Table 1: Summary of themes

Overarching	Sub-themes
themes	
Aspiration	Solo career regarded as priority (a dream)
(Prejudice)	Excitement regarding desire to be a performer
	Performance the only thing students knew (lack of awareness of other career pathways)
	Teaching viewed as a completely different skillset from performance
	Lack of understanding regarding importance of developing wider skillset
	In your own head (egocentric)
	Stigma – teachers are failed musicians
	Divide between musician and teacher/teaching not a respected career
	Awareness of pedagogical ideas depends on cultural background/former teacher
	Teaching can depend on the sort of teaching you have seen
Exploration	Reality check (needs to be delivered sensitively)
(Uncertainty)	Consider what constitutes success as a musician
	Keep an open mind (maturity)
	Play to your strengths (acknowledge transferable skills)
	Unsure what kind of career may lie ahead
	Come to appreciate what you can do with your love for music (other than performance)
	A need rather than a desire to explore teaching
	Teaching can depend on the sort of teaching you have seen
Transformation	Changed expectation of success and what that means
(Passion)	Clearer understanding of possible career avenues
	A passion for teaching - no longer a 'Plan B'
	Pleasurable to see learners make progress
	Changed career outlook
	A need to create a sustainable system for music education
	Teaching can depend on the sort of teaching you have seen
Competition	Have to 'be the best' to be a solo musician
(Collaboration)	Students compare themselves to other students
	Recognition of need for diligence, effort and teamwork
	Doors start to open/opportunities arise