

Why Private Lessons?

Band parents often ask questions about Private Lessons. The following questions and answers will help parents understand the benefits of Private Lessons for their Band student. While Private lessons are NOT REQUIRED, it is highly recommended for students to participate in.

Why should my child enroll in private lessons?

Private lessons are the most significant predictor of a student's success in music. While not mandatory for success, the individual attention available through private instruction provides tremendous enhancement of your child's skills, motivation, and musical enjoyment.

Who takes private lessons?

- Students, who are interested in being the best in their individual band or orchestra, will take private lessons.
- Students, with prior musical training in piano, violin or other instruments, who are not challenged due to the pace of learning in the band classroom, will take private lessons.
- Students who desire leadership positions in their sections and want to excel so they can help the directors or other students, will take private lessons.
- Students who love their instrument but are struggling to learn in the classroom environment will take private lessons.

My child has band class everyday at school, why does he/she need private lessons?

While the instruction provided in group lessons in the classrooms can lift a student to a level of musical competency, there is no substitute for the individualized instruction that is only available through private study. The individual nature of private lessons means that instruction is catered directly to your child's ability level. Students enrolled in private lessons are able to move at their own fast pace instead of being tethered to the pace of the class as a whole.

Isn't private tutoring just for kids who are struggling?

No! Although private instruction can assist students that struggle in group settings or need special attention to succeed, the purpose is to provide supplementary instruction for students seeking to get the most out of their music education, regardless of their skill level.

What If we can't afford private lessons?

If your family cannot afford to pay for private lessons, but your child is really interested in them, please contact Mr. Matheney. There are some programs around Louisville that offer financial assistance for private lessons. Mr. Matheney also has a private lesson program at Westport that students can take advantage of.

Check the "Private Lesson Teacher" tab for a list of "Matheney-Approved" private lesson teachers.