

RESEARCHERS BOOTCAMP

THEME 1: EDUCATION AT HOME

PURPOSE: To study the home educational experiences of families during the lockdown in South Africa precipitated by the onset of COVID-19.

EDUCATION RESEARCHERS RESPOND TO LOCKDOWN



DATE

30 March – 30 April



NUMBER OF RESEARCHERS

11



APPROACH

Case Study



SAMPLE

Convenience sample:
16 families



PLATFORMS USED

Google Hangout
Google Forms
Whatsapp
Telephonic interviews

Standard Bank
tutuwa
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

FINDINGS

Learners are easily distracted from learning at home

Parental involvement is a major contributing factor to enhancing learning

Even the most educated caregivers feel inadequate in undertaking pedagogical and curriculum tasks

Internet is not the best communication tool due to data costs and access issues, especially for poor families.

Addressing these issues will enhance home learning both during lockdown and when things return to normal

Caregivers have feelings of anxiety arising from uncertainty around the future and their own ability to help their children with schoolwork

RECOMMENDATIONS

MINISTRY, DEPARTMENT OF BASIC EDUCATION AND PROVINCIAL DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION:

- Finalise the plan to phase out school lockdown
- Provide policy on communication between schools and parents
- Provide policy on the curricular content of communications between schools and parents
- Engage with telecoms companies with a view to zero-rating educational data
- Engage with the SABC to coordinate broadcasts with rollout of the curriculum

SCHOOLS

- Set up class-based chat groups with all parents
- Compile sets of printed materials for learners to use at home
- Formulate simple workplans for guided use of printed materials

FAMILIES

- Engage with the school regarding regular communication on how to assist their children at home
- Ensure regular time for daily study at home

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