

# Music teachers' transversal competencies

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**Abstract:** This paper examines the role of transversal competencies in music education, emphasizing their impact on student development and teaching effectiveness. It highlights the necessity for music educators to integrate communication skills, emotional intelligence, and interdisciplinary approaches to enhance learning experiences. The study explores how effective communication fosters student engagement, how emotional intelligence contributes to supportive learning environments, and how scientific and artistic perspectives intersect in music instruction. Additionally, it underscores the relevance of digital competencies and innovative methodologies in preparing future music teachers for evolving educational challenges. The findings contribute to the discourse on developing adaptable and creative music educators who bridge artistic expression and cognitive learning.

**Keywords:** Music education, transversal competencies, communication skills, emotional intelligence, interdisciplinary approach, digital literacy, pedagogical innovation, student engagement.

**Introduction:** In exploring the multifaceted role of music teachers, it becomes evident that their competencies extend beyond mere musical instruction, embracing a broader educational horizon. These transversal competencies are essential for fostering a holistic learning environment that intertwines artistic expression with scientific principles, particularly in understanding phenomena like sound. Utilizing sound as a foundational context allows educators to bridge the gap between science and art, thereby enhancing students' emotional engagement with music while developing logical reasoning skills. Furthermore, research indicates that the implementation of structured evaluation methods, such as rubrics, can significantly improve students' self-assessment abilities and their perceptions of competency acquisition. Therefore, an introduction to music teachers' transversal competencies not only highlights the complexity of their pedagogical tasks but also emphasizes the need for dynamic teaching approaches that integrate diverse disciplinary insights.

## Definition and Importance of Transversal Competencies in Music Education

Transversal competencies are essential skills that extend beyond specific subject knowledge, equipping students with the abilities to navigate a complex world. In music education, these competencies facilitate not

only the development of musical skills but also interpersonal and cognitive growth. Such competencies include critical thinking, collaboration, and emotional intelligence, which are vital for engaging in creative processes and collaborative performances. The integration of transversal competencies into music curricula enhances students' ability to communicate effectively through various forms of expression while fostering a sense of community and personal identity. As noted, music, like language and mathematics, serves as a universal medium that conveys emotions and facilitates understanding among individuals, thereby enriching the learning experience. Furthermore, recognizing the aesthetic dimensions in education encourages diverse forms of participation and self-expression, which are vital for holistic development in learners.

## The Role of Communication Skills in Music Teaching

Effective communication skills are essential for music teachers as they serve not only to convey technical knowledge but also to foster an engaging learning environment. Through adept verbal and non-verbal communication, teachers can articulate complex musical concepts, connect with students emotionally, and adapt their teaching methods to accommodate diverse learning styles. The integration of rubrics as formative assessment tools plays a significant role in

enhancing students' self-assessment, as evidenced by research indicating that their use positively influences perceptions of both transversal and specific competencies within music education<sup>2</sup>. Furthermore, a transversal perspective that merges artistic expression with scientific understanding can enrich students' learning experiences, making music education more relatable and effective<sup>1</sup>. In essence, strong communication skills empower music teachers to bridge the gap between theory and practice, ensuring that students not only acquire musical knowledge but also develop critical thinking and collaboration skills essential for their future endeavors.

### **The Impact of Emotional Intelligence on Teaching Practices**

The integration of emotional intelligence (EI) into teaching practices significantly enhances the efficacy of music educators in fostering a supportive and productive learning environment. By cultivating their own emotional awareness and empathy, music teachers are better equipped to navigate the complexities of student emotions, leading to improved student engagement and retention. Furthermore, research on the impact of EI suggests that when teachers demonstrate emotional competence, they create an atmosphere conducive not only to musical growth but also to social and cognitive development among students. This aligns with recent European strategies aimed at addressing the essential competencies required in modern education, which emphasize both emotional and digital literacy. Ultimately, as music educators embody and teach emotional intelligence, they empower students to develop critical social capabilities, thereby enhancing their overall educational experience and preparing them for collaborative and creative endeavors in the future.

### **The Significance of Developing Transversal Competencies for Future Music Educators**

The advancement of transversal competencies in future music educators is paramount, as these skills foster adaptability and creativity in teaching methodologies. In an increasingly diverse educational landscape, music educators must transcend traditional pedagogical frameworks to incorporate innovative approaches that resonate with a variety of student experiences. This is particularly evident in the shifting emphasis on aesthetics within educational curricula, where aspects of participation, self-expression, and divergent thinking have become essential for engaging students<sup>4</sup>. As music educators develop their transversal competencies, they enhance their capacity to facilitate not only musical understanding but also

critical thinking and collaboration among students. Furthermore, these competencies allow educators to create inclusive learning environments that reflect contemporary cultural dynamics, thereby enriching the educational experience. Ultimately, the cultivation of transversal competencies in music education prepares future educators to effectively meet the evolving demands of their roles in the classroom.

### **CONCLUSION**

In conclusion, the exploration of transversal competencies within music education significantly contributes to the holistic development of both educators and students. By integrating diverse disciplinary perspectives, such as the connections between sound, physics, and art, educators can foster a deeper understanding of musical concepts while promoting creativity and logical reasoning among students<sup>1</sup>. Furthermore, recognizing the importance of digital competence within the curriculum aligns with broader educational strategies aimed at cultivating essential skills for active citizenship in a rapidly evolving knowledge society<sup>6</sup>. This multifaceted approach not only enriches the educational experience but also prepares students to navigate an increasingly complex world where technology and creativity intersect. Thus, music teachers equipped with transversal competencies are pivotal in shaping a responsive and inclusive learning environment that bridges the gap between artistic expression and scientific inquiry.

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