

From the employer's perspective

What those who engage musicians are looking for

There is no statutory qualification for instrumental teachers in the UK.

Music services and hubs

- Music services need people who are confident at leading large groups, or willing to learn to do so.
- They look for both multi-instrumentalists and specialists.
- They look for people with strong communication skills.
- Music services may require people to have Qualified Teacher Status (QTS) or a PGCE.
- Many expect teachers to have a music degree or diploma.

Schools

- Schools will seek music graduates who are accomplished musicians and performers.
- They may require teachers to be of at least grade 8 standard.
- Schools may look for teachers with experience of group teaching, especially in primary school settings.
- A career as a classroom music teacher in a secondary school will almost always require Qualified Teacher Status.

Community Music organisations

- Community Music organisations need facilitators with a broad range of skills.
- They will be looking for effective communicators, who are confident working in challenging circumstances (such as Pupil Referral Units, schools and centres for those with Special Educational Needs).
- They will accept applications from graduates and non-graduates.

Performing arts organisations (music venues, orchestras)

- Many performing arts organisations run outreach programmes. They tend to look for musicians with a creative approach.
- They employ creative people who can work with large groups with very mixed prior musical experience.
- They need flexible musicians who are comfortable teaching more than one genre of music, and are comfortable without notation.
- They often need composers and performers who can improvise.

Summary

- Make sure your C.V. includes all appropriate experience, qualifications and skills. Engage in CPD opportunities which show that you are updating your skills.
- The Certificate for Music Educators will be available from January 2014.
- Make sure you have a current disclosure (DBS) certificate.
- The MU strongly recommends that those working with young people take the NSPCC/MU online Child Protection Training: <http://platinum.educare.co.uk/music>