Exploring How Online Applications Help Students to Learn Music Virtually: A Study in an Australian Music Academy

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Abstract : This paper outlines the case study experience of using a variety of online strategies in an Australian music academy context during covid times. The study aimed at exploring how online applications help students to learn music, specifically playing musical instruments, composing songs, and performing virtually. To explore this, music teachers' perceptions and experiences regarding online learning, the teaching strategies they implemented, and the challenges they faced were examined. For the purpose of this study, a qualitative research structure was adopted through the use of three data collection tools. These methods included pre- and post-research individual interviews of teachers and students, analysis of their lesson plans, virtual classroom observations of the teachers followed by the researcher'sown reflections, post-observation discussions, and teachers' reflective journals. The findings revealed that teachers had a theoretical understanding of virtual learning and recent musical application such as Flowkey, Skoove, and Piano marvel, which are benefits of e-learning. While teachers faced challenges in implementing strategies to teach keyboard/piano online, overall, both students and teachers felt the positive impact of online applications and strategies on their learning and felt that modern technology made it possible for anyone to take music lessons at home.