



**Lord Byng Secondary School**  
**3939 West 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue**  
 Vancouver, B.C.  
 V6R 3C9

**Beginner Band**  
**2018/2019**  
 Dr. S. MacLennan

[smaclessan@vsb.bc.ca](mailto:smaclessan@vsb.bc.ca)

Go to: [www.byngband.com](http://www.byngband.com)

**Our Mission**

*At Lord Byng Secondary our goal is to provide a safe learning environment which enables students to challenge their intellectual and creative abilities and allows them to meet their full potential as citizens.*

**Equipment and Materials**

- band instrument and a portable music stand
- **Essential Elements, Book 1**
- music (handed out in class)
- pencil with eraser
- uniform for concerts:  
(white dress shirt, black pants, socks and dress shoes)
- **special items unique to your instrument and noted on the last page of this handout**

**Cost**

- **\$35.00 music fee** to be paid online at: <http://vsb.schoolcashonline.com>
- All items listed under Equipment and Material are the responsibility of the parent/guardian and can be purchased at most music stores.

**Course Content**

- Concert Band repertoire from beginner to grade level 1.5 or 2 in a wide variety of styles (ex. classical, pop, jazz, etc.)
- music history and theory

**Goals**

Student will be able to:

- show technical competency on his/her instrument
- vary articulation as noted in the music
- understand music history
- understand music theory
- understand musical form, composition, and style
- understand conducting patterns
- understand instrumentation and balance within an ensemble
- maintain a band instrument in good playing condition
- sight read
- demonstrate skills in ear training

**Marks for each Report**

**% of Term**

Playing ability (measured through classroom observation, playing tests, and concerts)	<b>50</b>
Music history and theory tests	<b>10</b>
Attendance, effort, attitude, and preparedness for class	<b>40</b>
Total	<b>100</b>

**Final Report**

**% of Year**

Report 1	<b>33</b>
Report 2	<b>33</b>
Report 3	<b>34</b>
Total	<b>100</b>

## ***Policies***

Music is in and of itself a disciplined art. Just as a composer must have quiet, orderly surroundings if he/she is to write great music, musicians must rehearse in the proper climate if they are to concentrate sufficiently to learn to play good music in a professional manner. It is my intention to make rehearsal procedures, conduct regulations, and other requirements known to all members of the ensemble so that they will understand the kind of behaviour that is expected of them. Both students and the director have the right to perform in a well disciplined, respectable ensemble.

## ***Rehearsal Procedures***

- Warm-up: students should warm their instruments quietly at the beginning of each rehearsal. Percussionists will warm-up on practice pads only.
- Self-discipline and respect: No talking or "noodling" when the director is talking or demonstrating something. Never talk while the ensemble is playing.
- Neatness: Keep the music room neat and clean. Deposit all garbage in one of the garbage cans provided.
- Listen: Always listen to yourself and others while you are playing so that your tone will be beautiful in quality and well in tune.
- Practice at home: Always work out individual parts in private practice sessions. Ensemble rehearsals should be devoted entirely to acquiring musicianship and artistry. Make sure you are always striving for an outstanding performance.

## ***Attendance***

A note from home is required for any absence, including both illness and school activities. The note must include the date and reason for absence. **Any unexcused absences will result in a loss of 2% from your participation mark, for each one unaccounted for. I will not hound you for absence notes.** If you have to be absent from a class for sports or at the request of another teacher, you must speak to me first. Participation through regular attendance is essential. All courses, whether on the timetable or not, are credit courses and will be graded. Concerts are considered term finals even though they occur in the evenings (as well as school times and afternoons). **Attendance for the entire concert is mandatory** except in the case of bereavement or serious illness/injury. Concert dates are posted well in advance. In the event of a conflict, we can try to remedy the problem but I require plenty of notice.

## ***Punctuality***

Students are expected to arrive on time. Arriving late is extremely disruptive to the entire class as the student must find his/her own chair amongst those students already playing. **1% will be given for promptness and participation in the entire warmup for each class. Bonus marks will be given to those who are on time for all classes.**

## ***Assignments***

It is your responsibility to practice outside of class time the work assigned by the director. It is suggested that 30 minutes (or more) a day be set aside for this purpose. Students will be observed and graded in class to see whether or not they have been practicing the correct material.

## ***Extra help/ Practice rooms at school***

Available by appointment. Just ask the director.

## ***Concert Season Dates and Times***

Please see separate sheet

***Sign and Return the following form (on next page) to Dr. MacLennan.***

Please keep this copy for your records

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Please return this section as soon as possible.

STUDENT NAME \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

I have read the Beginner Band Course Outline and understand the course expectations.

