



INFORMATION FOR PARENTS OF CHILDREN WISHING TO JOIN TRAINING BAND IN 2019 (Children in Years 2, 3, 4 and 5, 2018)

Being a part of a school band is a wonderful experience for children. It not only helps them learn to play an instrument, but teaches them great teamwork, raises their confidence in performing in front of people and enhances their appreciation of a whole range of different music.

The band program at Oatley West Public School is run by Music Council, a sub-committee of the Oatley West P&C. As such, it is the parents of the children in the band program who manage the day-to-day running of the band, led by the Music Council President/s and Band Director. Parents are expected to support their child in the band by helping with the running of the band.

Joining the Training Band

Parents need to complete an Expression of Interest (EOI) Form (attached to this package) for their child to join Training Band. Applications close on **Friday 9th November**. Please put EOI forms in the **Band Letterbox** opposite the school office.

On the EOI form, please nominate up to three instruments your child would like to play, although we understand that some children may be very particular about their choice of instrument and may only want to nominate one or two – that's fine! The Band Director, Mr Peter Sampson, will meet all children wishing to join Training Band to assess their suitability for their chosen instrument. To maintain the sound balance of the band we have a limited number of instruments of each type and some children (in consultation with their parents) may be offered an instrument that is not their first choice. Hopefully, most children will receive their first choice of instrument.

Mr Sampson will meet the interested children in the school hall in November and you'll be notified by email of the day and time. The purpose is to make sure your child's chosen instrument is suitable for your child. For children interested in Drums/Percussion, Mr Sampson will perform rhythm tests to assess your child and select the 3 best children. **Please be assured that there is no prior music learning required to join Training Band.** All children may join. It is really just a chance for the children to meet Mr Sampson and take a closer look at the instruments.

Parents will be notified by email of their child's instrument allocation and asked to select an option for acquisition of their instrument, either:

- Purchase a new instrument through Music Council (see pg 3);
- Purchase a second hand instrument (restricted to clarinets) from Music Council (see pg 4);
- Hire of Music Council-owned instruments (restricted to Euphonium); or
- Use of student's own instrument.

Training Band 2019 is expected to commence in about Week 3 of Term 1, 2019.

Training Band Co-ordinator

The new Training Band will require 1 or 2 parents to take on the role of **Training Band Co-ordinator**. This person will be responsible for the daily running of Training Band, including communication with parents and organising the roster for parents to supervise band rehearsals. No experience is necessary, just good organisational skills! All help and support will be provided by other Music Council members.

Later in the year, Training Band will also need a **Training Band Librarian** to organise the sheet music Training Band will play. If you have any questions or would like to take on one of these roles, please let us know.

Key dates in Term 4, 2018 for Training Band 2019

Tuesday 30 th October	Current Training Band performs for K-2 students
Tuesday 30 th October	Year 2 attend an Instrument Demonstration Session in the hall
Thursday 1 st November	Training Band Information Night for parents in school hall at 7.00pm
Friday 9 th November	Closing date for Expression of Interest forms
Weeks 5, 6 & 7	Interested students meet Band Director, Mr Sampson
Week 8	Letter to parents offering a place in Training Band with instrument allocation
Week 9	Final date for return of acceptance forms and for buying a new instrument through Music Council
Week 10	If possible, hand out new instruments bought through Music Council

Requirements for Band Members

Being a part of the band involves a number of commitments which you must consider before joining the band.

- Currently Training Band has **two rehearsals each week** before school from 8.45-9.15am (**arrive at 8.35am** to set up and finish after pack-up at **9.25am**) on **Mondays and Wednesdays** in the school hall. For the first few weeks Training Band will be split into separate instrument groups for rehearsals. Later in Term 1, Training Band will come together and begin rehearsing as a group.
- Your child must have weekly **private lessons** on their band instrument. A list of tutors and contact numbers will be provided. Fees for private lessons vary, but generally will be \$25-\$35 per half hour.
- **Band fees** are invoiced each semester (2 terms) and are currently \$120 per semester. These are payable by all members of the Training Band. Band fees must be paid on time – failure to pay will lead to review of your child's inclusion in the band program. **Instrument fees** may also be applicable.
- All band rehearsals require **parent supervision** and parents will be asked to nominate dates they are available to supervise band. Parent supervision is a mandatory requirement of children participating in band. All parents must assist with supervision of rehearsals.
- After a year in Training Band, all children progress to the **Intermediate Band** which currently rehearses on Mondays and Wednesdays from 8.00-8.40am. Entry into **Concert Band** is by audition. Concert Band currently rehearses on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8.00-9.00am.
- As children progress from Training Band to Intermediate Band and then to Concert Band, they will participate in various performances and play outs, often at locations away from school and sometimes on weekends. Being part of the band means children are expected to attend play outs, whether on weekends or at night. Parents will also be required to help with band play outs, such as transporting instruments, supervising children and set up / pack down afterwards.

