

BAND I - GETTING STARTED (for parents!)

Why enroll your child in band? I'll tell you why! Band is the ultimate course for homeschoolers!

- * Band is community.
- * Band is built-in encouragement to keep on practicing.
- * Band is where both the individual and the group can shine together!
- * Band makes a middle/high schooler smarter!
- * Band is great for all types of minds and interests, because music is universal.
- * Starting to play a musical instrument with a group of two or more folks is the BEST way to quickly advance in skills. Private lessons are great, but you will only go so far if you don't have an ensemble to play with and perform in!

Band I is a beginning band for students 9 years old and up who desire to begin learning a musical instrument, **NO PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE REQUIRED!** For students under 9 years of age, parents, please contact me for eligibility. If you are interested in Band, **bring your child to the T.E.A.C.H. Open House from 10am-1pm on Wednesday, July 31.** Here they will get to try out every instrument to see which one they like and is a good fit. Students will be guided in selecting their instrument by you, the parent, myself and a representative from the local music store, who will be there providing the instruments.

In Band I, students may play one of the following instruments: flute, clarinet, alto saxophone, trumpet, trombone, snare drum/bells kit, bass guitar or keyboard/piano. Instruments can be rented or purchased, but I always recommend renting for at least the 1st year. Paragon Music has a great rent-to-own option.

The book we use in this course is **Essential Elements for Band - Book 1** (for your instrument).

This is a step-by-step process:

1. Decide your child's interest in Band and come to the Open House at T.E.A.C.H. on July 31st from 10am-1pm.
2. Register your child for either Band I or Band II.
3. Either rent or purchase the instrument, purchase the book and a portable music stand.
4. Make sure your child is ready for the first day of class with their instrument (in a case), Band book, and music stand. Other items your child may need, depending on their instrument: a care kit for the instrument, reeds(for clarinet/saxophone), oil for trumpet/trombone, stand for drum or keyboard, sticks for drum, amp for bass guitar.
5. We will use the online student accounts included with the purchase of the Band book, from the publisher, Hal Leonard(www.halleonard.com). This is a GREAT feature that allows your child to record their progress on "practice logs" and play along with a virtual band for practice or just for fun, and to record themselves playing their weekly assignments. I will provide a short tutorial to help you, the parent, set this up for your child.

Although any age is great to begin, if your child is 10-13 years of age (or close to it), this is the best time to start them on an instrument. Last year, our beginners ranged in age from 8 to 13, and they made amazing progress and performed for the entire school 3 times! Start your child now in Band and he/she will have time to grow into it and potentially excel in music! Alternatively, if your child can already play an instrument and has at least one year experience on the instrument, Band II is a great option to take their playing to the next level.

Send me an email or text to get started! (Email is best!)

My phone number is: 813-693-7827

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