Leveraging Access to Basic Education through Capitation

> Kwame Akyeampong Centre for International Education University of Sussex

CG Operational Guidelines

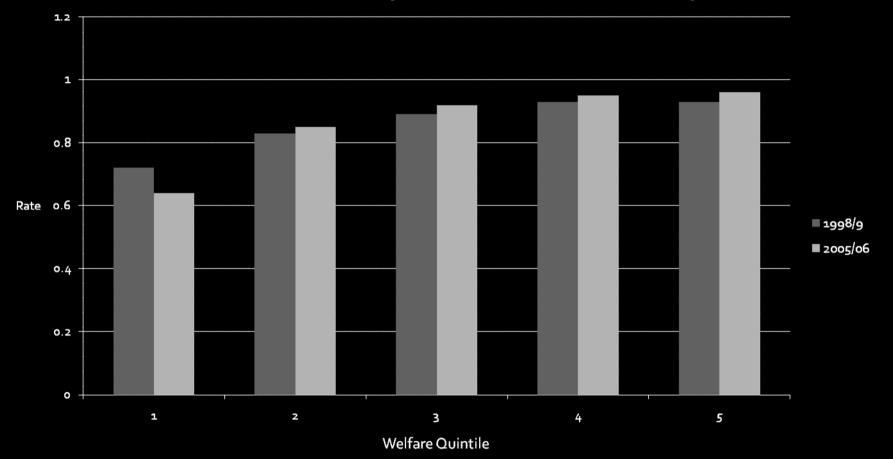
- Enrolment projection based on district GER actual enrolment end of third term of previous year
- 50% disbursed, remainder based on actual 2nd/3rd term
- CGs to support implementation of SPIPS
- Key SPIPS activities enrolment drives; TLMs; INSET etc
- Monitoring mechanism SMCs; Circuit Supervisors; DTST

CG – Some Home Truths

- Delays and misappropriation of funds
- Schools spend about one-third on Sports and Culture Levies
- Insignificant amounts on enrolment drives
- CG as percentage of unit cost per primary child about 5%
- Wide variations in CG per student received at school level

Who is making least progress?

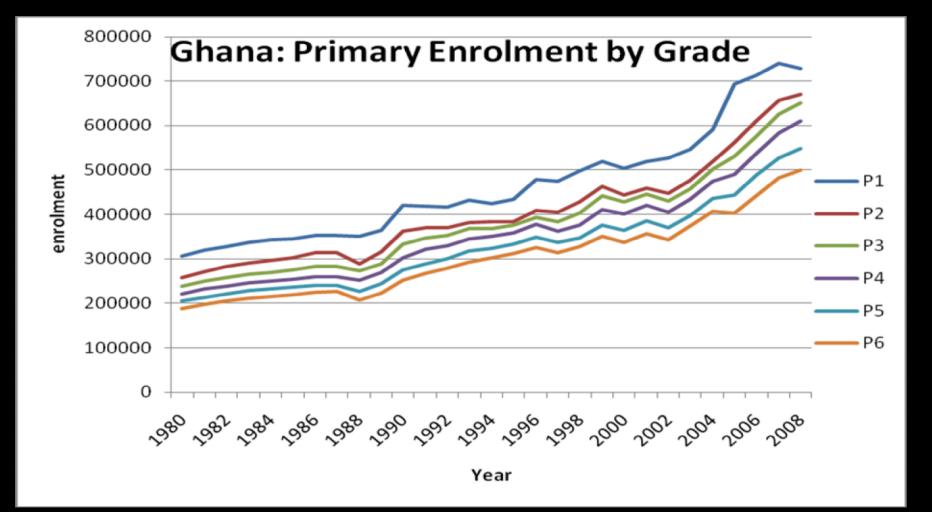
Mean attendance rates by Welfare Quintile - 6 to 11 years



Progress - Temporal or Permanent?

