will be able to organise and prepare your child for the appropriate examination level. Please note that music examinations are something that you do outside the band program and you will be responsible for the cost associated with it.

Rehearsals

Each band rehearses at the school once a week during term. Rehearsals are compulsory for all band members and are very important as this is where they receive instruction from the Band Conductor and learn to play as a group. If your child cannot make the commitment to rehearsals we would suggest the band program is not for you. Rehearsals take place in the school hall at the following times:

Concert Band: Mondays at 7.30am

Training Band: Wednesdays at 7.30am

All band members are expected to arrive promptly.

We take attendance at rehearsals very seriously. Band members that are consistently late or fail to turn up to rehearsals not only let themselves down but their fellow band members. Playing in a band is a team activity. Children who do not attend rehearsals on a regular basis may be asked why they should remain in the program. We keep a rehearsal attendance roll and if your child is consistently late we will contact you to ask for an explanation. If your child is unable to attend for any reason we ask that you let us know by email prior to the rehearsal if possible. If proper reason is not provided, we reserve the right to remove your child from the band program. Fees will not be refunded.

Band rehearsals also depend on support from parents. Each rehearsal requires chairs and music stands, and percussion instruments to be set up/packed up. This set up is undertaken by band parents, who will be rostered on for duty once or twice a term.

Please note there are no rehearsals on pupil free days or public holidays.



Band Activities

The following Band Activities are compulsory and you will need to personally speak to the Band Conductor if you can't make it. We do not take out of school tutoring/lessons as an excuse.

Band Camp

We hold an annual band camp for all band members. The camp is the biggest event on the Band calendar and is run by the band committee with support from band parents. The camp is run over two days on a weekend, with an overnight stay. At the camp we provide intensive music tuition and rehearsals mixed in with lots of fun activities and good food. The cost of the band camp is included in your annual fees.

Band Workshop

In Term 3 the Band has a one-day Workshop for all band members. This is usually held on the School Development Day at the beginning of Term. The Workshop is a concentrated set of tutorials and rehearsals designed to improve the bands' performance in preparation for upcoming competitions and festivals.

Band Performances

One of the benefits of playing in a band is sharing the experience of music with others in the community through performance. Dedication to rehearsals prepare the band for these performance, which may include:

- Music eisteddfods, competitions or festivals
- School assemblies and events
- Community events

Every year we will enter each band in local music competitions/festivals. This not only gives the band something to strive for, but it also gives them valuable performance experience. It is the parent's responsibility to transport their children to the competition venue.

Supervision at Band Events

As the Band is a P&C initiative and no teachers are involved, it is organized and supervised by parent volunteers. Parent volunteers have a Working With Children Check, but are not trained in medical emergencies, or are able to discipline children. Therefore, at all band activities parents must leave a contact phone number so that in the event a child has either an emergency or incident that requires disciplinary action, parents will be contacted.



Band Conduct

It is expected that students in the band represent the band with pride, in both their uniform and behavior.

Band Uniforms

Each band has its own unique attire that they wear for formal performances or competitions. Performance attire is compulsory for these events as the band is representing John Purchase Public School.

As part of band membership each member is required to provide and wear the following items listed in the table below. You will be notified when your child needs to wear them.

Training Band: Yellow polo shirt with band logo (provided by the Band)

Concert Band: White polo shirt with band logo (provided by the Band)

Both bands (parents to purchase):

- Black unisex jeans
- Black crew socks (ankle socks are not accepted)
- Polished black school shoes (Sports shoes or shoes with any colours other than black are not accepted)

Your child may not be allowed to perform if he/she does not wear the appropriate uniform.

Band Music

Each band member will be issued with a band folder at the start of the year, that contains copies of all the fabulous music they will be learning and performing throughout the year. Copies of the music are issued to students under AMCOS licence, and must be returned to the school at the end of the year. Losing, defacing or damaging music folders or copies will result in a fine of \$20 to cover the replacement of the lost/damage music.

Training Band members are required to purchase the Standard of Excellence Band Method for their instrument. This is available from Dural Music for \$25.

Band Expectations and Code of Conduct

All band members and parents are required to sign a JPPS Band Code of Conduct at the beginning of each school year. Failure to adhere to these conditions may result in the student being excluded from the band program. Band members must also adhere to the JPPS Extra Curricular Expectations.



