**Curriculum**

**8th Grade Band**

**Course Overview**

Eighth Grade Band is a year long course open to woodwind, brass and percussion players with a minimum of one years’ playing experience. Students learn the basic skills of ensemble playing, fundamentals of music notation and reading, instrument care, music appreciation and performance. A broad range of music is studied, including jazz arrangements of standards and popular songs. Band members are required to perform in two formal concerts per year.

**Department Standards**

* Students will sing alone and with others, a varied repertoire of music.
* Students will perform on instruments, alone and with others, a varied repertoire of music.
* Students will improvise melodies, variations, and accompaniments.
* Students will compose and arrange music within specified guidelines.
* Students will read and notate music.
* Students will listen to, analyze, and describe music.
* Students will evaluate music and music performances.
* Students will understand relationships between music, the other arts, and disciplines outside the arts.
* Students will understand music in relation to history and culture.

**Benchmarks**:

Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the theoretical basis of music through performance

Demonstrate care for instrument, sheet music and bandroom equipment

Demonstrate appropriate rehearsal and performance behaviour with a readiness to work as a team member

Interpret different styles of music appropriately

Communicate an awareness of music history and cultural heritage through sensitive performance

**Performance Indicators**

Demonstrate care for instruments and equipment

Demonstrate good posture and confident sound production

Play a phrase demonstrating an understanding and knowledge of basic music notation

Establish eye contact with the conductor

Show an aural awareness while listening to music, with an ability to identify instruments and style of music

Demonstrate an aural and visual awareness by playing rhythmic patterns with confidence, paying attention to the time and key signatures

Phrasing a melody with correct articulation and appropriate dynamics

Working and playing as an instrument section as well as an ensemble

Display appropriate on-stage performance behavior

Show an understanding of style and historical background while listening to music, with an ability to hear articulation, dynamics and phrasing

Play a phrase with appropriate articulation and vary the dynamic

Sight read music with conviction, demonstrate an understanding of the meter, key, articulation and dynamics

Demonstrate an understanding of rhythmic subdivision when sight reading

Show an understanding and ability to vary the tempo and dynamic by establishing eye contact with the conductor and following directions appropriately

Extended practice to master the concert repertoire

Display good on-stage etiquette and an ambition to give the best performance

**Assessments**

In-class teacher observations (correct posture, articulations, music reading skills)

Playing tests in instrument section and class theory discussions.

In-class practice performance

Formal concert

Formal end of year concert

**Core Topics**

Instrument care and band layout

Posture and sound production

Developing good practice habits

Music notation and reading

Phrasing

Following a conductor

Articulations & Rudiments

Listening skills

Rhythm patterns

Time Signatures

Key Signatures

Phrasing and articulation

Tempo and dynamic terminology

Preparation of repertoire for formal concert

Listening critically

Stylistic and cultural awareness

Articulation combinations

Key Changes

Melodic variation

Repertoire Expansion

Contrasting tempos and dynamics

Rhythmic subdivision

Advanced sight reading

Preparation for end of year concert

**Specific Content**

Recent titles include:

'Stand By Me'

'Satin Doll'

'Down For The Count'

Recent titles include:

'Mercy,Mercy,Mercy'

'My Girl'

'Louie,Louie'

Recent titles include:

'Brown Eyed Girl'

'Brain Sprain'

'Malaguena'

Recent titles include:

'Gimme Some Lovin' '

'The Pink Panther'

'Burritos To Go'

**Resources**

Individual Scores

CD recordings

Music files shared on LMS

Updated 15/03/16