

**COVID-19 PANDEMIC : ONLINE LEARNING PLATFORMS FOR
ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS**

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Article Info	Abstract
<p>History: Submitted February 8th, 2021</p> <p>Revised February 24th, 2021</p> <p>Accepted February 28th, 2021</p>	<p>This research uses survey and descriptive methods. The purpose of this research is to identify the role of parents in online learning in elementary schools with various platforms that have been used. The population in this research were the parents of elementary school students. The sampling used was purposive sampling from the parents of Cikapundung 2 Elementary School and Palalangon Elementary School as many as 100 respondents. The data collection technique used was a Google form questionnaire. The results showed that 71% used WhatsApp application as the online learning media, 15% used Google classroom application, 8% used the Zoom application, and 6% used television. Thus, online learning at Palalangon Elementary School and Cikapundung 2 Elementary School are uses various platforms including WhatsApp, Google Classroom, Zoom, and Television.</p> <p>Keywords: Online Learning; Role of Parents</p>

A. Introduction

The success of education is related to the success in the teaching and learning process which is a synergy of various components of education, whether it the curriculum, education personnel, infrastructure, management systems, and environmental factors where students are the subjects. Especially with the development of technology in everyday life. Internet is one aspect that greatly affects human life. Whether it's in accessing newspapers, magazines or in various sources of information, so that the internet continues to develop rapidly and innovate as a result of the demands of changing times..

Based on the survey report (We Are Social, 2020), it is stated that in 2020 as many as 175.4 million internet access usage in Indonesia compared to the previous year, there was an increase of 17% or 25 million internet usage in this country. It can be said that as many as 272.1 million people or half of Indonesia's population have used the internet network. This shows that the internet has influence in various fields, whether it in cultural, political, social, economic, or in the world of education.

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So that the internet has a big influence in all fields. This is supported by Syaad in the Slameto's journal (Slameto, 2014) which states that various changes in the field of ICT (information, communication, and technology) have changed the way people think and respond to education to be broader and unlimited.

But in the midst of the Covid-19 virus outbreak, inevitably technology must be used for learning needs. One field that has been affected by the covid-19 virus is education. This is because learning inevitably has to be carried out at home, Minister of Education and Culture of Indonesia, Nadiem Makarim on Tuesday, March 24, 2020, has issued Circular Number 4 of 2020 which contains the Implementation of Educational Policies in an Emergency Period for the Spread of the Covid-19 Virus. In its policy on no.2, it explains that the teaching and learning process is carried out at home through online or distance learning which aims to provide meaningful learning experiences for students without any demands in completing both the achievement of the curriculum for class graduation.

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Based on the research conducted by Wahyu (2020), the application of online learning in elementary schools can be done well even though children in 1st to 3rd grade cannot operate the device, so it requires collaboration, both teachers and parents. One of the innovations to face the covid-19 condition is to develop attractive learning media for students and contains the right concepts (Ratna dkk, 2020). The results show that the impact of covid-19 on the online learning implementation in elementary schools is quite good. In online learning, parents can also play a role. Based on research conducted by Kong (2017) shows that as many as 61 parents from 21 schools responded to the questionnaire survey. The results show that there is a high correlation between parental understanding and e-learning support, e-learning home policies to monitor, support, and improve parents' pedagogical understanding of e-learning.

The low level during the covid-19 period caused children to be confused so online learning was not implemented optimally, this was supported by (Dahlan et al., 2017) who explains that the low student learning achievement

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was not optimal so expertise is needed both in the media and in the prepared material.

The use of online learning requires special guidance and control mechanisms by teachers and parents, but the most important thing is the role of parents because in learning from home, the role of parents is very important to achieve learning goals, and this is the demand for distance learning. Within the scope of the family, children are in a relationship of interaction within the family, by providing the basis for the formation of both behavior, character, morals, and in children's education. As explained by (Edi Widianto, 2015) in his journal, he explains that "parents in the family and the social environment of the community are a place where a child learns for the first time". Moreover, Ilmi & Erwin stated that "Family is the first and foremost place of education in the hierarchy of the education world". This is confirmed by Kartini Kartono (2007) in her book explaining that educating children is one form of the parents' obligation that cannot be replaced. So that in the achievement of children's learning, the role of parents is very

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important. Through the support of their parents, children who learn from home will have various roles from their parents such as having supervision from their parents, getting facilities while studying, having a schedule with their parents that has the opportunity to achieve learning goals in children.

