



## Teachers' Safety Procedures and Students' Asylum in Public Senior Secondary Schools in Rivers State

*Blessing Wey-Amaewhule; Inukan-Adebayo Rita Tamunodiepreye*

Rivers State University, Nigeria

### ABSTRACT

*This study investigated Teachers' safety procedures and students' asylum in Public Senior Secondary Schools in Rivers State. The purpose of the study was to examine relationship between teachers' safety procedures and students' asylum in public senior secondary schools in Rivers State. Two research questions and two hypotheses were raised for the study. the study adopted the correlational design. The population of the study was 6,962 teachers from 302 public senior secondary schools in the three senatorial districts in Rivers State. The sample size was 360 teachers. The sample size was determined using Taro Yamene formula. The data were collected using two research instruments titled, Teachers' safety procedures Questionnaire and Students' asylum Questionnaire. The instrument was validated by three experts. The reliability of the instrument was established using Cronbach Alpha method. The reliability coefficient was 0.78. The data collected were analyzed using Pearson's Product Moment Correlation Coefficient to answer the research question while t-test was used to test the hypotheses at 0.05 level of significance. The findings of the study reveal that, there is significant relationship between adequate instruction and students' asylum. Based on the findings of the study, it was recommended that School management should always organize programme for its staff on adequate instruction to encourage students' asylum in public senior secondary schools .and School management should always enlighten the teachers' on the area of safety procedures to increase students' asylum in public senior secondary schools.*

**Keyword:** awareness, duty of care, safety, students, teachers

### Introduction

Physical safety in schools is the absence of harm or injury that can be experienced by students from a physical object or practices that include a physical object. Physical objects can include a person, the school plant itself, furniture, medical equipment, prohibited items, toys, art work, vehicles, games equipment and so on. A safe environment is vital for students of all ages. It is so because it helps them develop and maintain their focus towards studies. In case of violence or threat or harm, students would not be able to pay attention on their studies (IMPOFF 2021). Adebeyeje as cited in Osuji (2021), the school plant consists of not only the physical structure and a variety of school building systems, such as mechanical, plumbing, electrical, power, telecommunications, security, and fire suppression systems. It also includes furnishing, materials, and supplies, equipment and information technology, as well as various aspects of the building grounds, namely, athletic fields, playgrounds, areas for outdoor learning,, vehicular access, and parking areas. It can also be called the school hardware through which the education curriculum is transmitted to the students. School plants include everything within the school premises, which includes the site, buildings, equipment, and all essential structures, permanent and non-permanent, as well as machines,, laboratory, and others (Osuji 2021).

A safety procedure is a step by step plan of how to perform a school activity procedure. This is used in cases where deviation from the procedure could lead to injury or accident. The safety procedure is a document that is put together by groups within the organization, and is used as a template when performing a particular task in the school. Safety procedure documents will list all hazards associated with a certain work task. A risk matrix will then be consulted in order to assign a risk factor to the task. The personal protective equipment required will be recorded, as well as the steps to safely completing the task. Each teacher involved in carrying out the task is responsible for ensuring that all guidelines are carried out. Safety procedure documents will list all hazards associated with a certain work task. A risk matrix will then be consulted in order to assign a risk factor to the task. The personal protective equipment required will be recorded, as well as the steps to safely completing the task. Each worker involved in carrying out the task is responsible for ensuring that all guidelines are carried out (Safeopedia, 2016).

Adequate instruction, means, not only the quantity of training, but the quality of training, and the teacher's instruction delivery methods to suit the student's learning style, and of course the unequal completion standards (CFI Academy2022). The students are more likely to do what you have asked if your instructions are reasonable and easily understood. The following are some tips for giving instructions to students.

- **Use Clear and Precise Language:** Use short, complete sentences and precise, concrete terms so that students will be able to understand what's expected of them. Avoid vague terms. Teachers should also clearly articulate the expectations of the assignment or task. Explaining what students have to do, how they have to do it, and when they have to complete it and how to follow your directions.

