

WHAT IS IT?

COMMUNITY MUSICIAN MUSIC FACILITATOR MUSIC LEADER WORKSHOP LEADER

All these titles describe musicians who work with people in a range of different settings. The main aim of this work is to encourage people to participate in music. It is different from instrumental teaching because it often involves

- working with groups of people
- working with 'non-musicians'
- working on a short term basis (a single or short series of workshops)
- themed work (DJ workshop on one particular style of music; vocal workshop; writing a song)
- using a range of instruments, sometimes more unusual (e.g. voice, guitar, percussion, gamelan, drums from different continents)

Music therapy is sometimes confused with community music. Music therapy involves the therapeutic use of music for groups of people including those with health issues. A music therapist has a postgraduate degree.

WHY DO I NEED TO KNOW ABOUT THIS?

Many musicians and DJs feel that they have skills which they can pass on to others.

Whether this is for money, or simply to help others improve their skills, teaching helps you focus on the skills you have, those you are working towards and those you still need to get.

'Setting up' as a community musician / music leader is easy. Teaching well and making a living out of it is difficult.

You need to develop your skills in a number of different areas to make it work for you.