Online learning according to Sutabri in the journal (Agusli & Azianah, 2014) online learning is related to the learning that is supported via the web, can be done either inside the classroom as the support or outside the classroom. This is supported in journals of (Winarno & Setiawan, 2013) via the internet network, allowing the teaching and learning process to be conveyed to students who have entered into a web.

Where all the implementation is done online and in practice it is not done by direct learning. Online learning or E-learning has the following characteristics: 1) has content that is significant or interrelated with the learning objectives; 2) using instructional methods, for example in presenting examples and exercises to improve learning; 3) using various media elements such as words and

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pictures in delivering the learning materials; 4) e-learning has learning objectives both individually and in groups, namely by building understanding and skills (Clark & Mayer, R, 2008).

In the journal of (Made Yeni Suranti, 2020) explains that various platform variations are used effectively in the form of applications, websites, social networks, or Learning Management Systems (LMS). Online learning can be accessed through various discussion rooms including Google Classroom, WhatsApp, Quipper, Zenius, teacher room, and others. The WhatsApp group feature can be used to send messages, group calls, videos, photos and files in various formats to all members (Kusuma & Hamidah, 2020). Face-to-face discussions and knowledge transfer like a meeting can be done through various video platforms that are available for free such as Zoom and Google Meet. So with these various platforms, teachers and students can meet virtually through applications with instant messaging facilities without having to meet by face to face. Various services can be used to support knowledge transfer, such as that

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which is done by utilizing all local resources nationally such as television channels for learning education (Guo, 2020). In Indonesia, during the covid-19 period, they can use television with the TVRI channel as the national

educational content if the children do not have a device. The content distributed by TVRI is classified based on the level of education according to the curriculum in Indonesia.

B. Research Methodology

This research uses two methods, namely the survey method, which is a technique in collecting information using a list of questions that will be used by respondents. Then the descriptive method is a method that has characteristics in the details of the data regarding the various problems to be studied. The data used in this research are quantitative and qualitative data. The research sites are located at Cikapundung 2 Elementary School and SDN Palalangan Elementary School.

The population in this research were elementary school parents. Sampling was done by using the purposive sampling technique, namely the sampling method for certain considerations. In determining the sample this using Solvin's formula. The sample used was parents of elementary school students, as many as 100 people.

The data collection in this research is a questionnaire to obtain data about the platform used during the learning that takes place in elementary schools using the proportion formula of the results and data using a Google form questionnaire.

Then the proportion obtained for each question/statement question is then interpreted based on the following criteria or classification criteria:

Table 1 Criteria for Percentage Interpretation of Questionnaire Answers

Interpretive	
P = 0 %	Nobody
0 % < P < 25 %	Slight
25 % ≤ P < 50 %	Almost half
P = 50 %	Half of it
50 % < P < 75 %	Most of the
75 % ≤ P < 100%	Almost all
P = 100 %	All of it

C. Research Result and Discussion

Based on the results of research with a descriptive survey method through the data collection techniques of a google form questionnaire that was carried out on the parents of students at Cikapundung 2 elementary school and Palalangan elementary school. During the Covid-19 pandemic, the implementation of social distancing has greatly impacted the world of education. Encouraging the learning process that is usually carried out by face-to-face with the teacher and students in the classroom to turn into online learning. Online learning is defined as the newest way of learning, in the form of delivering conventional learning by utilizing various applications as the learning media in delivering material. So that online learning becomes new and challenging for teachers. Inevitably, it forces teachers to switch over to use the internet as the only possible means to delivering the learning material.