- **Repeat Your Directions:** We assume that our students listen when we speak but anyone who has been teaching for more than five minutes knows this isn't always the case. A teacher might give directions and find that their students haven't been paying attention, or that the students only half-grasped the instructions. A quick look around the room, some redirection, and some repetition can ensure that every student is focused and understands what they need to do. Instruction can be written on the board so that students can refer to them as they work.
- **Explain the Purpose of the Task:** When you explain to students why they're being asked to complete an assignment, they're more able to appreciate the experience. Connecting the task to existing students' knowledge, previous lessons, or covered material will help students feel more confident about tackling the task.
- **Make Sure Your Students Understand:** After giving them directions, ask your students to repeat or rephrase what's expected of them. Ask them specific questions about the requirements. Clarify any confusing points. Provide students with feedback that can help them comprehend and complete the task.
- **Use an Appropriate Tone:** It's not just what you say; it's also how you say it. Don't yell, mumble, or castigate. Ensure the pace of information is appropriate for the grade level and ability. Don't rush or move too slowly. Pause frequently to give students time to digest the information (Barile, n.d.).

Teachers are assumed to be parent-substitutes; this creates a high standard for the teachers' care. Teachers are professionals, trained not simply to teach their subjects but to properly manage the educational environment (Gabrielle, 2022). Teachers are expected to take care to an extent to avert causing harm, regardless of whether the harm was caused by another student or as a result of the clumsiness of the students. Teachers are to ensure that their responsibilities towards their students are enhanced by their students' good health and increased attendance at school. However, this has not been the case, as teachers' inattention and negligence toward their students have been noted with dismay. This has led to the students falling victim to certain harm, some of it committed by fellow students, teachers, and members of the public or even the students themselves. Students have been on the receiving end due to an increase in teachers' lack of awareness of their 'asylum towards students. This has led to injuries and deaths in the school environment (Chudi, 2017).

### Purpose of the Study

The main purpose of the study is to investigate teachers' safety procedures and students' asylum in public senior secondary schools in Rivers State. The specific objectives are to:

- Find out the relationship between teachers' adequate instructions and students' asylum in public senior secondary schools' in Rivers State.
- Determine the relationship between teachers' safety procedure and student asylum in public senior secondary schools' in Rivers State.

### Research Questions

The following research questions guided the study:

1. What is the relationship between adequate instructions and students' asylum in public senior secondary schools in Rivers State?
2. What is the relationship between safety procedures and students' asylum in public senior secondary schools in Rivers State?

### Hypotheses

The following hypotheses were formulated to guide this study at 0.05 level of significance:

- 1) There is no significant relationship between adequate instructions and students' asylum in public senior secondary schools in Rivers State.
- 2) There is no significant relationship between safety procedures and students' asylum in public senior secondary schools in Rivers State.

## Methodology

The study adopted the correlational design. The study area is Rivers State, which comprises three senatorial districts, namely Rivers East Senatorial District, Rivers West Senatorial District and Rivers South East Senatorial Districts which consisted of 23 Local Government Areas. The population of the study was 6,962 teachers consisting of 3581 male and 3381 female teachers from 302 public senior secondary schools in the 23 local government areas of Rivers State (Planning, Research and Statistics Department, Rivers State Senior Secondary Schools Board, Port Harcourt, Rivers State 2022). Multiple sampling techniques were used to select the sampling size. The instruments for data collection in this study are self designed questionnaire titled, Teachers' safety procedures Questionnaire (TSPQ) and Students' asylum Questionnaire (SAQ) constructed by the researcher. To ensure the face and content validity of the instruments (TSPQ) and (SAQ), were submitted to the researcher's supervisor and examined by one expert in measurement and evaluation and two experts in Department of educational management, Rivers State University. The reliability of the instrument was established using Cronbach Alpha method. The researcher in collaboration with two research assistance administered 360 copies of the questionnaires to the teachers. The data collected were analyzed using Pearson's Product Moment Correlation to answer the research question while t-transfusion was used to test the hypotheses at 0.05 level of significance. The null hypotheses of significance statistical difference were not rejected if the calculated t-value was less than the critical t-value and was rejected if the calculated t-value was more than the critical t-value.

