

CARING FOR YOUR SAXOPHONE

Instruments are to be looked after appropriately by Band Members. The best way to learn about general cleaning and maintenance is to have your tutor demonstrate.

Below are some simple tips to help you.

DUE TO THE COMPLEX AND DELICATE CONSTRUCTION OF INSTRUMENTS, NEVER ATTEMPT ANY ADJUSTMENTS OR REPAIRS ON YOUR OWN.

If there are any problems, please notify the Band Committee and it will be fixed promptly. All school owned instruments are serviced over the summer holidays, the cost of this is covered in your instrument hire fee.

GENERAL:

KEEP IT CLEAN: Don't chew gum, eat, or drink soft drinks just before or while you play. Food particles, sugar and other foreign materials, when blown into an instrument, are difficult to remove and eventually will affect the playing quality. If you do eat before playing, rinse your mouth out thoroughly with water. The same policy applies to the outside of your instrument too.

AFTER PLAYING: wipe finger prints and other marks off the outside of your instrument with a players polishing cloth. It is necessary to remove perspiration as it has a damaging effect on wood, lacquer and metal. Use lukewarm water to clean the mouth piece, do not use water on any other part of the instrument.

- Saxophone players are required to buy Cork Grease. If the joints are not greased regularly then they may be damaged when putting the instrument together or taking it apart. Joints can be expensive to repair or replace, so please ensure that all cork joints are well greased and assembled with care to avoid breakage.

- Saxophone players are required to buy a neck strap or harness (these come in different styles) and are available at Mall Music Brookvale or Mona Vale Music
- Assemble the Saxophone carefully to avoid damaging any keys or cork. Have your tutor demonstrate how to assemble your instrument correctly.
- You will need to give your instrument some general maintenance and clean it regularly. All cleaning equipment you will need is available from Mall Music or Mona Vale Music, please purchase a kit and ask your tutor for instructions on use.
- Remove moisture from saxophones after each playing session with a clean sweep cloth section by section.

Just remember, learning to read music and play an instrument is a challenging and rewarding experience. If your instrument is cared for and maintained, the satisfaction you get will greatly increase.

BAND COMMITTEE