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EFFECT OF SCHOOL ENVIRONMENTS ON INSTITUTIONAL ADJUSTMENT

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ABSTRACT

The school environment plays a crucial role in influencing institutional adjustment among students. A positive and supportive school environment, characterized by strong teacher-student relationships, inclusive practices, and a safe, welcoming atmosphere, fosters better adjustment and integration for students. In such environments, students are more likely to feel connected, valued, and supported, which can enhance their academic performance, social development, and overall well-being. These factors contribute to a smoother adjustment process as students adapt to the demands and expectations of the school setting. Conversely, a negative school environment - marked by poor communication, inadequate support systems, and a lack of inclusivity - can hinder institutional adjustment. Students in these settings may experience feelings of isolation, stress, and disengagement, which can lead to academic difficulties, behavioral issues, and a lower sense of belonging. The physical environment, including the availability of resources and the condition of school facilities, also plays a significant role in this adjustment process. Well-maintained, resourcerich environments promote a sense of security and motivation, facilitating better adaptation. Ultimately, the school environment's impact on institutional adjustment underscores the importance of creating supportive, inclusive, and resourceful settings that cater to the diverse needs of students, ensuring they can thrive academically, socially, and emotionally.