

Dear Parents,

Newcastle East Public School has many opportunities for children to be involved in the performing arts. In the music arena, we offer the children at NEPS the opportunity to be a part of our Concert Band.

Our Concert Band is a relatively small ensemble consisting of instruments such as the clarinet, flute, saxophone, trumpet, trombone and percussion. This year, Dr Ian Cook will once again be our band leader. Ian has been a Senior Lecturer in Music at the University of Newcastle and has been heavily involved in many band programs in the local area.

We are calling on students from years 3-6 who are interested in joining our band to fill out this expression of interest form so that we can continue to grow.

Part of the requirements of being a part of our concert band is that any child involved must receive some form of private tuition. That can be in the form of a private tutor sourced by parents or using the tutors we provide for students in school hours. The most important aspect of playing a musical instrument is learning the responsibility of regular practice. This is a necessary factor in joining our band. Students will then be assessed by the Band Coordinator or Band Conductor before they gain entry into the Concert Band.

Below is a table outlining the instruments we have available at this stage. Please circle TWO instrument options. Depending on the level of interest shown by students to join the school band, at this stage we will offer children the opportunity to take on an instrument they have shown interest in as a ‘first in best dressed’ format. We will endeavour to provide the students with their instrument of choice. However, it may come down to a second preference. At this stage we do not have a large supply of instruments. However, depending on interest shown, we may look into purchasing/hiring more instruments in the future. If the school is unable to provide an instrument for hire, students are free to privately hire or privately purchase their own instruments.

The Concert Band has a fee of $90 per term and payments are made at NEPS front office. These fees then go towards the cost of Band music, stands, instruments and repairs. **Please do not send in money with this note**. Money will be payable on entry to the band. Please do not pay any money until confirmation of band entry has been made for your child.

If you would like your child to take part in the concert band, please fill out the permission slip and return it to our office.

Regards,

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**Expression of Interest for School Band**

I would like my child …………………………….. of class …………………. to be involved in the School Concert Band

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Available instruments – Please circle TWO options** | | | |
| 2X Clarinets | 4X Trumpets | 3X Trombones | 1X Tenor Saxophone |
| 4X Flutes | 2X Euphonium | 1X Alto Saxophone |  |

I understand that my child will receive either in school or out of school private tuition and will attend regular band rehearsals at Newcastle East Public School at 1:45pm-2:45pm every Monday.

Parent Signature: ………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………….