

**CREATING POSITIVE SCHOOL CLIMATE FOR EFFECTIVE
IMPLEMENTATION OF EARLY CHILDHOOD CARE AND
EDUCATION IN
NIGERIAN EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM**

Dr. (Mrs.) M.A. Osagiede & Anaezionwu Veronica (Mrs.)
Primary Education Studies Early Childhood Care And Education
College of Education, Agbor

Abstract

This paper focuses on creating positive school climate for effective implementation of early childhood care and education in Nigerian educational system. Early childhood care and education is the education offered to children who have not yet reached the statutory age of beginning primary school. This type of education was given official recognition by the Federal Government of Nigeria in the National Policy on Education. It is a critical period of rapid physical, cognitive and psychological development of a child. The quality of care and education which a child receives at this crucial age will determine to a great extent the level of his/her physical and cognitive development in the future. In view of this, creating positive school climate will aid effective implementation of early childhood care and education. Improved school climate is a goal to pursue, therefore educators need to constantly work towards improving their school climate culture and conditions so that student learning can improve. The study concludes that early childhood care and education has a positive influence on educational development of children in later life and some writers on early childhood education have asserted that investing in it can yield high returns. The study recommends among others that government of the various states of the federation should encourage the establishment of the departments/units Early Childhood Care, and Education in the various faculty of Education of the universities and colleges of education in Nigeria.

Introduction

Early childhood education is very important for the growth of any nation. If you fail to development a child you have failed to develop the future of the nation. Modem societies show serious concern for the education of their young ones for obvious reasons (Ejieh, 2006). It is a common practice in most societies to make positive plans