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Teacher Efficacy Under the e-Orch Setting Teaching and Learning Environment

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Abstract

With technological innovation and support from the government, more schools are attempting to set up tablet orchestras to give students opportunities to perform and create music in an alternative way. One of the largest tablet orchestra projects, “e-Orch Music Creation and Performance in Practice Project”, involves more than ten schools setting up their tablet orchestra as an extra-curricular activity. Unlike traditional one-to-one instrumental training, students cultivate their musicianship and gain musical knowledge by actively performing classic repertoires with the relevant applications (e.g. GarageBand for iPadOS) in a tablet orchestra setting. Students are taught to perform and compose music composition collaboratively after acquiring the necessary know-how of tablet instruments. Regardless of musical background and socioeconomic status, students without prior instrumental training can participate in orchestral performance and composition.

Research in this area has largely focused on the development of laptop ensemble, with very few studies focusing on the development of musical competency through participation in a tablet orchestra in which tablet devices provide easier control on musical parameters. Without a systematic inquiry into the specific area, this research is essential to the field of music education in the twenty-first century.

The research project will investigate the teacher efficacy of the e-Orch project in six primary schools. A mixed-methods approach consisting of a questionnaire survey and semi-structured interviews developed based on Tschannen-Moran & Hoy's Teachers' Sense of Efficacy Scale is used to study the efficacy with focus on fostering musical creativity, student comprehension of what have taught, ability to plan a meaningful and effective lesson, content knowledge for your praxial placement location, the influence of under COVID-19, etc. Students' final e-Orch performance and composition have been be videotaped, analysed and evaluated.

A framework has been developed based on the research findings, which revealed the construct and understand of the problem that risen with possible measures.