Oldham Council Music Service and Music Centre



Brass instruments like any mechanical object require regular care and attention to keep them in working order. Although they may look robust, they are easily susceptible to damage which if incurred can result in expensive repairs.

Valve Instrument

Oil valves at least once a week. Only use valve oil supplied by the Music Centre. Slides should be greased once a month using slide grease. This enables the instrument to be tuned.



The trombone slide should be lubricated once a week using slide cream, and sprayed with water before each practice session.



All Brass Instruments

Clean the inside and outside of the instrument once a month.

Remove all slide and valves.

Place instruments in a bath of water and leave to soak for 10 minutes.

Using a 'pull through' brush, clean each length of tubing.

Using a 'mouthpiece' brush, clean the mouthpiece at least once a week.

The outside of the instrument should be cleaned with a soft dry 'lint free' cloth.

Never do or attempt to do any of the following:

Hold the instrument by the mouthpiece.

Attempt any form of repairs.

Clean the outside of an instrument with an abrasive polish such as 'Brasso'.

If you encounter any problems with your instrument seek advice from the Music Centre, or your child's instrument teacher.

Oldham Music Service and Music Centre, Lyceum Buildings (Firth Street Entrance), 95 Union Street, Oldham. OL1 1QG