

# THE BAND ROOM

## STUDENT INSTRUMENT CARE CHECKLIST



### 1. Care, cleaning and proper storage for your wind instruments:

- Remember to keep tuning slides and joint connections clean and greased.
- Maintain lubricated pistons, rotors, key arms and other moving parts.
- Ensure that instruments are wiped down and appropriately stored in their cases after each use.
- Remember to dry your instrument after playing, rinse the mouthpiece and remove any fingermarks or dust from the instrument with a soft, dry cloth.
- Do not put a wet cleaning cloth into a closed case with your instrument. Wait until the cloth dries or leave the case open, with the instrument inside, until the cloth is dry.
- Avoid extremes of temperature and humidity, including leaving an instrument in a car, near a window or around a heater.

### 2. Properly assemble/disassemble your instrument:

- To prevent any damage to your instrument, it is important to remember that forcing it together can cause damage, tension or pieces to become stuck.
- Avoid twisting keys during assembly or disassembly because bent keys can cause leaks and affect playability.
- If your instrument cannot easily be put together, see your music teacher — you may need to take your instrument to a repair shop.

### 3. Know when to have your instrument serviced:

- If your instrument experiences trauma, it may be time to visit a repair shop.
- Bumps or drops can cause serious harm to your instrument, even if it is not visibly evident.
- If your mouthpiece or tenons are too loose or tight or your instrument sounds or feels “stuffy” or “airy,” it may need to be serviced.