**Concert Band 8 Course Outline**

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Grade 8 Band is designed to introduce the student to the secondary Music program and the basics of playing a musical instrument. The emphasis for all students will be on correct technique, reflection on one’s growth, leadership and a high degree of individual responsibility to the group.

**Big Ideas**

* Growth as a musician requires perseverance, resilience and reflection.
* Individual and collective expression can be achieved through music.
* Music uses a unique language for creating and communicating.

*Throughout the course, students will work to:*

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| **Explore and create**   * Perform collaboratively in an ensemble setting * Select and combine musical elements and techniques to interpret an idea or style, creating a particular mood or effect * Explore relationships between identity and belonging through arts experiences and activities * Develop appropriate musical vocabulary, skills, and techniques * Take risks to experience self-growth |
| **Reason and reflect**   * Receive, offer, and apply constructive feedback * Develop, refine, and critically appraise ideas and technical skills to improve the quality of musicianship * Demonstrate respect for themselves, others, and the audience * Reflect on musical performance to make connections to personal learning and experiences |
| **Communicate and document**   * Adapt and apply learned musical skills, understandings, and techniques for use in new contexts and for different purposes and audiences * Take creative risks to express feelings, ideas, and experiences * Demonstrate increasingly sophisticated application and/or engagement of course content |

**Content**

By the end of the course, students should know and demonstrate their knowledge of the following:

* Symbols and terms commonly used in written music, including reading rhythms, dynamics, accents, articulation, tempo, key signatures and time signatures
* Techniques specific to their instrument, including correct fingerings/sticking, intonation, embouchure, breath control, tone quality, blend and balance
* Role of the performer and respect for others in the ensemble
* Personal and collective responsibility associated with creating, experiencing, or presenting in a safe learning environment

**Classroom Expectations**

Students are expected to follow the school rules at all times while in the Music rooms. These are: *respect yourself and others, respect the environment* and *respect learning*. In order to best adhere to these guidelines, **the use of cell phones is not permitted during class time**! Students are expected to put their phones away or leave them with the teacher for the duration of the class. Students are asked to follow the Health and Safety Guidelines that have been established while they are in the music rooms.

**Home Practicing**

Students are expected to take their instruments home regularly to practice the skills that we are working on in class. Students should aim to practice for approximately one hour per week. It is best to split this up into three or four smaller chunks, rather than trying to practice for one hour-long session.

**Microsoft TEAMS**

We will be using Teams as a method of communication (if necessary) and as a way to hand in some assignments. Students should ensure that they are able to connect to Teams and check it regularly.

**Assessment**

Students will take part in a variety of assessment activities, including:

* Goal setting
* Self assessment of and reflection on one’s progress
* Playing tests
* Music theory activities
* Participation in recorded performance

**Virtual Performance**

As we are unable to participate in live performances this year, students in Band 8 will perform in a virtual concert at the end of the quarter which will be premiered on YouTube. More details about this will be sent home at a later date.