



## Instrument Care Guide

### French Horn

Musical instruments are made to give years of service as long as they are looked after properly. This guide will explain how to care for your instrument.

- Never store anything on top of your instrument in its case as this can cause damage to the instrument. It is best to keep your music in a separate folder.
- Don't place your instrument unattended where it may fall or on the floor where it may get knocked or stood on.
- Don't play after eating or drinking soft drinks as this will help cause the build-up of bacteria on the inside of the instrument.
- If your mouthpiece gets stuck, please **don't attempt to remove it yourself**. Your teacher will have a special tool to remove it without causing damage to the instrument.

**If anything goes wrong then please do not attempt to repair it yourself.**  
Contact the Jersey Music Service on 832230 or email [jms@music.sch.je](mailto:jms@music.sch.je)

### Maintaining Your Brass Instrument

- Regularly oil your valves to keep them working correctly (your teacher will show you how).
- Regularly apply slide grease to your slides to avoid them getting stuck.
- Remove any water from your instrument after playing using the water keys.
- Clean your instrument regularly using the steps below to keep it working well.

### Cleaning Your Brass Instrument

Brass instruments should be flushed out once every 2-3 months to clean out any accumulation of dirt and to prevent corrosion. A good place to do this is in a bathtub.

1. Fill the tub with lukewarm water and a mild soap.
2. Remove all slides and unscrew the valve caps.



3. Place the instrument, mouthpiece and slides in the water.
4. Use a snake brush to clean inside the slides and the bore of the instrument.
5. Use a mouthpiece brush to clean the inside of the mouthpiece.
6. Once all tubing has been cleaned, remove the instrument and dry with a soft cotton cloth.
7. Apply oil to the valves and grease to the slides before reassembling.