- In absolute terms, enrolment by grade from 1980 to 2008 has more than doubled mainly as a result of population growth in the 5-17 age group
- Growth not translated into effective transition across the primary cycle.
- Grade 1 to 6 progression has not changed significantly (enrolment ratio approximately 1.5 for both 1980 and 2008).
- In effect, progression through to completion of primary school has not improved in nearly 30 years!
- Dropout by the end of primary 1 may be getting worse

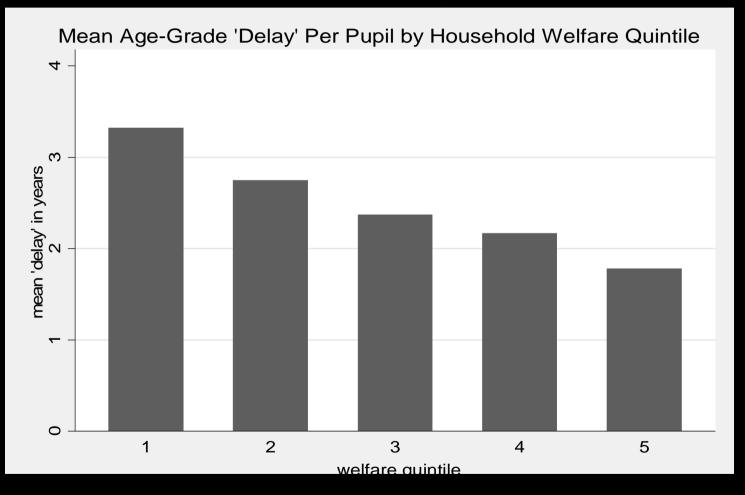
Ghana: Evolution of Primary Enrolment 1980-2008



Source: Ghana EMIS, Ministry of Education

Delayed Entry by the Poor

Source: Akyeampong (2009)



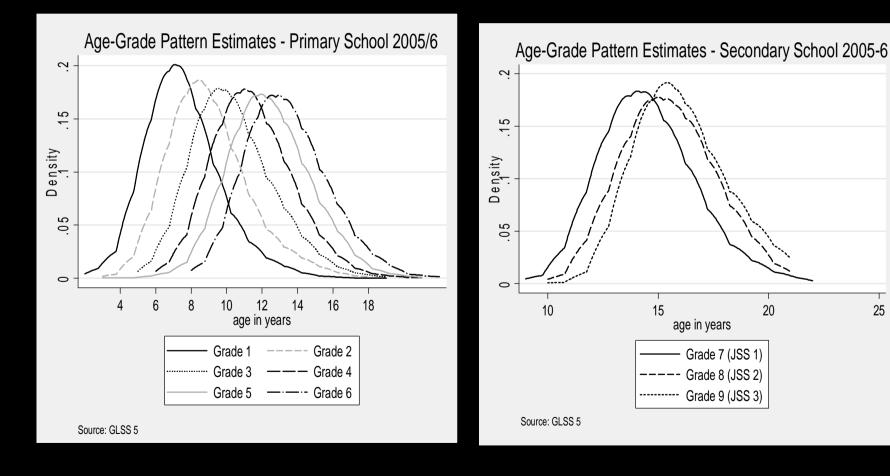
Age-Grade Patterns

Source: Akyeampong (2010)

