

SCHOOL CLIMATE

The attitude and relationship that exists and is seen among the Teachers, the Head of the institution and Authorities concerned in the business of running an institution may be termed as School Climate. The climate is created mainly by the interaction between i) the Teachers, ii) Co-teachers and iii) the Head of the Institution. This has a tremendous effect on the students of that particular school.

Characteristics of school climate: The school climate has two kinds of characteristics, namely –

- I. Characteristics of Teachers – This has both Negative as well as Positive aspects:
 - A. Negative Aspects – i) **Disengagement** (Pulling one another and in opp. direction), ii) **Hindrance** (a psychological feeling- e.g. harassment by senior teachers over the juniors)
 - B. Positive Aspects – i) **Esprit** (Morale) - the feeling of satisfaction with the work and income) and ii) **Intimacy** (understanding among themselves)
- II. Characteristics of the Head – This also has Negative and Positive aspects:
 - A. Negative Aspects – i) **Alloofness** (keeping oneself at a distance) ii) **Production Emphasis** (stressing on the work done and scrutinizing everything)
 - B. Positive Aspects – i) **Thrusting** – (Pushing up/encouraging with examples) and ii) **Consideration** – (Taking a man as a man)

Classification of school climate: Halpin and Craft have classified the school climate as follows:

1	2	3	4	5	6
Open Climate	Autonomous Climate	Controlled Climate	Familiar Climate	Paternal Climate	Closed climate
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪energetic organisation ▪no distinction in status 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪Head is not active ▪His duty is only to refer ▪work done by others mostly 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪Head controls everything ▪No sharing of responsibilities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪Smooth relationship but the work is slack and there is no proper supervision 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪Fatherly type ▪the degree of intimacy differs which may lead to partiality ▪If intimacy is equal to all, it is good, or else it leads to partiality 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪It is not at all good ▪Teachers, Heads just come and go and do their duties on their own whims and fancies.

Any school that has these 3 essential qualities namely, esprit, thrust and intimacy is said to have possessed a “School Personality”. Parents are willing to send their own children to schools with “Better Interpersonal Relationship”. In such schools children find Acceptance, Security and Recognition.