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FACTORS INFLUENCING THE USE OF E-LEARNING AT SELECTED SCHOOLS IN MANGWE DISTRICT

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ABSTRACT

The study was triggered by the researcher's observation that e-learning was not being utilized at schools, although infrastructure supportive of e-learning was available. The limited use of e-learning resulted in the fluctuation of results in subjects that were supported by e-learning in selected schools in Mangwe District. This is despite the availability of literature indicating that the use of e-learning results in improved learning and pass rates. Hence the researcher was motivated to find out the factors influencing the use of e-learning in secondary schools in Mangwe District. The research was based on the UTAUT framework and specific constructs were chosen which include performance expectancy, effort expectancy, social influence and attitude. The study objectives intended to find out if Performance Expectancy (PE) affected use of e-learning by users in Mangwe District high schools, also to determine if Effort Expectancy (EE) had an impact on the use of e-learning in Mangwe District high schools, to examine the effect of Social Influence on the usage of e-learning by users in Mangwe District high schools and to determine the effect of attitude on the use of e-learning by users in Mangwe District high schools. The study was pinned on pragmatism philosophy, mixed methods was used as the research design while a survey was used in the study. Total population was 827 students and 42 teachers from Embakwe , Plumtree High and Empandeni High .Selected sample for the study was 83.The philosophy on which the research was pinned is pragmatism. The survey was employed in the study. Stratified random sampling and purposive sampling were used to select students and teachers for the study. Interviews and questionnaires were used to collect data from teachers and students. The study also revealed that users faced challenges in using e-learning. These were powercuts as electricity was not available most of the times as computers rely on electricity, shortage of computers and projectors, poor network interms of internet so as to research and support e-learning informatione,some students were not used to modern technology, inability to use computer hence made it difficult to access e-learning and use it. Recommendations were made so as to improve e-learning in schools.These included purchasing of more infrastructure , improvement of e-learning content, purchasing of generators and solar panels.