Please sign below and give us your e-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian \_\_\_\_\_ Student \_\_\_\_\_

**Costs:**

There is a \$35.00 music fee which will go directly to the purchase of new music and music supplies for the department, benefitting all students. Lord Byng has begun collecting fees through the latest version of *School Cash Online* at: <http://vsb.schoolcashionline.com>. Students and parents are encouraged to enroll by registering online. *School Cash Online* will be our school's **PREFERRED** method of payment moving forward.

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**Please keep this section and write these dates down on your family calendar of events.**

**Concert attendance is mandatory**

***CONCERT DATES AND OTHER EVENTS***

in the Band Department ([www.byngband.com](http://www.byngband.com))

Here is a short list of some of our concert dates this year. This band will be involved in the activities in bold text:

**2018**

Oct. 22-26	<b>Term 1 Playing Test Week</b>		
Dec. 6	<b>Band and Choir Winter Concert</b>	<b>6:30 p.m.</b>	<b>Theatre</b>

**2019**

Jan. 14-18	<b>Term 2 Playing Test Week</b>		
Mar. 5	Spring Choir Concert (all choirs)	6:30 p.m.	Theatre
<b>Mar. 6</b>	<b>Spring Band Concert (all bands)</b>	<b>6:30 p.m.</b>	<b>Theatre</b>
Apr. 23-28	Wind Ensemble Trip to Montreal/Ottawa		
<b>Apr. 30-May 3</b>	<b>Term 3 Playing Test Week</b>		
<b>June 5</b>	<b>Year End Band and Choir Concert (junior night)</b>	<b>6:30 p.m.</b>	<b>Theatre</b>
June 6	Band and Choir Grad Concert (senior night)	6:30 p.m.	Theatre

# Obtaining an Instrument:

There are four ways to acquire a band instrument.

**1. Rent or Rent-to-own an instrument:** Rental is the most popular method of acquiring a band instrument and is the method I recommend. A substantial portion, or all, of the rent you have paid to the music store will be applied to the purchase-price if you decide to buy the instrument at a later date. You should be aware that the overall cost of this method is greater than simply purchasing the instrument in the beginning, but renting provides more flexibility. The school does rent instruments but no option of purchasing is available.

**2. Purchase a new or used instrument from a store:** These instruments come with a guarantee. Purchasing the instrument outright is the least expensive method of buying an instrument, considerably cheaper in overall cost than renting-to-own. Most stores will actually buy back the instrument from you later, less the appropriate rental fee, if a change of course or changed instrument is desired.

**3. Purchase a used instrument from a private party:** Instrument should be properly serviced in time for the first band class in September.

**4. Borrow:** Instrument should be properly serviced in time for the first band class in September.

**Students are expected to rent or purchase their own instrument from a music company if they do not already have one available.** If the cost is a problem, please notify the school and we will try to arrange an alternative. Larger and more expensive instruments (baritone horn, bass clarinet, tuba, etc.) may be borrowed from the school while supplies last. The cost is \$ 130.00 for the year. I will notify each student if he/she will be playing one of these larger instruments.

Here is a list of some local music stores:

<i>Tapestry Music</i>	3607 W. Broadway	Vancouver	604-736-3036
<i>Tom Lee Music</i>	929 Granville St.	Vancouver	604-685-8471
<i>Long &amp; McQuade</i>	368 Terminal Ave.	Vancouver	604-734-4886

**Also, all students will need a portable music stand which can be purchased at the stores listed above.**

## **Please take this list with you when you go to the store.**

**The following supplies should be purchased when you receive the instrument:**  
**All students will need to purchase a band method book entitled *Essential Elements Book 1* for their musical instrument (ex. flute players need to get a flute book)**  
**Saxophone players will need to be specific about which saxophone they play (ex. alto sax, tenor sax, or bari sax). Baritone Horn players need to purchase a Baritone Bass Clef (B.C.) book.**

Flutes: cleaning cloth and rod

Oboes: oboe swab, cork grease, and a medium soft reed

Clarinets: swab, mouthpiece brush, cork grease, and a box of 5 or 10 *Vandoren Reeds #2*

Saxophones: **a pull through swab (not a pad saver)**, mouthpiece brush, cork grease,  
and a box of 5 or 10 *Vandoren Reeds #2*

French Horns: snake, mouthpiece brush, slide grease, and rotary oil

Trumpets, Baritones and Tubas: snake, mouthpiece brush, slide grease, and valve oil

Trombones: snake, mouthpiece brush, slide cream and spray bottle

Percussionists: bellkit with practice pad and a stick bag (to be purchased from the school for \$100.00, includes taxes)

If you have any questions, please feel free to e-mail me at [smaclessan@vsb.bc.ca](mailto:smaclessan@vsb.bc.ca)