

Classroom Management Plan - Annie Mittelsteadt

My classroom management philosophy is based upon procedures and clear expectations, which give students the right tools to succeed in the classroom. Without a clear understanding of the teacher's expectations, students are more likely to misbehave and act out. Instead of punitive punishments in response to rule breaking, I plan to employ empathy to build trust and respect. By utilizing these clear procedures and reasonable consequences for misbehaving students, I plan to successfully control my classroom environment.

Classroom Philosophy

In my teaching philosophy, I plan to:
Motivate students to cultivate their musical ability
Form trust and relationships
Inspire students to be hard workers in music and all aspects of life
Instill an appreciation of music in my students

Example of First Week Procedures:

The First Five Days

Day One

Greet students at door
Instruct to find folder with their name on it. This is their seating arrangement for the day
Room will be setup with chairs and stands
Go over procedures for entering the band room
Go over procedures for leaving the band room
Sign a class contract/go over the band handbook
Hand out a list of important dates for the year

Day Two (Placement Day)

Reinforce procedures for entering and exiting the band room.
Listen to students one at a time to determine placement in sections
Order determined by list posted
Two students 'on deck'
While waiting or finished, students may use this as free time, encouraged to practice
Students would be supervised while teacher is working one on one

Day Three

Review Procedures
Greet at door
Remind students to set up chair, stand, and folder
Assemble instrument and warm up with remaining time
Talk about important dates handed out on day one
Regular concerts, festivals or competitions, pep band games, etc....

Pass out score parts to the now determined sections
Regular music rehearsal time
Reinforce leaving the classroom procedures

Day Four

Greet at the door
Reinforce procedure for entering the band room
Reinforce set up (get your own stand and chair, put music in order)
Discuss upcoming pep band game
Reinforce rehearsal procedures

Day Five

Greet at the door
Reinforce instrument set up and warming up with scales
Continue rehearsing music
Complete rehearsal 5 minutes early to give students social time
Reinforce and rehearse procedures for exiting the band room

Love and Logic

- Give students time to cool down before working with them
- Be kind and understanding if students are not achieving what is expected. There may be outside reasons
- Develop relationships
- This can be done before rehearsal with greeting by the door, or after with the time students have to pack up
- Assure students that seating placement does not denote competency
- Highlight the positive in students' playing before pointing out areas for improvement

Classroom Procedures

Teach, Rehearse, Reinforce

Entering the Band Room:

1. Get yourself a chair, stand, and music
2. Put together your instrument
3. Warm up (scale, tricky runs)
4. Put music in order for the rehearsal
5. Check the board for daily agenda and announcements
6. Five minutes after the bell are allotted to complete

Rehearsal Procedures:

1. When the director cuts off
 - Stop as soon as cut off
 - Look up and await instructions
2. When switching pieces
 - Do so quickly

- Do so quietly, so as not to miss rehearsal instructions
3. If needing to leave the classroom
 - Bathroom, sign language
 - Other, raise hand and wait to be called on
 - If it is an emergency, carefully and quietly take care of yourself

End of Rehearsal:

1. Given about five minutes to put instrument, stand, folder, and chair away
2. Gather near door when finished and wait for director to dismiss you

Rules, or Non-Negotiables

Band Room Rules:

1. No food, drink, or gum allowed in band room
2. Do not play unless asked to once rehearsal has started
3. Keep hands, feet, and belongings to self
4. Only play on YOUR instrument
5. No cell phones allowed during rehearsal

Letter to The Parents Before Day 1

Included in letter are:

Greeting and a welcome back to school

Instruments are required by day 2 of school

Time before day one during which students can drop off instruments and meet the teacher

Instrument lockers are provided in a secure room that is either locked or supervised during regular hours

List of notable dates for the semester

Telling parents about band website

All performance and call times are listed

Pictures and recordings

Teacher contact information

Seating Chart

Figure 10-6. Large Band seating plan No. 2

