## **Music Stands**

Music stands are really, really helpful for maintaining good body posture when playing from sheet music (which your child will be doing a lot!).

Although at first it might seem like a small issue, playing sheet music at a faulty angle can lead to bad habits, and eventually to pain and discomfort.

Playing from sheet music that's sitting on a flat surface, or balancing vertically on a shelf or a mantelpiece, can lead to the upper body being very unbalanced. You can get away with this for a while, but eventually it will start to hurt!

A foldable 'wire' music stand is a good option, because you can easily pack it away and transport it to different locations. This will become essential when your child starts to play in ensembles and music groups.

If your child is going to need to transport the music stand themselves, it is worth finding a really light music stand that will be easy for them to carry when folded. Some folding stands are very heavy, whereas others are made with extremely light materials that need barely any effort to carry! Check the weight of the product before you buy.

**Top tip:** Music stands are extremely counterintuitive to unfold! Ask for a demonstration from your teacher or in a shop, or find a video online. Otherwise you could end up with a large mass of twisted metal!

