



National University of Science and Technology

Think in Other Terms



FACULTY OF INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY

DEPARTMENT OF TECHNICAL TEACHER EDUCATION

**An assessment into the implementation of the Guidance and
Counseling programs in secondary schools of the Reigate
District in the Bulawayo Metropolitan Province.**

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ABSTRACT

This study sought to assess the implementation of the Guidance and Counseling programs in the Reigate District of the Bulawayo Metropolitan Province. The purpose of the study was to determine the extent to which Guidance and Counseling programs are implemented in the schools to help the students achieve social, personal and academic development and make informed career choices compatible with their individual needs and abilities. Schools were mandated to include Guidance and Counseling programs in their curriculum in order to curb anti social behaviours such as drug and substance abuse, illicit sexual behaviours, teenage pregnancies, juvenile delinquencies, truancy and absenteeism. A mixed approach method was used in this study. Survey questionnaires with both closed and open-ended questions were used on students and teachers and an interview guide was used on school heads to solicit views, perceptions, opinions and attitudes on the implementation of the Guidance and Counseling programs. A sample of 40 teachers and 100 students and 4 heads of schools participated in the study. The study revealed that although Guidance and Counseling lessons were being carried out and other related Guidance and Counseling programs, they are however, some challenges which make it difficult to fully achieve the intended goals. These include a lack of resources, lack of rooms for counseling, inadequate time allocation on the timetable and minimal support of programs by school administrators, failure to allocate lessons to appropriately qualified teachers. The study concluded that there is still more to be done to fully embrace the Guidance and Counseling programs and benefit from the intended outcomes. Recommendations included the mandate of the Ministry of Primary and Secondary Education to provide standard texts that will be used in all schools and to organise in-service training for practicing teachers. It was also recommended that school heads should allocate Guidance and Counseling to the relevantly qualified Guidance and Counseling teachers who are passionate about the Guidance and Counseling programs.