



AEC Annual Congress

Task Force on Early Childhood Music Education

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Preconditions for good quality early childhood music education

- In an ideal situation:
 - Teachers have a specialised higher-level training (master of music) for early childhood music education
 - They are both qualified pedagogues and good musicians
- Annual and long term (for 0-6 year old) study plans
 - An individual lesson is always in connection to an annual study plan and the long term aims and goals
- Teaching materials and facilities are suitable for early childhood music education



Teaching is planned and organised according to the child's physical and mental development levels

- Family groups (baby groups)
- 3-6 months
- 7 – 11 months
- 1 year old
- with parents
- 2 year old
- with parents
- 3 year old
- without parents
- 4 year old
- 5 year old
- 6 year old



What?

Basic musical elements:

- Rhythm and tempo
- musical forms
- Melody
- Harmony
- Sound
- Colours
- Dynamics



Learning outcomes (at the age of 5 – 6)

- Children are able to:
 - Understand basic music elements
 - Read notes
 - Sing and play by hearing
 - Play basic chords (major and minor) and can accompany easy songs
 - Choose their own instrument as they get familiar with different instruments via “instrument presentations”
 - Teachers use the same terminology as instrument teachers and collaborate with instrument teachers
 - Perform
 - Early childhood concerts and performances with or without professional musicians are an important part of early childhood music education



A success story



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Member of the Task Force

Ulla Piispanen, Author, teacher and lecturer on early childhood music education

Natassa Economidou, Head of the Department of Music and Dance, University of Nicosia

Michael Dartsch, Professor of Music Pedagogy at the Hochschule für Musik Saar, Head of the study programme Elementary Music Pedagogy



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Objectives of the Task Force

- Mapping of the situation in Europe
 - From what age on is ECME provided?
 - What educational background do teachers have?
 - Are there curricula (national/ individual/ commercial)?
 - What activities are carried out?



Objectives of the Task Force

- Drafting Handbook
 - Providing a starting point
 - Give practical example and exercises
 - Provided an overview of expected learning outcomes
 - Further reading: display resources to get further involved in the subject

Several pilot sessions in different European countries will help to assess the usability of the handbook and allow to refine it.

