

**An investigation of opportunities and challenges in the provision of education for pupils
with hearing impairment in primary schools in Ilala municipality**

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This study investigated education opportunities and challenges in the provision of education for pupils with hearing impairment in primary school. It specifically examined the availability of teaching and learning materials for pupils with hearing impairment, the teaching and learning methods used in teaching pupils with hearing impairment, as well as identifying challenges facing teachers and pupils with hearing impairment. The study employed qualitative approach with a case study design. It was conducted in one special school in Ilala Municipality in Dar-es-salaam with a sample of 50 respondents categorized into Head teacher(1), teachers(24) and pupils with hearing impairment(25), obtained through purposive sampling. Data were collected through interviews, focus group discussions, observations and documentary review. Data analysis was done through thematic analysis while some quantifiable data were analyzed using descriptive statistics presented in tables. Findings revealed that there are few education opportunities for pupils with hearing impairment. Further, the findings indicate acute shortage of teaching and learning materials for pupils with hearing impairment such as visual alarms, science materials and computers. The challenges facing teachers and pupils with hearing impairment include; lack of teaching and learning materials, limited time in teaching periods and language barrier. The study concluded that there are few educational opportunities and major challenges facing teachers teaching in schools as well as pupils with hearing impairment. The study recommended the establishment of more inclusive schools in different regions to increase enrollment for pupils with hearing impairment. The provision of special education training for teachers teaching pupils with hearing impairment was among the recommendations. Lastly future research was recommended to examine the effects of provision of teaching and learning materials on motivation of teachers as well as pupils' performance.