



## ATTITUDES OF PARENTS TOWARDS EARLY CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION ECCE IN KANO MUNICIPAL COUNCIL

By

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### Abstract

#### Introduction

There has been great concern on how children grow in conducive environment that caters their wellbeing and development, parents need to be enlighten that the welfare and education of children is the responsibility of all. Continuous training, good nutrition, proper upbringing, healthy conditions and nurturing individuals are foremost requirements for grooming young future leaders. This process must commence from grassroots to the stems and its branches. Early childhood care and education is the process of achieving the aim through training productive, active, entrepreneur, and inventive, educative, scientific and technological oriented individual.

#### Purpose

Once the societal children are fully engage, then parents are at liberty to conveniently work for daily bread promptly. The workforce is improved and their wards safety is ensured. The school service to community is boasted and character building is ensured. The children would be encourage to develop at their own pace, interest and capabilities. This research would open up to parents some glories involved in educating their children at ECCE.

#### Methodology

The research methodology used attitude test to investigate the responses of parents towards their perception ECCE acceptability in the Municipality of Kano. The data instrument has been used over a period of time, the instrument used was attitude rating scale.

#### Results

It is our expectation that ECCE children's abilities in the three domains; literacy, numeracy and accuracy and skills acquisition would be exceptionally good compared with those whom have not undergone such centers, that is to say they joined school system at the age of six or seven. Likewise those children are expected to uplift their capabilities and talents up to tertiary levels or they may open a trade of their interest. Their academic capability made it easy for teachers to facilitate learning in a convenient way. Their parents benefits in the increase of daily bread. The prospects of ECCE in policy making would be given much consideration and assistance to operative fully and machineries required to improve their services and operations would be regarded as top priority to all, parents, teachers and the government

#### Recommendation

In order to render more efficient and effective role of parents in Municipality Area the study would like to make recommendations and suggestions. These are as follows;

- 1. To the Government:** Government as the runner of schools as well as policy formulator has it is own role to contribute to words the success of the children. This can be done by allowing parents to take part in providing all the necessary requirement for the development of their children especially 0 – 5 years old. There should be sensitization/public enlightenment team to make the people acquaint themselves with new development in the new NCE programme that prioritize grassroots knowledge through ECCE centers. Assisting providing nutrition food to supplement parents feeding style.

**2. To Teachers:** They should recognize the importance of their field and to work hard for optimum development of the pupils.

**3. To Parent:** They should know the important of up of performance of their children

#### **Public interest Statement**

The findings of this research is to bring into light the harmonised ECCE centres and the day care operations. This findings is also intended to encourage more patronage of the centres as grassroots foundation for sound moral lifelong educational foundation which moulds and shape future youth of tomorrow.

**Keywords:** ECCE, Attitudes.

## **INTRODUCTION**

Early childhood care and education (ECCE) is a field of study. It's a branch of education theory that related to the teaching of children from birth up to the age of eight, traditionally this is up to the equivalent of third year in primary school.

ECCE emerged as a field of study during the enlightenment, particularly in European countries with high literacy rates. It continued to grow through the nineteenth century as Universal Primary Education (UPE) become a norm in the western world.

In National Policy on Education (2004) Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) referred to as pre-primary education, is officially documented but operationally silent in the 6-3-3-4 system of Nigeria education. However the care and attention a child receive in the first five years of life like affection, attention and stimulation in addition to good nutrition and proper health care in addition to encouraging children to play and explore help them learn develop, socially, economically, physiologically and intellectually.

In recent years, early childhood care and education has become a prevalent public policy issue, as municipal, state and federal lawmakers consider funding for pre-schools. It described as an important period in a child development. Early Child Care and Education (ECCE) is defined as a period from birth to the eight years old, it is a time of remarkable growth with brain development at its peak. During the stage children are highly influenced by the environment and people that surround them. Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) is more than preparation for primary school. It aims at holistic development of a child's social, emotional, cognitive and physical needs in order to build a solid and broad foundation for lifelong learning and well-being. ECCE has the possibility to nature caring, capable and responsible future citizens.

Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) in Nigeria is an integrated approach adopted for care and support given to children aged 0 – 5 in other word, it's a holistic approach in which the Federal Ministry of Education collaborates with other ministries like health, environment, women affairs, information and communication, finance, agriculture and water resources and national planning

commission to provide intervention for cognitive, physical, social, moral and emotional development of the child. It's a plan by the federal government for working mothers to carry along their babies to their working places.

## **Statement of the problem**

There exists misconception that ECCE came to replace day-cares for nursing mothers. This research would bring to light how day-cares are being complemented by ECCE, instead of nursing alone, parents would be enlightened on importance of early education at the grassroots. Parents' poor patronage of the programme.

1. How is the programme accepted among the parents in Kano Municipality?
2. The facilities required for the functional early childhood care and education centers are poorly provided.
3. The Early Childhood Care and Education programme in Kano Municipality area have been recording success and shortcomings.
4. The problem e.g. overlooking service, lack of trust between teachers and parents, rolling out programmes without enough training teachers, there is a lag between policy making and program implementation that care givers, assistant care giver, nannies and teachers faced in early childhood care and education centers.
5. Poor/inadequate facilities
6. Low patronage from parent and government.
7. Lack of teaching co-operation and team spirit.

## **Purpose of the study**

The perceptions and attitudes of parents towards ECCE is intended to be adjusted and modified in such a way that regular visits to school would be improved, school parent relation would be cordial and children future would be modified and enhanced at early stage.

## **Research questions**

1. Is ECCE programme acceptable among the parents in Municipal local government area?

2. How do parents patronized for the running of the programme?
3. What measures do we take to create smooth running of the program

## RESEARCH HYPOTHESIS

1. There would be major differences in Parents acceptance of ECCE programme in Kano Municipality.
2. There would be a large patronage of parents in running the programme by sending their wards
3. There are high and average measures for smooth running of ECCE to keep it functional.

## Methodology

The method that is stated in this finding includes the research design, instrumentation sample and sampling technique and procedure for data collection. This deal with the portion of the research where the roles of parent in ECCE development will be clarified, the sampling of the research represent ECCE centers located in Kano municipality. The various methods techniques procedures and process through which research will be conducted.

## Design

In this research, the researcher intends to employ questionnaire in order to obtain appropriate information from respondents that are going to be representative the entire population of the population of the study.

Parents are expected to play many roles in the development of early childhood care and education programme. There for the researchers intend to use the questionnaire in finding out the kinds of roles parent plays in the development of early childhood care and education programme.

## Population and sample

This research was conducted within Kano Municipality Area and (4) four ECCE centers were selected as a sample of the study. The population of the study comprises the headmasters, teachers, care givers nannies and parents concerned. However, the researcher intends to use one hundred (120) respondent as the population after random sampling of staff attendance register in the schools visited.

## Procedure for Data collection

Schools primary board was contacted to sort for permission before conducting the research, upon receiving approval, statistical data was also obtained with details of information on the operations of Early Childhood Care and Education. The process of conducting data was after distribution of the questionnaire and active participation in the conduct of some practical exercises at the centers.

## Methodology for Data analysis

The studies investigate on the role parent in the development of Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) in Kano municipal Government Area. Chapter one which include background of the study, scope and delimitation, objectives of the study, question and statement of the problems.

Some related literature which concentrates in gathering various scholarship view of the research topic introduction, conceptual frame work, concept of the role of parent, impact of the role of parent on the development and performance of their children in early years.

The finding concentrate on the methodology used in gathering the research data which consist the study area, population of the study, sample and sampling technique, research design and analysis.