EXTRA CURRICULAR GROUPS



RESPECT

- Be punctual to all rehearsals, tutorials and performances
- Listen to and follow the instructions of teachers and tutors
- Cooperate with and respect the rights of other students, peer leaders and adults
- Uphold all JPPS expectations when attending external venues
- Display good sportsmanship in competitive settings
- Abide by the important decisions of the judge, referee or umpire

RESPONSIBILITY

- Bring all necessary equipment, costumes and uniforms to all rehearsals, tutorials, performances and competitions
- Help set up and pack up neatly and safely
- Be aware of and attend all practices, rehearsals, competitions and performances
- Care for personal and hired equipment and costumes
- Display commitment to the group
- Behave responsibly on public transport and in the community at large

ASPIRE

- Participate for learning and enjoyment
- Work equally hard for yourself and your group
- Be a good team member
- Have fun and improve your skills
- Be humble in success and gracious in defeat, including congratulating the winning team
- Be a positive role model

John Purchase Public School

Band Member Code of Conduct

I understand that it is a great privilege to represent John Purchase Public School in the Training and Concert Bands.

I am willing to:

- Attend all rehearsals, performances and band camps, and to be punctual.
- In the event that I cannot attend a performance I will give a minimum of 2 weeks' notice in writing (email) to a Band Committee member or the Band Conductor.
- Always show respect and be attentive to my Conductor, Band Committee members, and fellow band members.
- Work hard to learn my music.
- Take care of my instrument, with cleaning and storage.
- Display appropriate behaviour at all times, especially when representing the school at community events.
- Help to set up and pack away chairs, music stands and instruments.
- Return my instrument (if hired) in good condition at the end of the hiring period. I will service the instrument and hand it in with the service receipt.
- Take care of my music sheets and folder and return it at the end of the year in good condition. If any sheets or folder are damaged, I will pay a fine of \$5 per sheet/folder.
- Will not write, highlight, fold, crumple or cut the music sheets.
- Will not lose the music sheets.

I understand that:

- If I breach this Code I may be excluded from the school band.
- If I am not wearing uniform on the performance day, I may not be allowed to perform.
- If I do not attend rehearsals I may miss out on performing and may even be asked to leave the band.
- If my fees are not paid and no alternative arrangement has been agreed with the Band Committee, I will not be entitled to continue in the band.
- It is my responsibility to organise and have a private tutor to teach my child the instrument of their choice.



Band Administration

Band Committee

The band program is run by the JPPS Band Committee which is a subcommittee of the JPPS P&C Association. The band committee is made up of enthusiastic parents from John Purchase who volunteer their time to run the program, and the Band Coordinator who is a paid employee of the P&C. We are always looking for parents to join or participate in the committee as many hands make light work. If you are interested please let us know.

The Band Committee regularly asks band parents to assist with the running of band events, whether it be to set up or pack up rehearsals/performance, supervision at a disco or serving pizza. These events can not happen without parent helpers.

Band Leaders

Each year, the Band Section Leaders and Band Captain are appointed by our Band Conductor. Normally these are our more senior students that have shown leadership and guidance to their fellow band members.

Band leaders are chosen based on the following criteria:

- Punctuality and attendance
- Ability to play the instrument well
- Demonstrate leadership skills
- Demonstrate commitment and reliability

We encourage all parents to discuss these criteria with their children when they join the band. All senior students are encouraged to demonstrate the above criteria and set great examples for our younger members.

Band Leader badges are given out at the same time as the SRC Representatives and School Leaders Induction ceremony.

Communication

The Band Committee keeps touch with parents throughout the year by using email and the school newsletter. It is the parent's responsibility to provide an accurate email address on the "myschoolmusic" system and check emails regularly. Our email address is JPPSBandComittee@gmail.com

For most information about the band program we suggest looking on the school website at www.johnpurchase.net. Band information can be found under the P&C menu including upcoming events, forms and this information booklet.