## RESULTS

Research Question 1: What is the relationship between adequate instruction and students' asylum in public senior secondary schools in Rivers State?

**Table 4.1: Pearson Product Moment Correlation Analysis on the relationship between adequate instructions and students' asylum in public senior secondary schools in Rivers State**

Variable	N	$\sum x$	$\sum y$	$\sum x^2$	$\sum y^2$	$\sum xy$	r-cal	Remark
Adequate instructions (x)	360							High Positive
		16095	16731	570245	594469	580228	0.75	
Students' Safety (y)	360							

Source: Field survey, 2022

The data analysis in Table 4.1 showed that the Pearson Product Moment Correlation Coefficient value (r) was 0.75. This indicated that there is a positive relationship between adequate instruction and students' asylum. This means that an increase in adequate instruction leads to increase in students' safety in public senior secondary schools in Rivers State.

Research Question 2: What is the relationship between safety procedures and students' asylum in public schools public senior secondary schools in Rivers State?

**Table 4.2: Pearson Product Moment Correlation Analysis on the relationship between safety procedures and students' asylum in public senior secondary schools in Rivers State**

Variable	N	$\sum x$	$\sum y$	$\sum x^2$	$\sum y^2$	$\sum xy$	r-cal	Remark
Safety procedures (x)	360							High Positive
		16235	16445	581241	594469	588179	0.95	
Students' Safety (y)	360							

Source: Field survey, 2022

The data analysis in Table 4.2 showed that the Pearson Product Moment Correlation Coefficient value (r) was 0.95. This showed that there is a positive and significant relationship between safety procedures and students' asylum.

This means that an increase in safety procedures leads to increase in students' asylum in public senior secondary schools in Rivers State.

Hypothesis 4.1: There is no significant relationship between adequate instruction and students' asylum in public senior secondary schools in Rivers State.

**Table 4.3: Pearson Product Moment Correlation Analysis on the significant relationship between adequate instruction and students' asylum in public senior secondary schools in Rivers State**

Variable	N	Df	R	t-cal	t-crit	Sig. level	Decision
Adequate instruction (x)	360						
Students' Safety (y)	360	358	0.75	2.22	1.96	0.05	Rejected

Source: Field survey, 2022

The analysis on Table 4.3 showed that the t-cal of 2.22 is higher than the t-crit of 1.96. The calculated t-ratio is not statistically significant at a 0.05 level of significance since it is higher than the given critical value of t-ratio. So, the hypothesis 1 is thus rejected and the conclusion is that there is a significant relationship between adequate instruction and students' asylum in public senior secondary schools in Rivers State.

Hypothesis 2: There is no significant relationship between safety procedures and students' asylum in public senior secondary schools in Rivers State.

**Table 4.4: Pearson Product Moment Correlation Analysis on the significant relationship between safety procedures and students' asylum in public senior secondary schools in Rivers State**

Variables	N	Df	R	t-cal	t-crit	Sig. level	Decision
Safety procedures(x)	360						
Students' Safety (y)	360	358	0.95	2.33	1.96	0.05	Rejected

Source: Field survey, 2022

The analysis on Table 4.4: revealed that the t-cal of 2.33 is higher than the t-crit of 1.96. The calculated t-ratio is not statistically significant at a 0.05 level of significance since it is higher than the given critical value of t-ratio. So, the hypothesis 2 is thus rejected and the conclusion is that there is a significant relationship between safety procedures and students' asylum in public senior secondary schools in Rivers State.

