

# **4th Grade Instrumental Music FAQ Sheet**

## **How will instrumental lessons be held?**

The students will be assigned a lesson day and time that will remain constant the entire year. For example, Monday at 11am. The lessons will be working with a hybrid model meaning that one week they will be with me in person and the following week they will have an assignment on Google Classroom that they will need to complete and send back to me before our following weeks in person lesson. For example:

Tuesday, September 15 -- in person lesson

Tuesday, September 22 -- online Google Classroom assignment

Tuesday, September 29 -- in person lesson

## **When do the Google Classroom lessons need to be accessed and completed?**

The assignment can be accessed beginning with the day of their lesson. For example, if my lesson is Monday at 11am, I will have access to it starting at that time. The assignment can be completed anytime prior to the next week's in-person lesson.

## **How many students per lesson group?**

The lesson size will vary depending on how students can be safely distanced within the music room.

## **Will students be in lessons with the same instruments?**

Students will be in lesson groups based on their 4th grade class. This may cause the mixing of instruments such as a flute and a clarinet, but this is the safest way for the students and staff. We will do our best to keep students with the same instruments. Percussion students will be in a lesson group with percussion instruments only.

## **Will students be in lessons every single week?**

Students will have a lesson every week, but it will alternate between online and in person as described above.

## **If my family chose for full remote learning, how will it work with band and orchestra?**

Your child will receive one online lesson via Google Meet with other remote learning students every other week. On the off weeks, they will receive an assignment via Google Classroom. This will match the same schedule that is presented to students that are in school.

## **Will students be wearing masks for lessons?**

### **BAND ONLY**

Students will be required to wear masks in the hallway coming to lessons, as they enter the room and anytime they need to get out of their seat for any reason, however they can remove the mask as they play their instrument.

To keep **all** band lessons uniform, percussion students will also be 12 feet apart (even though they are permitted to be 6 feet) in which case they can also remove their mask when in front of their instrument.

### **ORCHESTRA**

Students will be 6 feet apart and will be required to wear masks during their lesson.

## **Will students be sharing instruments or materials?**

No students will be permitted to share or touch any other instruments in the room. Each student will only touch their instrument. They will also be asked to sanitize/wash their hands before and after lessons.

## **When do we rent instruments?**

Rent your instruments ASAP if you are the following people:

Flute, Clarinet, Alto Saxophone, Trumpet, Percussion, Violin, Viola

If your child plays Trombone, French Horn, Cello or Bass, they will receive their instrument the first day of lessons. The instrument they receive that day will need to be brought home and will stay at home the remainder of the year. They will receive a second instrument that remains in school for them to play during school lessons.

The instrument that remains in school will be their instrument, and their instrument only. No other students will touch that instrument at any point during the school year. The instruments will be labeled with student names.

## **How do I know what to rent/purchase?**

During our meeting in June, we sent out a form that labels exactly what each student needs to have rented/purchased. An additional copy is attached. **Please make sure all of your child's materials are labeled.**

## **How long will instrumental lessons take place for?**

All lessons will be 30 minutes long.

## **What are students required to bring to in-person lessons?**

I have provided a list below for each instrument:

### **Flute, Clarinet, Alto Saxophone, Trumpet**

- Folder (will be provided at first lesson)
- Method Book (will be provided at first lesson)
- Instrument (must be rented from outside vendor)
- Pencil (students must have their own pencils and cannot share)
- I will hand out materials to go into the folder and all materials will be uploaded to Google Classroom in the event that they are lost

### **Trombone, French Horn**

- Folder (will be provided at first lesson)
- Method Book (will be provided at first lesson)
- Mouthpiece (remember, students will have an instrument that stays in school for them)
- Pencil (students must have their own pencils and cannot share)
- I will hand out materials to go into the folder and all materials will be uploaded to Google Classroom in case they are lost.

### **Percussion**

- Folder (will be provided at first lesson)
- Both Method Books (will be provided at first lesson)
- Sticks and Mallets (sometimes it's best to carry these in a drawstring bag)
- Pencil (students must have their own pencils and cannot share)
- I will hand out materials to go into the folder and all materials will be uploaded to Google Classroom in case they are lost.

### **Violin and Viola**

- Folder (will be provided at first lesson)
- Method Book (will be provided at first lesson)
- Instrument (must be rented from outside vendor)
- Pencil (students must have their own pencils and cannot share)
- Shoulder rest (will be provided at first lesson)
- I will hand out materials to go into the folder and all materials will be uploaded to Google Classroom in case they are lost.

### **Cello and Bass (students will have an instrument that stays at school for them)**

- Folder (will be provided at first lesson)
- Method Book (will be provided at first lesson)
- Pencil (students must have their own pencils and cannot share)
- Rock stop (will be provided at first lesson)
- I will hand out materials to go into the folder and all materials will be uploaded to Google Classroom in case they are lost.

## **What do I need to know to help my child succeed in music this year?**

Here are the three major things that we need from parents this year:

- 1) Please check the REMIND app often as we will send out frequent information throughout the school year.
- 2) Encourage your child to practice at home. Please recognize that the pandemic will eventually be lifted and your child will be prepared to have a full ensemble experience in Plainview Old-Bethpage.
- 3) Each family will receive a full schedule for your child that will look something like what is posted below. Please place this in a visible location in your home:

Welcome to Band John Smith! Your lesson schedule is labeled below:

Tuesday's at 11am

September 8 -- in person lesson. Please bring instrument to school

September 15 -- online lesson. Please login to Google Classroom to complete assignment

September 22 -- in person lesson. Please bring instrument to school

September 29 -- online lesson. Please login to Google Classroom to complete assignment

## **Will there still be a band and orchestra concert?**

4th Grade Instrumental students do not perform at the Winter Concert. Normally, we begin rehearsing in January for our Spring Concert, however as it stands this is still not clear to us. Last year, we were able to provide a form of virtual concert for the students, but this will become clearer as we move forward.

## **What happens if my child misses a lesson?**

If a child misses an in-person music lesson, they will receive a Google Classroom assignment to be completed prior to the following week.

## **What happens if my child forgets to bring their instrument to school or any materials for their lesson?**

Regardless of students forgetting materials, they will still come to their lesson and participate in any way they can without their instrument. This will allow them to remain on task with their classmates and lesson group.

## **When do lessons begin?**

Lessons will begin when all scheduling is completed. You will receive notice from your teacher as to when they will start.