1 2 3

Music teacher



Music teachers train and support pupils of all ages in musical instruments and music theory.



What you'll do

You'll work with individuals or small groups of people, either in your own home, in the pupil's home or at other venues. You'll work with people of all abilities.

Your day-to-day duties might involve:

- planning lessons to suit the individual needs of a group or pupil
- teaching pupils to play an instrument and to read and understand music
- helping pupils prepare for music exams, competitions and performances

In a specialist music college, or conservatoire, you'll teach individuals, groups and classes, preparing students for music exams, qualifications and performances.

In a primary or secondary school, you'll:

- teach the whole class or a group of pupils
- teach the history, theory and appreciation of all kinds of music, following the national curriculum
- set assignments and mark and assess pupils' work
- help to organise school choirs, orchestras or bands
- organise school concerts and musical performances

In a further education college or adult education centre, you'll teach music at all levels, ranging from hobby courses to qualifications like GCSEs and A levels.

You could also teach music in schools on a freelance basis as a visiting music teacher or through a music education hub.

Record relevant activities you've already done on the Activities tool >

Working hours and environment

Many music teachers are self-employed, and often combine teaching privately with part-time or casual work for colleges and other organisations.

As a private teacher, you'll work hours to suit your clients, and may spend time travelling between different teaching venues.

In a school, you'll usually work normal school hours from Monday to Friday. You may also teach individual pupils, run rehearsals or music groups, and attend school concerts and musical performances after school, and occasionally at weekends.

In further education colleges, you'll work full- or part-time hours, and in adult education centres will teach part-time courses during the day or evening.

Career path and progression

As a qualified and experienced music teacher in a school, you could become head of the music department.

You could also become an advisory teacher, or inspector employed by a local education authority or independent agency.

Skills required

You'll need to have:

- teaching and motivational skills
- a patient and encouraging approach
- good communication skills
- business skills if self-employed

Got evidence of these skills? Record your examples on the Skills tool >

Entry requirements

Entry requirements may vary depending on the type of teaching, but you'll usually need:

- relevant postgraduate qualifications and teaching experience to be a music teacher in a music college or conservatoire
- qualified teacher status (QTS) to teach in a state school
- at least a level 3 qualification in the subject you wish to teach, and a relevant teaching qualification, to be a lecturer in a further education college
- an enhanced background check which your employer will arrange for you

To get onto a music degree or diploma you'll need:

- 5 GCSEs at grades 9 to 4 (A* to C)
- 2 A levels, including music (or equivalent qualifications)

You may be able to become a private teacher without qualifications if you have exceptional musical skills.

Related university subject profiles

These university subjects are related to this career; check out their profiles on the Subjects library:

- Education >
- Music >

Related career profiles

You may also be interested in:

- Secondary school teacher >
- Session musician >

Explore

Want to see what relevant education and training opportunities are available right now? Search here:

Education at uni:							
USA > UK > Canada > Europe > Asia	Australasia > Middle East and Africa >	Ireland >					
Music at uni:							
USA > UK > Canada > Europe > Asia	Australasia > Middle East and Africa >	Ireland >					
Apprenticeships:							

UK 🔰

Labour Market Information (LMI)

Current and predicted figures relating to the Music teacher profession. Median averages are shown, each with the specific career, or group of careers, that they apply to.

• UK USA				
🔁 Jobs				
Teaching professionals				
962,059				
• 8,554 in your local area of Liverpool				
Top 5 local areas				
1	Kent	26,764		
2	Hertfordshire	22,648		
3	Essex	22,544		
4	Surrey	22,262		
5	Hampshire	21,878		

Teaching professionals n.e.c.

£30,860

Teaching professionals

£41,800

• £40,702 in your region of North West

Top 3 regions

1	London	£47,143
2	Wales	£43,431
3	Scotland	£42,570

Growth

2020-2035

Teaching and other educational professionals

+7.1% ↑ 128,660 jobs

• +13.2% in your region of North West, an increase of 26,195 jobs

Save to Favourites? 🎔

You haven't favourited any Careers library profiles yet

People also liked...

Those that liked this career profile also liked the following



Composers write musical scores. A scores, but are more likely to take transcribe them for different instrucontexts.

Read the profile >

Read the profile >

television, or film.

Read the profile >

music.

https://www.unifrog.org/student/careers/keywords/music-teacher