

# **The Role of Parents on Assisting Academic and Functional Education of Children with Special Needs**

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## **ABSTRACT**

Parents have an important role in the academic and functional skill education of children with special needs. Therefore, this community service activity aims to increase the role of parent in these roles, covering aspects of knowledge and skills in understanding the character of the child's special needs, appropriate education services and how the role of parents, and how to accompany academic education and non-academic (self-help and other functional abilities) at home. The location was at SLB Muhammadiyah Prembun Kebumen Central Java. Subjects or participants of the activity amounted to 27 parents in the SLB. The materials were children with special needs characteristics and their education, and Parent Role in assisting functional academic education and self-help of children with special needs. The methods used in the delivery of materials were lectures, discussions, daily case studies of ABK, as well as simulations in assisting the functional academic learning children and self-help. Evaluation was conducted by qualitatively analyzing the target of attendance, the participants' activity in the forum, participants' questions, and the involvement in the simulation. The results of the activity indicate that this activity succeeded in achieving the objectives marked by the presence of participants who exceed the target, enthusiastic participants in listening, and the many and varied questions asked by participants. Based on the analysis of the dynamics of the activities, participants get more insight into the principles of the types of crew and education services. Participants also got information of how to practise in assisting academic and functional education to encourage children independency at home.

*Kata Kunci: Parents' roles, assisting academic and functional skill of children with special needs*