A total of 100 parent respondents stated that learning was still carried out online by utilizing internet technology. The questionnaire results of the parent respondents are as follows:

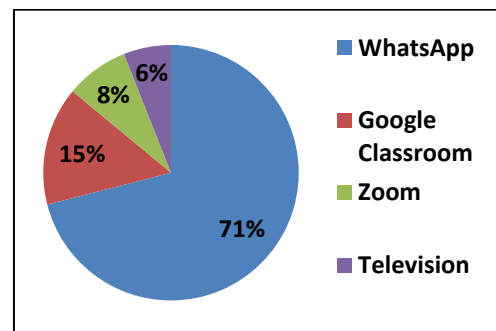


Figure 1. Percentage Result of Parent Respondents Questionnaire

In figure 6 shows the several platforms used to facilitate online learning. These various platforms can be used to support student knowledge through the various features that have been provided. From the data results in Figure 6, it can be seen that most parents (71%) are actively using the WhatsApp application for online learning. The WhatsApp application is a learning media that facilitate both teachers and students to share documents given with the format of pdf, word, excel, and PowerPoint. Online learning using WhatsApp is carried out by teachers and students who are members of a group. This platform facilitates teachers to provide instructions both in working on questions, providing material, and arguing/discussing the material. Of course, this platform is one of

application that effectively used during the Covid-19 period. This is in accordance with the journal of (Kusuma & Hamidah, 2020) that the social media WhatsApp (WA) is one of the communication media that currently used by various communities. WhatsApp has various features that cover the entirety of further communication. This means that WhatsApp is a chat application that can be used anywhere, and can send text messages, images, sounds, locations, and videos to other people using various smartphones.

WhatsApp has a message forwarding feature so that students can easily share with other friends. This feature allows sending files without having to open the file manager on the device. Even though there are so many features contained in the WhatsApp application, it should be noted that this feature can cause the spread of lies or hoaxes to spread quickly. This requires assistance to monitor the obtained information so parents can minimize any fake news. Several studies on WhatsApp social media reveal the positive things about learning using social media, facilitate students to

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achieve learning goals. This is in accordance with research by (Amry, 2014) that learning using social media has a high positive impact on student achievement in taking exams, students prefer to use technology-based learning by utilizing smartphones. This learning will be more interesting if all of the students are active in the learning. If the learning is only one direction, this application is very less effective to use. So, teachers are required to be creative in learning using the WhatsApp application. This is supported by (Setiawan & Iasha, 2020) which said that WhatsApp group was the famous platform that was used by elementary school teachers in rural areas. It means that this application can be used almost in every area.

Besides using WhatsApp as an online learning platform, some parents answered Google Classroom (15%) as the online learning media during the social distancing era. In Google Classroom, it facilitates students to interpret through text, whether an opinion, discussion, or in delivering material. Same as WhatsApp, Google Classroom has various features in sending documents to facilitate children

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to learn. Teachers can easily manage the creative and innovative online learning to create a class that developed interaction with students. This is in accordance with (Herliandry, dkk., 2020) that the existence of a Google Classroom allows students and teachers to develop creative learning. Based on the journal of (Ingriyani et al., 2019), it is explained that in this application it can be accessed both on a gadget or a personal computer (PC) and can also be downloaded via Google Playstore if the user is using Android or AppStore if using iPhone. The google classroom is also equipped with various features for class arrangement, student assignments, organized quizzes, and even decimal grading for assessments and also conducting video conferences. Moreover, google classroom also creates a test implementation system using CBT (Computer Based Test), the type of question is multiple choice. So that educators can make questions online and each student can provide answers to these questions, making the class be more interactive. This is in accordance with (Shaharane, dkk., 2016) arguing that Google Classroom is one of the recommendations for active

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learning, which can control student-centered learning well, this is because the learning process is quite open in the discussion, analysis, and developing ideas, creative as an active participant. With the Google Classroom, online learning will be more active during the covid-19 period. Saving time in distributing various documents, overcomes various time constraints when face-to-face learning takes place can be minimized.