Buying a New Instrument

The Music Council will negotiate a special deal for the bulk purchase of instruments, buying the instruments at a discount to retail pricing. Music Council will pass this pricing onto parents wishing to purchase a new, quality Yamaha instrument. Full payment for the instrument must be made before the student receives the instrument.

Indicative pricing is below; final pricing will be provided with your acceptance letter:

Flute	Yamaha YFL 222ID	\$649
Clarinet	Yamaha YCL 255ID	\$639
Trumpet	Yamaha YTR 2330 (Gold lacquer)	\$569
Trombone	Yamaha YSL154 (Gold lacquer)	\$979
Saxophone	Yamaha YAS 26 (no high F# & wooden case)	\$1,250
Saxophone	Yamaha YAS 280 (with high F#)	\$1,495

All prices include GST and are subject to change. All instruments are covered by a two-year manufacturers' warranty. We will advise of any changes to this pricing.

Parents will be responsible for servicing, repairing and maintaining the instruments.

Buying a Second Hand Instrument through Music Council

Music Council has a limited number of second hand instruments for sale which may be purchased at a reduced price reflecting the age and condition of the instrument (see page 4). Once again, parents will be responsible for servicing, repairing and maintaining the instruments.

Parents will be given the opportunity to purchase a new or second hand instrument (if available) through Music Council when their child is offered a place in Training Band.

Percussion Instruments

Students selected to play percussion will need to organise their own drum kit or glockenspiel or keyboard. These students may use the Music Council instruments at school for rehearsals. There are no rental fees charged for students playing percussion, glockenspiel or keyboard.

Hire only instruments

Other instruments in the band may be hired through Music Council for the duration of your child's involvement with band. These hire-only instruments are the larger, more expensive instruments such as euphonium, tuba, tenor saxophone, baritone saxophone, and bass clarinet.

Rental fees per semester for hire-only instruments are:

Euphonium \$80

If you have any questions, please contact:

Carmel Sharples
Nicky Byfield

carmelsharples1@optusnet.com.au
nickybyfield@gmail.com

0406 874 106
0417 045 178

Music Council



Oatley West Public School Music Council has the following second hand clarinets for sale:

Clarinets

- 2007 Yamaha YCL250 – Serial No. J19603\$350
- 2007 Yamaha YCL250 – Serial No. 474289\$350
- 2007 Yamaha YCL250 – Serial No. 474208\$350
- 2007 Yamaha YCL250 – Serial No. 474213\$350
- 2007 Yamaha YCL250 – Serial No. 474215\$350

All these clarinets have just been serviced and are ready for purchase.

Please contact Karen York, Instrument Co-ordinator on 0419 169 995 for further details

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FORM FOR OATLEY WEST TRAINING BAND 2019

Please return completed form to the band letterbox opposite the office by Friday 9th November 2018

Child's Name: _____ Class _____ Age _____

Do you already own an instrument which you could play in the band? _____

Which instrument? _____

Are you learning an instrument? _____ Which one? _____ For how long? _____

Which Instrument would you prefer to play in the band?

1st choice _____

2nd choice _____

3rd choice _____

Flute	Clarinet	Trumpet
Trombone	Euphonium	Saxophone
Drums/percussion	Glockenspiel	Keyboard
Violin	Viola	Cello Oboe

If you are not offered ANY of your choices would you consider accepting a different instrument? _____

There are only a limited number of places available for each instrument type. The allocation of these will be at the discretion of the Band Director.

Parent/Guardian please sign this section.

I give permission for my child named above to join Training Band.

Signature _____ Print Name _____

Home phone number _____ Mobile _____

Email address _____

For Band Director's use

Ear Test:

1	A. _____	B. _____	C. _____	
2	A. _____	B. _____	C. _____	
3	A. _____	B. _____	C. _____	
4	A. _____	B. _____	C. _____	Total Ear _____

Singing: (If required) Intonation : _____ Rhythm _____

Rhythm:

1 (4/4)	_____	2(4/4)	_____	
3 (3/4)	_____	4 (6/8)	_____	Total Rhythm _____

TOTAL SCORE _____

RECOMMENDATION _____