The presentation and analysis of the data collected for this project result shows that ECCE programme was accepted among the parent in Kano Municipality Area since it shows that 81% of the result of respondents were agree and accept the programme. The result shows that at some problems face by the stake holders in the centers, because at 8% of the result of respondents shows that there exist some problems to make the centers upgrade to standard the result also shows that there are many facilities required for functional in order to ECCE centers some as it appear in tables.

Wide range of instructional materials exist for stimulating children's learning and those materials need to be appropriate to the age of the children. These materials will facilitate in the understanding of abstract concept instructional material will also save the care givers time and it will limit the use of words in explanation, were 75% are. It also shows that 97% agree with the statement number '4' i.e lack of teaching co-operation and team spirit

## Results

It is our expectation that ECCE children's abilities in the three domains; literacy, numeracy and accuracy and skills acquisition would be exceptionally good compared with those whom have not undergone such centres, that is to say they joined school system at the age of six or seven. Likewise, those children are expected to uplift their capabilities and talents up to tertiary levels or they may open a trade of their interest. Their academic capability made it easy for teachers to facilitate learning in a convenient way. Their parents' benefits in the increase of daily bread. The prospects of ECCE in policy making would be given much consideration and assistance to operative fully and machineries required to improve their services and operations would be regarded as top priority to all, parents, teachers and the government.

**Table 1: Showing Mean, Standard Deviation, Difference, and t value of Parents acceptance of ECCE programme in Kano Municipality.**

PARENTS	N	Mean	SD	MD	df	t-value
Parents Acceptance	40	67.52	16.86	9.36	78	2.47*
Parents did not Accept	40	58.16	16.99			

**\*significant at 0.05 level**

In table 1, the SD, mean and MD [(M=67.52, 58.16), (SD=16.86, 16.99) and (MD=9.39)] respectively have Parents Accepted ECCE Program and enroll their children. The obtained tvalue (2.47/78) was more significant than the table value at 0.05 (1.99). The result shows that Parents Acceptance to ECCE Program compared to parents that did not accepted the program and did not enroll their children to participate in the program. On this basis of the finding, the researchers conclude that the first hypothesis is retained.

**Hypothesis 2:** There would be a large sponsorship of parents in running the programme and sending their wards.

**Table 2: Showing Mean, Standard Deviation, Mean Difference, and t- value of large and Low enrolment**

Group	N	Mean	SD	MD	df	t-value
Large	40	55.12	10.05	3.03	78	0.97
Low	40	58.16	16.99			

The second hypothesis is rejected as t-value (0.97/78) was marginal at 0.05 (1.99) levels of significance. Average scores of a large sponsorship of parents in running the programme and sending their wards. Were obtained (55.12), which is less than the average score (58.16) of a low enrolment and sponsorship of parents in running the programme and sending their wards. Likewise, the SD and MD of the same group were found [(SD=16.86, 16.99) and (MD=9.39)] respectively.

**Hypotheses 3:** There are high and average measures for smooth running of ECCE to keep it functional.

**Table 3: Showing Mean, Standard Deviation, Mean Difference, and t value of**

Group	N	Mean	SD	MD	df	t-value
High smooth running	40	67.52	16.86	12.39	78	3.99**
Average	40	55.12	10.05			

**\*\*significant at 0.01 level**

The last hypothesis of the present study is also accepted, as the obtained tvalue (3.99/78) was found to be significant at 0.01 (2.63) level of significance. The average score obtained from the ECCE program. Washigh smooth running (67.52), which is higher than the average score (55.12) of running ECCE program smoothly Like wise smooth running Average (67.52) (55.12) Mean SD and MD scores in the same group were [(SD=16.86, 10.05) and (MD=12.39)] respectively. Thus, the results of this study show that smooth running of ECCE program and have a high functional center compared to Average functional centers with a low functional activity.

