
NEWSLETTER

Effects of Home Education Guidance Services and Improvement Measures: An Analysis Based on Survey Data of 1,850 Families in Hubei Province

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HOME education guidance services play an important role in enhancing the quality of home education and supporting child healthy and holistic development. Based on survey data of 1,850 families from eight cities and 18 counties in Hubei Province, this study examined the effects of home education guidance services on parental education literacy, parental education involvement, and child development. Ordinary least squares regression (OLS) and propensity score matching (PSM) were used in the analysis. The purpose of this article was to provide implications for improving the effectiveness of home education guidance.

Research Findings

- Home education guidance services had a significant positive impact on parental education literacy and its sub-dimensions, among which parental education knowledge was the most substantially and positively affected. In the meantime, the impact was heterogeneous among parents of children at differential education levels.
- Home education guidance services significantly and positively affected parental education involvement and its sub-dimensions, particularly parental oversight of child studies. There was heterogeneity in this effect among parents of children at differential education phases.
- Home education guidance services made no difference to child physical health and academic performance but had positive effects on child learning attitudes and behavior. In the meantime, home education guidance services prominently impacted child learning attitudes and behavior via the mediation of parental education literacy and involvement.

Suggestions for Improving Home Education Guidance Services

- Optimize contents of home education guidance. Developmental characteristics of distinct age groups of children must be taken into consideration in providing the services. Educational, psychological, physiological, and nutritional knowledge should be incorporated in the home education guidance. Developing internet-based digital services can help popularize the home education guidance.

- Make the supply of home education guidance services pertain to specific needs. Basic home education guidance for disadvantaged families must be prioritized.
- It is important to establish a guaranteeing mechanism for sustainable provision of home education guidance services, which should be supported by governmental funding, professional personnel, and effective evaluation systems.

Source: Journal of Educational Science of Hunan Normal University, 2023; 22(6):60-69.