



THE INFLUENCE OF SCHOOL ENVIRONMENT ON ACADEMIC
PERFORMANCE OF PRIMARY SCHOOL PUPILS
IN PORT HARCOURT CITY

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ABSTRACT

This study investigated the influence of school environment on academic performance of primary school pupils in Port Harcourt, Rivers State, Nigeria. A descriptive correlational survey design was used. A sample of 427 primary school pupils was drawn using multi-stage sampling procedure. Two instruments titled School Environment Scale (SES) and Academic Performance Scale (APS) were developed for data collection. SES consists of three sections, A, B and C. Section A consists of information on socio demographic data of respondents. Section B focussed on psychosocial environment items which was responded to on a modified 4-point Likert scale of Strongly Agree, Agree, Disagree and Strongly Disagree. Section C contained items on physical environment which was responded to on a modified 4-point Likert scale of Very Good, Good, Poor and Very Poor. The instrument is a validated questionnaire which contained 40 items on psychosocial and physical environment items. The reliability coefficient is 0.83 and 0.73 for School Environment Scale (SES) and Academic Performance Scale (APS) respectively. The data was analyzed using Multiple and Linear regression analysis at 0.05 significant level. It was found out among others that 24.3% of school environment jointly predicts academic performance. More so, 10.1% of psychosocial environment individually predicts academic performance. Finally, 25.5% of physical environment predicts academic performance. It is recommended among others that teachers should cultivate a welcoming attitude that will facilitate bonding between them and the pupils they teach. Again, government should try to provide modern recreational facilities in schools to improve the physical environment.

Keywords: Keywords: School Environment, Psycho-social Environment, Physical Environment and Academic Performance.