

Dealing with Children from Child-Headed Households in Schools: Strategies for Improving Their Academic Performance

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ABSTRACT The paper sought to assess measures that could be used to effectively assist child-headed household (CHH) learners to ensure their meaningful participation in the academic activities. It used a qualitative case design of a conveniently selected school and the snowball sampling technique to identify orphaned learners. In-depth interviews, observation and document analysis were utilised to collect data. Content analysis guided the data analysis through themes derived from the sub-research questions. Data reporting, took the form of thick description and verbatim quotations. It emerged from the findings that the school should formulate a policy targeting CHH learners as the first step towards assisting them. The researchers have recommended that schools should come up with well-articulated policies focused on CHHs. These policies would act like radar navigating the way for CHH learners. There should also be checks and follow-ups to ensure that policies crafted are being implemented on the ground.