

Authors

Kelly Bidwell
J-PAL Global

Loïc Watine
Chief Research & Policy Officer



Exploring Early Education Programs in Peri-urban Settings in Africa

Accra Report

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Kelly BIDWELL, Katie PARRY, Loïc WATINE

Accra ECD Report

Accra has a vibrant private and public education sector at both the primary and preprimary levels. Attendance at preschool is exceptionally high, reflecting both strong parental beliefs in the importance of preschool and the recent government stipulation that two years of preschool should be part of the Free Compulsory Universal Basic Education (FCUBE) structure. Despite the Government's success in expanding public preschool provision, however, the private school industry remains very strong: an estimated 90% of preschool students in the study area of Ashaiman are attending private preschools.

In September and October 2013 Innovations for Poverty Action conducted a data collection exercise in the large slum area of Ashaiman, in the Greater Accra region. A representative sample of 286 household surveys, 30 headmaster surveys and 40 classroom observations were conducted with the aim of discovering the scale, cost and quality and preschool education in this area. This paper details this research and its findings.

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