---

## DISCUSSION OF FINDINGS

The finding of the study in Research Question One: What is the relationship between adequate instruction and students' asylum in public senior secondary schools in Rivers State revealed that there is significant relationship between adequate instructions and students' asylum in public senior secondary schools in Rivers State. The corresponding hypothesis 1 was rejected and the conclusion is that there is significant relationship between adequate instruction and students' asylum and school accidents in public senior secondary schools in Rivers State. This study is in collaboration with (Findlaw, 2022), who observed that accidents occur, because a basic and seemingly simple rule is 'forgotten', unintentionally or with a degree of deliberate negligence. The analysis also indicated that the respondents agreed on the point that vehicular accidents include car crashes, truck wreck, and motorcycle crashes. It was still noticed from the study that the respondents accepted the fact that slips and falls rank among the number one cause of school accidents. The research also showed that the respondents agreed on the point that hospitals emergency rooms treat children for playground related injuries of those injuries the majority occur in schools premises. The analysis still revealed that the respondents accepted the fact that children can become seriously ill from food poisoning when they eat poisoned food provided by the school or school vendors.

The findings of the study in Research Question Two: What the relationship between safety procedure and students' safety in public senior secondary schools in Rivers State indicated that there is positive relationship between safety procedures and students' asylum in public senior secondary schools in Rivers State. However, the corresponding hypothesis 2 was rejected and the conclusion is that there is significant relationship between safety procedures and students' asylum in public senior secondary schools in Rivers State. The study is in the same view with (World Health Organization, 2022), who admitted that hazards are synonyms of danger, risk, peril, threat, menace, and so on. The analysis also showed that the respondents agreed on the view that a chemical hazard is the uncontrolled release of a toxic substance, potentially resulting in harm to the school environment. It is still observed in the study that the respondents accepted the fact that electric hazards are shock and burns from contact with live parts of an electrical installation or wire. The analysis also revealed that the respondents agreed on the point that fire hazards are substance that increases the likelihood of an accidental fire occurrence. The analysis still indicated that the respondents accepted the point that the Common fire hazards in schools are cooking, smoking materials, open flame, electrical hazards and accumulation of combustibles.

---

## Conclusion

Based on the findings of the study, the researcher concluded that, there is relationship between of adequate instruction and safety procedures and students' asylum in public senior secondary schools in Rivers State.

---

## Recommendations

Based on the findings of the study, the following recommendations were made to ensure that this study achieve its objectives.

- School management should always organize programmes for its staff on adequate instructions to encourage students' asylum in public senior secondary schools.
- School management should always enlighten the teachers on the area of safety procedures to increase students' asylum in public senior secondary schools.

---

## REFERENCES

- Barile, N. (n.d.). *Guide to Giving Clear Instructions to Students (That They Will Actually Follow)*.
- CFI Academy (2022). *What is Adequate Instruction?* Retrieved from <https://www.cfiacademy.com/what-is-adequate-instruction/> on 13/02/2023.
- Chudi C. N. (2017). *The Legal Implicates of Duty of Care*. Global journal of politics and law research vol. 5 No 4 retrieved from [ejournal.org/wp-content/uploads/the-legal-implication-of-duty-of-care](http://ejournal.org/wp-content/uploads/the-legal-implication-of-duty-of-care) on 13/11/2021.
- Findlaw, (2022). *Accidents and Injury*. Retrieved from <https://www.findlaw.com/injury/accident-injury-law.html> on 25/6/2022.
- Gabrielle A. (2022). *Why Is School Safety Important?* Retrieved from [kids.lovetoknow.com](http://kids.lovetoknow.com) on 7/6/2022.
- IMPOFF (2021). *Importance of safety in school and at workplace*. Retrieved from <https://impoff.com/importance-of-safety/> on 4/8/2022.
- Osuji C. U. (2021). *School plant management: a hand book for education management*. Chronnnett communications. Port Harcourt.
- Safeopedia (2016). *Safety Procedure* Retrieved from <https://www.safeopedia.com/definition/456/safety-procedure> on 12/02/2023.**
- World Health Organization (2022). *Chemical incidents*. Retrieved from [www.who.int](http://www.who.int) on 4/7/2022