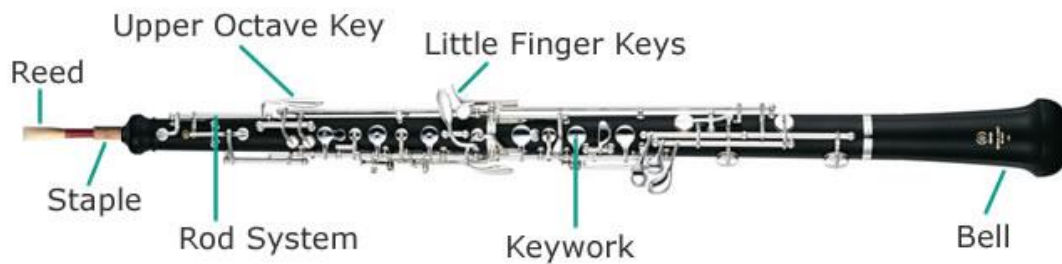




# WHANGAPARAOA COLLEGE

## OBOE CARE & MAINTENANCE



### Oboe Assembly

1. Attach the bell to the bottom joint. If you have a low Bb key, hold it closed while assembling the joints.
2. Line up the posts so that the bridge keys will close the Bb.
3. Assemble the upper and lower joints, holding the top of the upper joint and the bottom of the lower joint. Align the main key posts rather than the bridge keys.
4. To assemble cork joints, gently twist the two parts until they come together.
5. Hold the upper joint, avoiding any keys, and insert the reed all the way.

### GENERAL WOODWIND CARE TIPS

- No gum or soft drinks before playing. Sugar mixed with saliva builds up on the pads and causes them to stick, making it difficult to play the instrument.
- Use cork grease as little as possible, but make sure you use it when needed. To apply it properly, you must rub the grease into the cork. Does not use lip balm or Vaseline.
- So moisture does not absorb into the pads, use an absorbent drop swab to clean out the moisture from each section before you place it in the case.
- Wipe down the exterior of the instrument with a non-treated cloth to remove fingerprints and residue.
- Do not store the reed on the mouthpiece; store in a reed holder. Reeds can cement themselves to your mouthpiece and collect many germs. As soon as the reed cracks, chips, or softens, it is time to replace it.
- Do not leave a woodwind instrument in a hot car, or in your trunk. Extreme temperatures can damage your instrument.

## **GENERAL WOODWIND CARE TIPS CONT.**

- Do not set anything on top of your woodwind instrument, whether inside or outside of its case; this includes sheet music! Damage occurs easily when items are set on the instrument and the case is closed. The keys are often bent this way.
- Make sure the case is closed securely. Check all hinges, latches, and handles to ensure they are securely fastened.
- Never use pliers or hammers on your instrument. Improper use of household tools is a common cause of unnecessary damage to instruments.