

School to Work Transition Program for Student with A Physical Disability in Special Schools in Indonesia

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Research Background

- Transition practices delivered in schools are essential in preparing students with disabilities for life after school (Hardman & Dawson, 2010)
- Transition from secondary school to adult life is the most critical period (Agran, Test, & Martin, 1994; Hardman & Dawson, 2010; Riches, 1996; Thoma, Baker, & Saddler, 2001; Trainor, et al., 2008)
- Most experience difficulties in making the transition to adult life (Knapp, Perkins, Beecham, Dhanasiri, & Rustin, 2008)
- Employment is acknowledged as a student's main target after graduating from school (Getzel & deFur, 1997)
- Intellectual and physical disabilities receive less attention in research regarding employment related transition (Yanchak, Lease and Strausser, 2005)

Research Purposes

- To investigate the current practices of school to work transition for students with a physical disability enrolled in special schools in Indonesia using Kohler's taxonomy (1998) as a theoretical framework.
- To examine perspectives and expectations from different sources (such as the teachers, the parents, the students and external stakeholders) in relation to the practice
- To develop a best practice model in delivering school to work transition services applicable to the Indonesian context.

Research Methodology

- Multiple case studies (4 Special schools in Bantul District, Yogyakarta)
- Data collection methods: Interview, observation, and document analysis
- Research participants: Principals, teachers, students, parents, and related external stakeholders (school supervisors; coordinators from Dept. of Education, Dept. Social Affairs, and Dept. of Manpower; business leaders; a disability organization leader)

References

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Findings

Taxonomy Framework	School A	School B	School C	School D
Student focused planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No specific goal for post school outcomes • No student participation in vocational skills planning 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No specific goal for post school outcomes • Some student participate in vocational skills planning 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No specific goal for post school outcomes • No student participation in vocational skills planning 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No specific goal for post school outcomes • No student participation in planning but active student participation in program
Student Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limited used of vocational assessment • Paid work experience not available for students with a physical disability 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limited used of vocational assessment • Limited paid work experience 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limited used of vocational assessment • Paid work experience only available for students with hearing impairment through underwear manufacturing business 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School assessing their environment to decide vocational skills options • Paid work experience is available for students
Interagency Collaboration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collaboration available for psychology and health issues only 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collaboration with a teacher who has business to employ students when it is needed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collaboration with underwear manufacturing • Collaboration with business 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Formal collaboration for apprenticeship program • Non formal collaboration with business for selling bitternut cracker • Occasional collaboration for seasonal produce
Family Involvement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limited family involvement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some parent involved in vocational skills with their children 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limited family involvement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Active family involvement especially in bitternut crackers production
Program structure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School divided into five different departments according to type of disabilities and each department has its own coordinator • Has vocational skills teacher • Teacher training is limited due to large number of teachers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vocational skill taught by class teacher except for batik • Teacher training distributed fairly among teacher 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basic vocational skills taught by class teacher • Advanced vocational skills taught by vocational skills teacher • Teacher training distributed fairly among teacher 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vocational skills teacher available for batik and sewing • Other vocational skills taught by class teacher • Teacher training distributed fairly among teacher