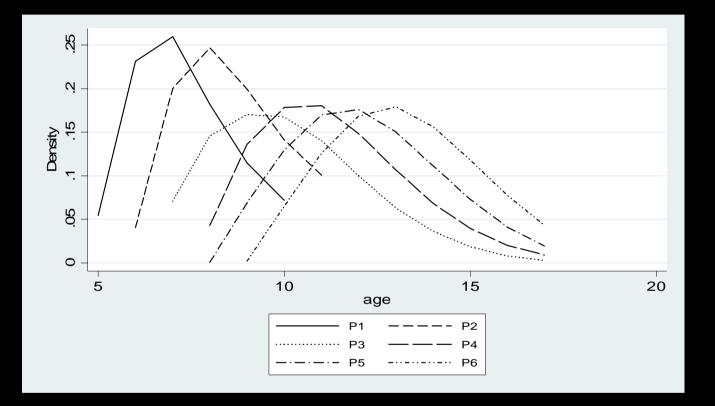
Primary School

Junior High School

25

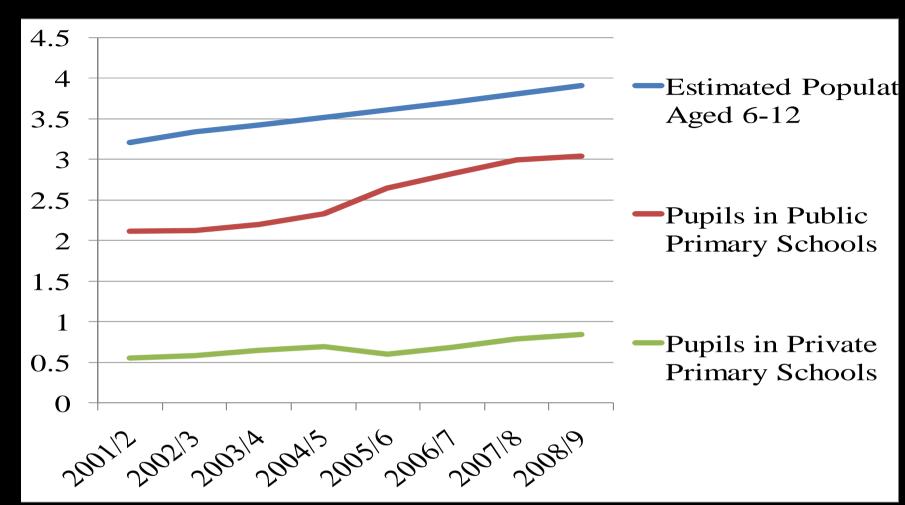


All Public Primary Schools in Ghana Age-Grade – 2008/09 EMIS



High Age-Grade Density - Primary 1 & 2

Source: Akyeampong (2010)



Enrolment in Public and Private Primary Schools 2001-9 (Source: Rolleston, 2010)

"In the years between 2004/5 and 2007/8, growth in enrolment outstripped population growth, although appears to have slowed in 2008/9".

Shares of School Expenditure Items in the total Schooling Cost Per Primary School Pupil

Share (%) of total

Source: Boakye-Yiadom (2010)

Item	Share (70) of total		
	1991/92	1998/99	2005/06
School/registration fees	26.14	27.48	18.70
Contribution to PTA	3.25	1.61	1.51
Uniforms & sports clothes	21.42	11.28	8.16
Books and school supplies	9.60	7.46	8.09
Transport to & from school	3.40	3.90	5.33
Food, board & lodging	28.36	42.15	45.29
Extra classes	5.02	6.53	6.40
In-kind schooling expenses	7.09	1.70	0.69
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00

Amount spent (GHc)

Item	1991/92	1998/99	2005/06
School/registration fees	1.72	3.44	3.54
Contribution to PTA	0.23	0.20	0.28
Uniforms & sports clothes	1.51	1.42	1.40
Books and school supplies	0.80	1.09	1.59
Transport to & from school	0.28	0.52	1.01
Food, board & lodging	2.07	5.38	8.02
Extra classes	0.40	0.86	1.39
In-kind schooling expenses	0.55	0.21	0.12
Total	7.26	12.87	18.36

Average schooling expense (real) incurred per person attending *Basic School*

Source: Boakye-Yiadom (2010)

Issues for Policy and Practice

- As percentage of unit cost per pupil CG should represent a significant proportion (~20%)
- Target the poor increase substantially CG for children in deprived districts
- Remove or reduce CG to wealthier population
- Cut out layers of bureaucracy to reduce corruption and improve timely release of funds (District to School)
- Measure success in terms of improved participation and progression across the basic school cycle

Issues for Policy and Practice

- 'Reward' timely progression and completion
- Focus enrolment drive on timely enrolment and progression particularly in the first two years
- Target CG on classroom level inputs