

Effects of Supportive School Climate on Students' Social And Emotional Development

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Abstract:

It is often acknowledged that a supportive school environment has a significant impact on children's social and emotional growth. This study looks at how a supportive school environment affects secondary school students' social and emotional growth. The data demonstrate a strong beneficial association between supportive school climate and students' social skills, emotional control, self-esteem, and interpersonal interactions. Students' social and emotional development is greatly influenced by a supportive school environment. Healthy interpersonal skills and emotional well-being are supported in schools that promote positive interactions, safety, inclusivity, and emotional support. This article looks at how a supportive school environment affects students' social and emotional growth. It highlights important aspects of the school environment and how they affect peer relationships, emotional control, self-worth, and general adjustment. The data currently in publication indicates that excellent developmental outcomes and academic success are strongly correlated with supportive school climates.

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Introduction:

Schools are not only sites for academic learning but also crucial social environments where kids acquire emotional competencies and social skills. The quality and character of school life, encompassing norms, values, relationships, instructional methods, and organizational structures, is referred to as the “school climate.” Students' social and emotional development has been found to be significantly impacted by a supportive school environment that is marked by safety, respect, trust, and emotional support. Students' intellectual, social, and emotional skills are all greatly influenced by their education. Students learn how to communicate with classmates, control their emotions, and form a sense of identity and belonging in schools, which are their primary social contexts. The idea of school atmosphere and its impact on kids' overall development has received more attention in recent years. Positive interpersonal interactions, emotional safety, respect, inclusivity, and supportive teaching methods are characteristics of a friendly school environment. These settings foster a sense of worth and acceptance in pupils, which improves their social and emotional development. Even with increased awareness, many schools continue to prioritize academic

performance over social and emotional well-being. Understanding and controlling emotions, building healthy relationships, exhibiting empathy, and making responsible decisions are all components of social and emotional growth. This article highlights the significance of a supportive school environment in producing well-rounded kids by examining how it supports various developmental processes.

Thought of Supportive School Climate:

Positive relationships between teachers and students, peer support, inclusive policies, emotional safety, and chances for student participation are all components of a supportive school atmosphere. Fair discipline and anti-bullying policies foster emotional security, while teachers who are personable and attentive foster a sense of community. Such environments allow students to express themselves freely and participate productively with others. The quality of school life as perceived by students, faculty, and staff is referred to as school climate. It covers aspects including relationships, safety, instructional strategies, and the institutional setting. Positive school environments have been linked to better student behaviour, engagement, and achievement, according to earlier research.

Social Development of Student:

When beginners feel appreciated and accepted in the school community, social development is improved. Healthy peer relationships, teamwork, and respect are all encouraged in supportive educational environments. Students in these settings are more likely to show pragmatic behaviours, make good friends, and develop appropriate communication skills. According to research, learners' exhibit enhanced social skills and less antisocial behaviour when schools prioritize inclusivity and teamwork. Acquiring the abilities required for successful interpersonal interactions, including as cooperation, communication, empathy, and conflict resolution, is known as social development.

Emotional Development of Students:

The capacity to identify, communicate, and control emotions is referred to as emotional development. Higher self-esteem, emotional resilience, and lower levels of stress and anxiety in students have all been associated with supportive school environments. Teacher support and emotional warmth play a significant role in building emotional well-being. The emotional climate of the classroom has a direct impact on students' emotional growth. Supportive climates assist pupils develop emotional regulation, resilience, and self-confidence. When kids feel emotionally safe, they are better equipped to cope with stress, regulate anxiety, and seek help when needed. Students' self-esteem and emotional stability are influenced by teachers' positive reinforcement, encouragement, and emotional support.

Impact on Overall Student Welfare:

Students' general wellbeing is greatly enhanced by the combined benefits of social and emotional development. In addition to increasing motivation and engagement, a supportive school environment lowers behavioural issues, mental distress, and dropout rates. Students who grow up in supportive circumstances are more likely to succeed academically and personally and to have positive attitudes toward learning. Students' social-emotional results and school climate are strongly correlated, according to existing research. Students who attend schools that prioritize respect, inclusivity, and emotional support are more likely to be emotionally stable, socially adept, and academically driven.

Objectives of the Study:

- To investigate the level of supportive school climate perceived by pupils.

- To evaluate how the school climate affects children's social development.
- To investigate how the school climate affects students' emotional growth.
- To ascertain the connection between children's social and emotional growth and a supportive educational environment.

Research Methodology:

Research Design:

The study adopted a quantitative descriptive survey design, which is appropriate for examining relationships among variables and collecting data from a large population.

Population and Sample:

The population of the study consisted of secondary school students. A sample of 200 students was selected using a simple random sampling technique to ensure equal representation.

Instruments for Data Collection:

Data were collected using a structured questionnaire divided into three sections:

Section A: Demographic information

Section B: Supportive School Climate Scale

Section C: Social and Emotional Development Scale

Implications for Educational Practice:

School administrators, educators, and legislators must work hard to establish and maintain a positive school climate. School environment can be improved by putting social-emotional learning (SEL) programs into place, encouraging constructive disciplining techniques, and building solid school-family relationships. To maximize favourable student results, teachers must get training in inclusive techniques and emotional support. The results showed that most students thought their educational environment was encouraging. Items pertaining to peer cooperation, emotional safety, inclusivity, and teacher support had high mean scores. The findings showed that pupils' social competency was higher in supportive educational environments. They demonstrated enhanced cooperation, stronger peer interactions, and enhanced communication abilities. Additionally, the results showed a decline in negative behaviors including violence and bullying. The results demonstrated that students' emotional development was much improved by a supportive educational environment. Students reported feeling more confident, controlling their emotions better, and experiencing less tension and anxiety. Teacher motivation and emotional support were found as major contributing factors. Students' social and emotional development and a supportive school atmosphere are significantly positively correlated, according to the Pearson correlation analysis ($r = 0.67$, $p < 0.05$). This suggests that higher social and emotional outcomes for students are linked to improvements in school climate.

Recommendations:

The findings showed that a supportive learning environment significantly enhanced students' emotional development. Students said they were less tense and anxious, had greater emotional control, and felt more confident. Emotional support and teacher motivation were identified as key contributing factors. The

Pearson correlation study shows a strong positive link between students' social and emotional growth and a supportive school environment ($r = 0.67$, $p < 0.05$). This implies that improvements in school climate are associated with better social and emotional outcomes for pupils.

Conclusion:

Students' social and emotional growth is significantly influenced by a supportive school environment. Schools may greatly improve students' interpersonal skills, emotional well-being, and general adjustment by promoting healthy interactions, emotional safety, and inclusivity. Supportive school settings must be given top priority by educational stakeholders in order to guarantee long-term success and overall student development. The study comes to the conclusion that adolescents' social and emotional development is significantly enhanced by a supportive school environment. Schools that create emotional safety, positive relationships, and inclusiveness contribute to the holistic development of pupils. Therefore, establishing and maintaining supportive school environments must be a top priority for educational institutions. Future research might compare various school kinds or educational levels or examine the effect of a supportive school atmosphere on academic attainment.

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