



## Brief

# The Mission to Teach Music. Pre-primary Teachers' Assignment to Teach Music Based on the Content and Goals of the National Curriculum

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The aim of music education is, among other things, to give children the tools to practically play music in everyday life, developing musical thinking, and create a positive attitude to music. The experiences children get in music are mainly dependent on the teachers they encounter, according to Moore (2019). Therefore, teachers should be equipped with the skills and knowledge required to be able to give children meaningful musical experiences (Henley, 2017) and to be able to follow the curriculum's content and goals (Sætre, 2018). The purpose of this study is to investigate how Finnish-Swedish teachers in pre-primary education approached the mission of teaching music based on the content and goals of the national curriculum. Qualitative content analysis is used to answer the question at issue. According to Hsieh and Shannon (2005), data collection based on a qualitative method can be done through document analyzes and interviews. In the present study both documents in the form of curriculum texts and pre-school teachers' interview responses have been analyzed.

The results of the present study show that the content and goals of the curriculum in music can be difficult to follow. The purpose of the national curriculum is to contribute to the realization of high-quality and uniform pre-primary education throughout Finland, but the results of this study show great variation in the realization of music education. According to the study's results, this may partly be because some concepts in the curriculum are not established in music literature in early childhood education, and partly because the curricula

have been revised and the view of teaching music has changed. Teachers should be given the opportunity to develop their ability to take advantage of children's musical activities in everyday life as a basis for planning and implementing a diverse music content with a focus on the content and goals of the curriculum in music.

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