

TEACHER SUPERVISION: A STRATEGY FOR ENSURING LEARNERS' SAFETY IN GHANAIAN KINDERGARTEN SCHOOLS

Justina Adu

Department of Early childhood Education
University of Education, Winneba
Winneba

Isaac Awortwe

Lecturer, College of Distance Education and e-Learning
University of Education, Winneba
Winneba, GHANA

&

Joseph Bentil

Department of Basic Education, University of Education, Winneba

ABSTRACT

The study sought to assess teachers' supervisory strategies towards the safety of learners in kindergarten schools within Komenda Edina Eguafu Abrem Municipality in the Central Region of Ghana. The study was situated in the Interpretivist paradigm by employing a qualitative research approach. The illustrative case study design was adopted for this study. Semi-structured interview guide and observation checklist were instruments utilized to collect data from 16 participants. The convenience sampling technique was used in selecting the participants for the study. The data were analyzed thematically with the help of an online qualitative analysis tool, Taguette. The findings of the study revealed that, kindergarten teachers do not supervise their learners during outdoor activities or at the playground. Again, this study emerged that, kindergarten teachers do not pay close attention to learners and their physical environment to detect danger and threats. The study findings also suggest that, kindergarten teachers do not maintain physical closeness supervision of their learners to promptly salvage them from occurring danger during supervision. It was recommended to the Ministry of Education, Ghana Education Service, and other Agencies in Education to periodically organize workshop training and seminars on teacher supervision and safety for kindergarten teachers. This would help the kindergarten teachers to acquire basic knowledge and skills on the ways to adopt best supervisory practices to address safety issues in kindergarten schools. It was also recommended to the Tertiary institutions like teaching Universities and Colleges of Education to mount courses specifically for Teachers' Supervision and School Safety for pre-service teachers and school administrators. These together would aid the kindergarten teachers with best supervisory skills and strategies necessary for providing effective care for their learners.