

## **ABSTRACT**

### **An Investigation Into the Challenges That Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) Practitioners Face in the Implementation of the National Early Childhood Care and Education Curriculum Guide at Two Centres Within the Victoria Education District**

*Carol B. Bhagwandin*

This study sought to determine the specific factors that affected the implementation of the National Early Childhood Care and Education curriculum guide at two centres within the Victoria Education District of Trinidad and Tobago. Data were collected through interviews with four teachers. The challenges identified by the teachers were: 1) its broadness; 2) the resistance to change by individual staff members, which commonly resulted in frustration; 3) the limited budget and resources negatively impacted curriculum implementation, primarily by limiting quality experiences for children, as well as teachers; 4) the need for teacher training; 5) the rate and resulting impact of staff turnover; and 6) lack of support from the Ministry of Education.

**Keywords:** Early childhood care and education; Curriculum implementation; Curriculum guides; Teacher attitudes; Preprimary teachers; Trinidad and Tobago