

CHAPTER III

RESEARCH METHODS

3.1 Approach and Type of the Research

This research employs a qualitative research design. Qualitative research is chosen because it allows for an in-depth exploration of the complex dynamics between teacher-parent management and Gen Alpha's English learning patterns. As Creswell (2018) stated, qualitative research is suitable for understanding the meaning individuals or groups ascribe to a social or human problem. In this study, the goal is to understand how teachers and parents perceive and implement management strategies and how these strategies impact Gen Alpha learning.

Specifically, this research utilizes a case study approach. A case study is an in-depth exploration of a bounded system (e.g., an activity, event, process, or individuals) based on extensive data collection. The bounded system in this research is the learning environment of Gen Alpha students at SMP Negeri 1 Hiliduho, focusing on their teacher-parents management and Gen Alpha learning pattern.

3.2 Variables of the Research

In research, variables are essentially the concepts or elements that we can measure, observe, or even change. They inherently possess at least two distinct categories or values. We employ variables primarily to uncover relationships or differences within our studies. Generally, there are two primary classifications: independent variables, which exert an influence on other variables, and dependent variables, which are, in turn, affected by independent variables.

As Creswell (2022) notes, variables are those measurable or observable factors that show variation within a research context. While they may not always be directly quantifiable in qualitative research, variables remain crucial for grasping the phenomenon under investigation. Furthermore, Denzin & Lincoln (2018) suggest that even in qualitative studies where numerical measurement isn't always the goal, variables are still vital for guiding the research's direction and focus, often being identified through methods like

observation and in-depth interviews. In this study, the dependent variable is “Gen Alpha Learning Patterns in English”, after that, the independent variables are “Teacher-Parents Management”.

3.3 Setting and Schedule of the Research

This research will be conducted at SMP Negeri 1 Hiliduho, a junior high school located in Hiliduho. The school is selected because it provides a representative context for studying Gen Alpha students and their English learning experiences and this research will be conducted in May 2024.

3.4 Source of Data

Data in this study will be collected from three main groups of participants, purposefully selected to ensure the richness and relevance of the information obtained :

- a) Gen Alpha : Selected students from SMP Negeri 1 Hiliduho, specifically those within the Gen Alpha age range (born between 2010 and 2025). The selection will be based on their involvement in English language learning and their willingness to participate.
- b) Teacher : Who are responsible for teaching English to Gen Alpha students.
- c) Parents : Selected Gen Alpha students, their perspectives on supporting their children's English learning at home and their interactions with teachers will be explored.

3.5 Instrument of the Research

Creswell (2018), stated that a research instrument as a tool for measuring, observing, and recording data. The goal is to collect data or information that is useful to answer research problems. The researcher will conduct interviews and observations and of course need guidance including open-ended questions and topics to be explored during interviews with participants which are flexible and allow the interviewer to ask follow-up questions based on the participant's responses. Then the researcher will directly observe the behavior, interactions, and contexts relevant to Gen Alpha and teacher-parent management practices and use a camera to take videos as evidence. By using a well-designed interview guide and observation guide, the researcher can collect rich and in-depth qualitative data to answer the research question regarding Teacher-Parents Management Toward

Gen Alpha Learning Patterns in English at SMP Negeri 1 Hiliduho. To gather the data of this research, researcher will use research instruments in the form of observation and interviews.

3.6 Data Collecting Technique

To ensure a comprehensive understanding of the research topic, multiple data collection techniques will be employed:

- a) Observations: Classroom observations will be conducted to observe Gen Alpha students' English learning behaviors, teacher-student interactions, and the implementation of teaching strategies. Observations will provide firsthand data on the learning environment and the effectiveness of teaching practices. As DeWalt (2018) explain, observation allows researchers to understand the context and behaviors of participants in their natural setting.
- b) Interviews: Interviews will be conducted with students, teachers, and parents to gather in-depth information about their experiences, perceptions, and practices related to English learning pattern and teacher-parent management. These interviews involve unstructured and generally open-ended questions that are few in number and intended to elicit views and opinions from the participants (Creswell, 2018).

3.7 Data Analysis

According to Miles (2014), discuss coding observational data, emphasizing the importance of creating codes that are relevant to the research question and that capture the nuances of the events observed. Applying coding techniques to observational data identify patterns and themes in observed behaviors and interactions. Then a combination of predetermined codes (based on the research question) and emergent codes (those that emerge from the data).

1. Data reduction

Data reduction activities are summarizing the main points and focusing on points that are considered important and then looking for pattern themes. Thus, the data will provide a clearer picture, so that the authors have no difficulty in collecting further data.

2. Data Presentation

After the data is reduced, the next step is to present the data, the presentation of the data can be done by showing all the data that is grouped in descriptive form and seeing the conclusions. What activities will be carried out next.

3. Conclusion

The initial conclusions on the presentation of the data are still temporary and can change if they are not supported by strong evidence to support the initial data that has been collected. But if the conclusions found at an early stage have been supported by valid evidence, then the conclusion is a credible conclusion.