



# FRENCHS FOREST PUBLIC SCHOOL BAND HANDBOOK

## 1. WELCOME

Congratulations on joining the Frenchs Forest Public School Band program. The band program at FFPS provides a fun social setting for students to learn a music instrument and to build on musical concepts learned in class. The band is a team in which every member has the opportunity to achieve at his or her level and build self-esteem. In addition to acquiring an appreciation for music your child will also develop other important skills including aural skills, social skills, coordination, concentration, analytical skills, respiratory strength and control and self-discipline. The band is a team and members should always be trying to achieve the highest standards in attitude, behaviour and musicianship.

## 2. FFPS BAND COMMITTEE

The Band Committee is a sub-committee of the Frenchs Forest Public School P&C Association. It consists of a Band Director, Parent Supporter, and a Band Coordinator. Tasks for the committee are to:

- Band Convenor: Chris Walsh [ffpsbandcband@gmail.com](mailto:ffpsbandcband@gmail.com)

## 3. PARENTAL SUPPORT

Parental support is a vital component of the band program. Parents demonstrate their support by attending performances, encouraging home practice, volunteering for band set up and pack down at concerts, assisting to move equipment for concerts, supervision at the band weekend, and involvement in the Band Committee. All parents are encouraged to participate in any way they can.

## 4. REHEARSALS

The band program at Frenchs Forest consists of two bands - Training Band and Concert Band. Students are required to arrive five minutes before the designated rehearsal time to set up. Each band member is required to bring their instrument, all band music, water, and a pencil to each rehearsal.

Rehearsal Timetable for 2024

	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI
Arrive 7.55am for 8am-9am	Concert Band	-	Training Band	Concert Band	Training Band

If a lock down occurs due to government-imposed restrictions, rehearsals will change to online Zoom band sessions. A zoom session time will be communicated by your Band Convenor, and it will most likely be based on instruments, rather than by band. For this session, you'll need your instrument, music, music stand and pencil. Please try and position yourself and your instrument in the shot - not just your face.

## 5. ATTENDANCE

Students are required to attend all rehearsals and performances. If your child is ill or unable to attend, please email the Band Director at [ffpsbanddirector@gmail.com](mailto:ffpsbanddirector@gmail.com)



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## 6. BAND FEES PAYMENT POLICY

Invoices are issued in two instalments (at the beginning of Term 1 and 3) by email. All band member feereh20 Td(D)-9620



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## 9. HOME PRACTISE

It is important that your child is supported in their practise at home. They are required to pick up their instrument at home. It's encouraged Training Band members practice their instrument at least 20 minutes per day, 3 times per week, and Concert Band members at least 20 minutes per day, 4 times per week. There are many ways to engage your child in their practice and it is important they follow their tutor's guidance. They will need a music stand and access to a metronome to help their practice.

## 10. BAND WEEKEND

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## 15. BAND ROOM RULES

Band members should always show respect to the Band Director. Talking or lack of attention during rehearsal will result in disciplinary action being taken. As the Band is an activity for students of FFPS, the behavioural expectations of the school apply to all gatherings of its students. Therefore, students must strive to be Respectful, Responsible Learners at all times and in all venues. The following expectations apply to all band members:

- 1) Respect the Band Director and other band members
- 2) Follow directions given by the Band Director
- 3) Respect other student's instruments and belongings

## 16. BAND UNIFORM

Band members are required to purchase a band shirt from the FFPS uniform shop. This shirt is to be worn for all performances and events unless told otherwise. We ask that all band members take pride in their appearance and aim to look their best for each performance.

Accompanying the band shirt:

- Long black trousers (**NOT** black jeans, tights, or leggings)
- Black socks or stockings
- Black leather school shoes

## 17. OTHER EQUIPMENT

Parents are required to purchase the appropriate tools for playing their instrument, ie. reeds, valve oil etc. These will need to be replaced as appropriate and regular application of valve oil is the students' responsibility.

## 18. PERCUSSIONISTS

Percussionists are required to purchase a pre-organised mallet pack from Optimum Percussion in Burwood. The pack includes medium and soft mallets, drum sticks, triangle beater and green mallet bag and costs approx. \$120 (subject to change).

Call and quote Frenchs Forest Public School for the correct bag. Optimum Percussion ([02\) 9744 1829](tel:0297441829)

## 19. INTERVIEWS

If you wish to discuss your child's progress or conduct, please email the Band Director to arrange a suitable time.