

## INTERVIEW SCHEDULE

### QUESTIONS TO ECD EDUCATORS AND PRINCIPALS

**JTS15: Soweto – day care centre as part of a church, 50 yrs old, male, owner and principal, pastor in community, includes Grade R.**

In the questionnaire which you completed, you indicated that you want to do a BED in ECCE. I would like to ask you some further questions about your responses in the questionnaire to gain a better understanding of your work situation, challenges and aspirations as an ECD practitioner.

**Q 1:** *Why did you decide to become and ECD practitioner?*

**JTS15:** As a pastor I could see there was a need in the community, so my wife and I started a Day care centre at the church.

**R:** *When did you do your Level 4 qualification? I see you said it was a private provider.*

**JTS15:** Yes, it was with the City of Johannesburg in 1994. They came to us to see if we knew how to work with the children and did some training with us, but it was just basic.

**R:** *So, you started with a basic qualification in ECD when you were in Johannesburg. Did you do any other training - workshops or courses?*

**JTS15:** In 2006 I came across Wits and I did a course that had to do with how to grow your business. Along the way I came across Unisa. They offered workshops on ECD.

**R:** *I see, so you have a Diploma in Theology and you have done some business course and workshops and basic training in ECD, but you don't have a level 4 FETC:ECD certificate or something similar?*

**JTS15:** No, just the basic training and ECD workshops, but my wife and three others work with the children and the one is busy with a level 4.

**Q 2:** *You indicated a number of reasons for wanting to do the BEd ECCE. I would like to ask you to tell me a little more about why you selected these response categories.*

**R:** *Firstly, you indicated that you wanted to become a better practitioner. Why did you select that particular response?*

**JTS15:** I think it will equip us more than before to really know how to work with the children because of these qualifications. It will help me to understand how to develop kids.

**R:** *You also indicated that you want to build a career in ECCE. How will having a BEd degree in ECCE help you in this regard.*

**JTS15:** It will make me better qualified in ECD. The concern will be equipping myself and really coming to the understanding of things, like 4IR [Fourth Industrial Revolution].

**R:** I notice you did not tick the response that says you want to do a higher education qualification in ECCE to earn status and respect for the work you do. *Does this mean that the people in your community value and respect the work that you and the practitioners at your centre do?*

**JTS15:** They much appreciate the work we do. A whole lot of children that were at our centre have now finished schooling and they always come back to thank us. We also try to teach the parents and elderly people who look after children. They need to be taught how to look after children after school, not to let them loiter in the street.

**Q 3:** *You selected a number of indicators for what makes an ECD educator a professional. I would like to ask you to tell me a little more about why you selected these response categories.*

**R:** *“Dedication and commitment to the work you do, including putting the children's interests above your own”. Why did you select this response?*

**JTS15:** This is my passion. I will always work with the children and make things better for them.

**R:** *You also selected the response about obtaining a qualification that is described in MRQECDE. Do you think this is a necessary requirement for being a professional?*

**JTS15:** Yes, there will be a whole lot of things that we will know more about, so that will make me more professional.

**R:** *So, if I understand you correctly, you already consider you a professional, but having a BEd ECCE qualification will make you more professional?*

**JTS15:** Yes, I am already a professional because I always adhere to the opinions of professional that we have around us. I always ask for assistance [and] they help us. Teachers, health workers, many departments who can assist. Also, there is that thing that they say the customer is always right. So, we must treat the parents with respect.

**R:** *You also ticked the response that said, “Continually improving knowledge and understanding of your work by undergoing training”. Why do you consider this an important aspect of being a professional?*

**JTS15:** We are living in changing times. It is crucial as new things come in to learn about them, to really try to uplift ourselves. There are always changes and new development. I want to improve myself.

**Q 4:** *Does the Day care centre get a subsidy from the DSD?*

**JTS15:** Not yet, but we have applied.

**Q 5:** *I see that you indicated your income from parent fees only and it is only between R1000 and R2000. Do you have any other source of income for your centre?*

**JIS15:** The number one challenge in this community is unemployment and poverty due to unemployment. Parents can't pay for day care because they aren't working and that makes us to look for funds. We try to involve the parents themselves in fundraising. We try to get their buy in. We also get some donations from the church.

**Q 6:** *What changes do you think the MRQECDE policy is bringing to the ECD sector?*

**JTS15:** It will make more people better qualified in ECD.

**Q 7:** **How do you think the Government can further support the ECD education sector?**

**JTS15:** In a nutshell, we are teaching children and encouraging parents, but the Government should be helping us to feed the children during Covid. We are receiving some assistance with feeding people from Woolworths. It started due to lock down because we told them there was a big need in the community. They are still supplying food [and] we distribute it from the church when we receive it.

**Q 8:** **Thank you for your time and is there anything you would like to ask about the qualifications?**

**JTS15:** No, as long as there are resources – funding to study, I will not have any worries.

**R:** *Because the qualifications are offered in higher education you will qualify for NSFAS funding.*