

Parent's Perceptions towards E-Learning in Covid-19 Pandemic in Sri Lanka

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Due to the threat of its influence on several segments, COVID-19 has turned into a pandemic in March 2020 and it directly impacted the growth of the economy, agriculture, manufacturing, tourism, and education. Further, the pandemic has enforced the schools to the comportment of the non – physical education and e-learning has been selected as the component. Conversely, parents as persuasive supporters for students are impervious to technology due to certain reasons. The study explored the parents' perception of E-Learning through driver, satisfaction, barrier factor. 300 participants were asked regarding this issue by using a web-based survey and 300 questionnaires were delivered randomly to parents of children in elementary, junior high, and senior high schools. The research negated the participants' demographic characteristics as the study only emphasized the parents' perception generally. The questionnaire was graded on a Likert scale of 1 to 5, with responses ranging from strongly disagree to strongly agree. The data was analyzed using the quantitative technique and primary data was given online directly to all respondents. Findings specified that certain barriers in implementing E-Learning during the COVID-19 pandemics, such as the inability to use technology, digital devices ownership, poor internet connection, issues in electricity, the absence of a mentor, and lack of technology skills for children. Students claimed that a corporate classroom learning approach was more realistic and allowed them to interact with teachers and classmates more actively. Though E-Learning has become a popular component during the COVID-19 pandemic for schools and universities, there were several holes in implementing E-Learning in Sri Lanka, especially from the parents' perspective. Further, traditional learning methods were preferred by the parents.

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