

The Effects of Second Language as a Medium of Instruction on Pre-school Learners

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ABSTRACT Language is an important aspect for the development of every human being. The paper investigated the effects of second language as a medium of instruction on pre-school learners. The study adopted a qualitative case study design in which four pre-school teachers and four parents were sampled from four different pre-schools. Data were collected using interviews and observation schedules. Qualitative data was analysed, reduced and interpreted. The findings revealed that pre-school education is important as it encourages language development and prepares pre-school learners for school. English second language can be used as a medium of instruction because of its long-term benefits. The study concludes that pre-school learners continue to develop their abilities in languages throughout their pre-school years; they gain a deeper understanding of language and how to use it effectively. Pre-school teachers need to remember that language is not just part of education; it is also part of the pre-schoolers' everyday lives. Recommendations were that two languages should be introduced at an early childhood stage because both empower children.