

Congratulations!

The Goddard Scholars Academy is providing your child with a quality instrumental music education through band. In making it possible for your child to play a musical instrument, we are providing the opportunity for self-expression, creativity and achievement.

Numberous studies indicate that parental attitude, support and involvement are important factors in a child's ability to successfully learn to play and to enjoy music.

The following guidelines are designed to assist you in giving your child the best support possible for his or her musical endeavors. Like any skill, interest counts far more than talent. With the right support from you, playing music will become a natural part of your child's life.

There are many benefits to encouraging musical participation in your child's life!

**FOR YOUR CHILD: Music Participation enhances:**

Problem Solving  
Teamwork  
Goal setting  
Self-expression  
Coordination  
Memory skills  
Self-confidence and esteem  
Concentration  
Poise  
and much, much more!

**FOR YOUR FAMILY: A child's music study also offers opportunities for shared family experiences including:**

- Musical event attendance
- Family music-making
- Performing for, and with, family and friends
- Learning about the lives of composers and the cultural heritage of many civilizations
- A sense of accomplishment and pride for the entire family

**HOW CAN YOU FIT IT IN??**

Always keep in mind that your support is an essential element in your child's success with musical study.

**SCHEDULE PRACTICE TIMES:** Music achievement requires effort over a period of time. You can help your child by:

- Providing a quiet place
- Remaining nearby during practice times
- Scheduling a consistent, daily time for practice.
- Praising your child's efforts and achievements.

**WHAT TO DO:** To give your child the best possible support, you should:

- encourage your child to play for family and friends.
- Offer compliments and encouragement regularly.
- Expose your child to a wide variety of music, including concerts and recitals.
- Encourage your child to talk with you about his or her lessons.
- Make sure your child's instrument is always in good working order.

## What not to do: Your child's progress will be greatly enhanced if you...

- Don't use practice as a punishment.
- Don't insist your child play for others when they don't want to.
- Don't ridicule or make fun of mistakes or less-than-perfect playing.
- Don't apologize to others for your child's weak performance.
- Don't start your child on an instrument that's in poor working order or condition.
- Don't expect rapid progress and development in the beginning.