## Discussion

Table1 From the result of the analysis SD and MD were Parents Acceptance and those did not accept the Ecce program with respect to the functional literacy in future. The obtained t- value (2.47/78) was found to be more important than the tabulation value at 0.05 (1.99).It was found out that parents participate fully in the development of Early Childhood Care and Education. Indeed, the objectives of the study has been determined in terms of acceptability of the programme among the parent in Kano Municipality Area, the problems faced by the teachers, care givers, assistant care

givers, and nannies such as overlooking service, lack of trust between teachers and parents, rolling out programmes without enough training teachers etc., facilities required in the centers such as play equipment, first aid box, toys, home corner, reading corner, creative corner, teaching aids like flash card, building blocks, plastic alphabets and number. Also in terms of progress we can say that there is little progression because governments do not participate fully for the running of the programme. Therefore, there must be short comings. Therefore the result shows that there is prevalence of ECCE centers in Kano Municipality Areas, because the



pupils attend schools regularly and most of the centers are well equipped, therefore parents are playing their own roles.

The finding of the hypothesis go hand in hand with the results of Garba, Sani, Usaini, Hakim (2020), which found that Parents with high socio-economic status and higher academic Qualification are ready and willing to participate fully in the development of Early Childhood Care of their children compared to those with low socio-economic status, and had low and unsatisfactory academic qualification. Abu bakar (2022) also found that Parental influence and socio-economic factors had an effect on the engagement of their children early education and academic performance in Nigeria.

The study also showed that the second hypothesis (There would be a large patronage of parents in running the programme by sending their wards) was rejected because the t-value (0.97/78) was found to be marginal at 0.05 (1.99) of significance. Average scores a large patronage of parents in running the programme (55.12), which is less than the average score (58.16) of low patronage of parents in running the programme by sending their wards. The results were also consistent with the findings of Kabir (2021). In the study of the socio- economic status of learners and their English-language scores in the most recent public review. He found that parent involvement in their children learning at young age consistent with those not low-income

The findings of the present study (there would be a substantial difference in the future academic output of children with a high parental participation. However The roles of parent in the development of Early Childhood Care and Education is very vital because 0 – 5 years old children needs special cares, support and assistance since children's development of the cognitive and social skills needed for success later in school is supported by responsive parenting. Responsiveness plays an important role in providing a strong foundation for children to develop optimally. This includes positive affection and high levels of warmth in combination with behaviours that are cognitively responsive to child's needs.

Abdullahi (2020) indicated, the factors affecting the quality of academic performance of students in Pakistan, that family characteristics, such as participation and their socio-economic status, are significant predictors of good academic performance of learners, in addition to other school factors and student factors.

**Conclusion** Since it generally believed that, the research work it an attempt to find out about the roles of parent in the development of Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE), it could therefore be said that, the project should always have its conclusive part as obtain through the process i.e questionnaire.

The researcher is able to arrive at the following;

- a. The roles of parent in ECCE development help to meet the basic need of their children such as education, good health care, and nutrition and affection, psychosocial stimulation for both physical,

social, emotional, intellectual and moral development.

- b. The parent involvement can affect their children's academic activities as well as other activities in their latter life.

## Recommendation

In order to render more efficient and effective role of parents in Kano Municipality Area the study would like to make recommendations and suggestions. These are as follows;

- 1. To the Government:** Government as the runner of schools as well as policy formulator has its own role to contribute to words the success of the children. This can be done by allowing parents to take part in providing all the necessary requirement for the development of their children especially 0 – 5 years old. There should be sensitization/public enlighten team to make the people acquaint themselves with new development in the new NCE programme that prioritize grassroots knowledge through ECCE centers. Government should as a matter of urgency be prompt in assisting parents by providing nutrition food to supplement their feeding style.
- 2. To Teachers:** They should recognize the importance of their field and to work hard for optimum development of the pupils.
- 3. To Parent:** They should know the important of up of the performance of their children

This research will be limited to people in Kano Municipality area. It covers the roles of parents in the development of early childhood care and education. Therefore the research is conducted only within the Kano Municipality area and it is people. Role play on early childhood care and education is identified as the focus of the research only.

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## Author Bio note

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