Band Fees

The JPPS Band program is run by the P&C as an extracurricular activity for the students, and as such there are costs associated with operating it. The annual fee covers:

- payment to our Band Conductor
- payment to our Band Coordinator
- band camp
- band workshop
- entry to music competitions/festivals
- purchase of sheet music
- music folders
- the use of band shirt
- band bag and pencil in the first year of joining
- general band administration

Fee Discounts

We are sensitive to the extra financial burden on the family budget of having more than one child in the band. Hence we offer fee discounts should you be in this position.

1st Child Full Fee

Every subsequent sibling will pay 85% of full fee (15% discount)

A 20% discount on first child's fee is offered to all Band Committee members In lieu of the work they do in running the program.

Payment Options

Fees can either be paid in one or two installments. The first installment is due by the end of term one, before band camp as this ensures we can cover the costs of band camp. The second installment is due at the end of second term. Payment can be made by credit card or direct bank deposit. Please do not pay in cash as we cannot guarantee the security of your payments. As the band program is a not for profit program, prompt payment of fees is appreciated to ensure continued band membership. If payments are not made in full by the due dates, children will not be allowed to attend band camp or band performances.

The Band Committee's intent is to try to keep the cost of the program as affordable as possible for parents and it shall remain our goal. Although the cost may seem high, we actually have the most affordable band program in the area by far.

Leaving the Band Program

If for some reason your child needs to terminate their band membership you need to follow these steps:

- 1) Complete the Termination Notice which can be found under the Band section of the P&C section of the school website www.johnpurchase.net.
- 2) Hand this notice to a Band Committee member or email the Band Committee at JPPSBandCommittee@gmail.com
- 3) If you have hired an instrument you will need to have it serviced or repaired prior to returning it.
- 4) If you have hired an instrument you will be contacted to arrange a suitable time to return it. You must bring documentation from an approved service agent to prove that the instrument has been serviced. DO NOT return the instrument to the school office it must be checked by a Band Committee member.
- 5) Pay any outstanding fees. If you are unsure please contact the Band Treasurer at JPPSBandTreasurer@outlook.com

Please note that our band fees are set based on catering for a specific number of children in the program. This is done in order to keep the fees as low as possible. For this reason we do not refund or pro-rata band fees once they have been invoiced.

Band Members in Year 6 will automatically have their band membership terminated at the end of their final year and there is no need to notify us of termination in this case.



Commitment to the Band Program

We ask that before signing up to the band program, you take the time to understand that there are several key commitments we ask of all band members and their parents. These are:

- Provide an instrument through hire or purchase
- Maintain an instrument through appropriate cleaning, storage, servicing and accessories (eg. Reeds)
- Provide private music tuition and practice regularly
- Contribute an annual Band Membership Fee
- Students must attend all rehearsals on time
- Students must attend all scheduled performances and activities
- Parents must be willing to assist at rehearsals, performances and band events
- Parents and students must adhere to the Band Code of Conduct and the JPPS Extra Curricular Expectations

Before joining the band program you should consider the cost and time commitments for you and your child. Only join if you can make the commitment.

Summary of costs and commitments

Please note these are the fees from 2019. The fees associated with the 2020 band program will vary depending on how the program is delivered and how many students we have. On this basis, all fees are non refundable and are not able to be pro-rated once invoiced. The fee structure will be available at the start of the band program in 2020.

Band membership: \$170 / semester

Band Camp: \$275 / semester 1

Administration levy: \$60 / semester

Private lessons: \$30 / week

Instrument hire: \$120 / semester (+ \$150 refundable deposit per instrument)

Instrument purchase \$400-800 approximately for beginner instrument

Instrument usage: \$60 / semester for percussion and keyboard students

Instrument service: \$110 approximately per service as needed

Instrument accessories: \$100 approximately for reeds, cleaners, oil/grease etc

Training Band book: \$25

Uniform: \$20 for a pair of black jeans, black socks, black school shoes

Rehearsals: Weekly rehearsal from 7.30am – 8.30am in the school hall
Parents to assist with the set up (7.10am) and pack up (8.20am) of rehearsals once or twice a term.
It is the parents responsibility to switch with another family if they are unable to make it.

Performances: Compulsory activities include Band Camp, Band Workshop, one or two Competitions/Festivals (usually weekends), assembly performances

If you have any questions, please direct them to the Band Committee/Band Coordinator at
: JPPSBandCommittee@gmail.com

