

APPENDIX

CONSENT AND INFORMATION FORM (PARTICIPANTS-TEACHERS, PARENTS, ADMINISTRATORS)

Project Title

Perspectives of ‘home tutors’ regarding the delivery and management of schooling in isolated Western Australia by Schools of the Air

The Research Project

Purpose

This qualitative study pursues the perspectives of ‘home tutors’ (parents and governesses) through an investigation of the delivery and management of schooling through distance education. The study is designed to illuminate the perspectives of ‘home tutors’ regarding how this is managed.

Aims

This study has six main aims:

1. To describe and explain the perspectives of parents
2. To detail how KLAs are managed as part of the curriculum offerings in remote and rural Western Australian Schools of the Air
3. To detail how curricula and other schooling matters are managed by ‘home tutors’
4. To explore appropriate qualitative methodology of the social sciences
5. To identify and develop a set of propositions to provide guidance for curriculum development and to offer, recommendations for professional development for those involved in schooling through distance modes

Significance

It is significant to undertake research in the area of distance education as the policies of the Western Australian education system, move into an outcomes based curricula model. There is continuing concern regarding schooling in rural and remote areas and formal research is necessary to address the particular issues surrounding the education of these children. The outcomes of this study will be an original contribution to the knowledge base in the field of distance education.

Methodology

As this is a relatively unexplored field of study, there is a need to generate a richness of data such that the perspectives of teachers, parents and administrators and how they manage schooling through distance education can be pursued. The word ‘manage’ is defined in such a way so that it can reflect the theoretical perspective, which underlies the qualitative research methods to be used in this study. ‘Manage’ is defined, then, as the social processes that evolve in response to a phenomenon. In this research it covers the pattern of

action- the strategies that parents, teachers and administrators to the phenomenon of schooling through distance education as required by the state of Western Australia.

The participants

The participants will be the teachers, parents and administrators of the 5 Schools of the Air (SOTAs) and the School of isolated and Distance Education in western Australia.

Participants will be required to:

- Participate in individual and group semi-structured interviews
- Complete surveys
- Participate in telephone interviews
- Observations in home settings and at Seminar

Risks

There are no foreseeable risks

Inconveniences

Participants will be inconvenienced only in terms of the time it will take to conduct the interviews.

Withdrawal of consent

Participants are free at any time to withdraw consent to further participation without prejudice in any way. In such cases, the record of that participant and all associated documentation will be destroyed, unless otherwise agreed by the participant.

Questioning the researcher

Participants in this research have the right to ask questions of the researcher about the research. The researcher will answer any questions the participant has about the research.

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