

Instrument Care

Your instrument is a delicate item even though it is made from metal. Here are a few easy steps that should be taken to ensure that your instrument remains in good condition.

The Mouthpiece

When getting the instrument out to play, the mouthpiece should be gently placed in the lead-pipe of the instrument. It is important not to tap it into place, as this can cause the mouthpiece to get stuck. If the mouthpiece becomes stuck in for some reason, Mr Penfold has a tool that is specially designed to remove it. Do not take it to a music or repair shop unless your teacher recommends it as some have been known to charge a lot for what is a simple, two-minute job.

The Case

The golden rule is to always put the instrument in its case even when it is left for a short period. Instruments left resting on its bell or across a chair inevitably become damaged. Don't expect others to watch out for your instrument or care for it as much as you do.

The Valves or Slide

The best way to keep the valves or slide in good working order is to play the instrument regularly! No matter how good the instrument is, it will always cause problems if it is only played once a week in the lessons!

Storage

When not being played the instrument should be carefully stored in its case out of harm's way. Other members of the family or friends should not use it for reasons of hygiene and because they won't have had guidance on how to look after the instrument.

If anything goes wrong with the instrument please bring it in to school for Mr Penfold to look at. Most issues can be sorted fairly simply. Most of all, instruments keep working if they are regularly played! Have fun with your instrument!