Another platform of online learning can also be done via video conferencing (8%) in online learning. Namely, the Zoom application is a video-conferencing application that has capabilities of face-to-face online. In teaching through Zoom application eases students to interact with the teacher and can be accessed by even 100 people online even though it consumes a lot of internet quota. Zoom offers facilities only with a link or room number to join so that educators do not have to worry that the material will not be conveyed when using Zoom because it has a video-call feature with students who are useful for communicating at long distances and can be accessed anywhere, whether at home or the

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office. The duration of this Zoom learning is only 40 minutes, this is in accordance with the statement of (Made Yeni Suranti, 2020) that during the Covid-19 period, the use of Zoom application has increased, although this application is about 40 minutes-free for users.

Various other online learning platforms that also carried out in education is through television channels, television is a media of communication in everyday life, during the Covid-19 period the government suggested television as a way of learning online if students do not have devices or if it is constrained by the internet network. Learning with television facilitates students to learn because it is easily accessible, even can be recorded. Broadcasts during the covid-19 period are broadcast through state television channels, namely TVRI which is used to broadcast the learning content nationally and accessible to various groups. This is in accordance with (Herliandry dkk., 2020) that broadcast content is classified based on the education levels, namely elementary, junior high school, and even high school.

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The variety of platforms and resources available is quite effective and helps support the learning process that takes place during the Covid-19 pandemic. This learning seems so easy but in fact, it is different from the cities, in the rural areas is more difficult to implement online learning because parents who are not used to online learning in elementary schools are judged suddenly due to the Covid-19 pandemic, this is in accordance with (Made Yeni Suranti, 2020) that the application of online learning that has recently been implemented is not yet familiar with these things. Most of them are people who live in the highlands. It can be seen from the questionnaire result that some parents complained that during the Covid-19 period there was a delay in sending messages of pictures and videos during learning, as well as teachers who complained about the delay in access making the learning is not well conveyed to the parents. Then during the Covid-19 period, online learning took place along with homework, making it difficult for parents to accompany children during the learning process. When parents have to focus on working from home, the

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child felt confusion or difficulty in online learning. It became an obstacle in online learning so that the material did not well conveyed to students. This is in accordance with the journal of (Rigianti, 2020) that "network constraints are the main obstacles in online learning activities". As a result, the learning material provided by the teacher becomes obstructed and delayed, the teachers feel the difficulties that occur to parents, but parents are required to make sure that their children get their right to have a proper education amid these difficult conditions in order to get around the network constraints. In this regard, the government and education agencies use television as a solution if students experience difficulties in learning and also for students who do not have devices at home. Broadcasts during the covid-19 period were broadcast through state television channels, namely TVRI with schedules for elementary school, junior high school, and even high school. So that students in the area get the same rights in receiving learning, this requires the role of parents in online learning.

In a variety of platforms, learning activities can be carried out starting from giving assignments, discussions, and even in the presentation of children training in independent learning. This requires greater involvement of students in improving learning behavior. This behavior can be done by reading, discussing, issuing opinions, and even interpreting learning content, this becomes a bias for students in managing information related to the given task without space and time restrictions. So that online learning can be accessed anywhere according to the convenience of students. By the existence of online learning requires students and educators to adjust learning styles. This is important to do by fulfilling aspects of learning such as obtaining information, linking it to the learning, morals, and skills during learning at home considering that changes in online learning affect students' absorption of information. It is important to note that the communication between parents and educators is to actualize student learning independence during the covid-19 pandemic period.

D. Conclusion

Based on the results of the research and discussion in this research, it can be concluded that social distancing in preventing the spread of covid-19 encourages learning activities carried out face-to-face into online learning. Parents took a survey about the online learning implementation at Palalangan State Elementary School and Cikapundung State Elementary School is done through various platforms. Most parents choose WhatsApp, some of them use Google Classroom, Zoom, and Television Channel. There are obstacles during online learning (during the covid period), such as complaining about online learning that has not been used in elementary schools, inadequate internet access are causing obstacles and delay in sending the assignments.

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