

Topic: School Plant

Subject: School Management

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## Introduction

The School Plant is one of the major aspects of School Administration. According to Advanced Learner's Dictionary, Campus means "grounds of a School, College or University where main Buildings are". The School Plant is a comprehensive term which includes the school Building, furniture, lawn, School garden, playground laboratories, library, hostel, Staff quarters, classroom hall, Staff Room, Student's common room, Canteen, Cycle Shed etc.

## Essential Characteristics of School Plant

Adequacy: The School Plant must possess the facilities necessary for the efficient and effective accommodation of all the phases of the curriculum, co-curricular and community activities for which the Plant is intended. The four Plant namely (1) Site and surroundings (2) Area, (3) Plan (4) Design of construction deserve special attention. These points are discussed in detail in the subsequent pages.

2. Safety and well-being: The School Plant must be able to protect the health and safety of Pupils and teachers. It must be planned in strict conformity with hygienic laws. It must have proper light and ventilation. The School Campus should be situated at a safe place away

from main road so that it is not risky for the small children.

3. **Co-ordination**: There must be an inter-junctional co-ordination among the various units of school campus. All the sections and wings of the school campus must function separately and must be inter-connected so that it is easy to supervise and co-ordinate all the activities going on it. They should be so located that they do not interfere with each other's work.
4. **Efficiency and unity**: The school plant must be planned in such a way that there is efficiency and unity of work. It must give maximum benefit to the student. It arrangement should not subvert into the waste of time and energy on the part of the student the staff and the headmaster.
5. **Beauty**: The school campus must be artistically and beautifully designed. It should present a pleasant cheery look. There must be artisticity and cleanliness in the school. Neatness and cleanliness are the sign of the beauty of a school. If the campus is beautiful, the learners and the staff might feel attracted to work.
6. **Flexibility**: There should be no rigidity in the design, design and use of the plant. Scope must be

left for modification in accordance with needs and requirements

7. **Economy**: Each item in the campus must be constructed with utmost Economy. The School Plant should be Economical in its Original cost, upkeep and operation. A simple architectural plan will definitely be Economical and more functional.

### ⇒ Maintenance of the School Campus

1. **Playgrounds**: There should be maintenance of Playgrounds. These should be well-kept and levelled. They should be kept clean and tidy.

2. **School Rooms**: There should be maintenance of School Rooms, the flower beds, the hedge and the turf.

3. **White washing and repairing**: There should be regular cleaning, white washing, colouring and repairing of school building. There should be regular repairing of furniture and building services like taps, walls, Electric Service etc.

4. **Cleaning of Bathrooms and Latrines**: Bathrooms, Windows and Latrines should be regularly cleaned.

5. **Furniture**: There should be proper maintenance of the furniture. Care should be taken of its distribution use and upkeep. There should timely replacing of furniture.

6. **Replacement**: There should be replacement, addition and up keep of books in the library, apparatuses in the laboratories, games material etc from time to time.

## ⇒ Location and Selection of School Site

1. **Surroundings**: The site should be located in healthy and pleasing surroundings which soothe the eye and please the soul. It should be neat and clean, and located in a quiet and pleasant environment. It should be surrounded by a clean and clear landscape. So that the passages of fresh air and sunlight may not be obstructed. This means that the school building should not be located in the dirty areas of the city. It should be away from the hub of the population away from the noise and dust of busy roads. So the class work is not disturbed. It should not be near any public place like railway station, bus stand, cinema hall, factory, grain market, cremation ground, district courts and other public places.

2. Level! - The site should not be situated in a low lying area so that the rainy water does not collect in the campus and the access to the school becomes difficult. The level of the area should be little raised if possible and at any rate should be dry. Otherwise, logging water will serve a good breeding place for insects and mosquitoes, stagnant water forms foul smell and causes many diseases. There should be no danger of floods or breach of any canal. The level should be sloping also to enable the rain water or floods water to flow and not to stagnate anywhere on the campus.

3. Direction! - The direction of the building should be such that sun-light enters its rooms. This direction is south or south east in India. This direction ensures that sun light enters all the rooms directly in the winter season with the sun's descent and in scorching summer season the sun-light does not enter the windows obliquely. The inclination may be at an angle of 80 to 30 degrees. The sunlight is essential to kill the germs.

4. Slope! - A rectangular shape of the site will be more convenient and useful for the lay-out of the building. Its front should be wide enough and not narrow.

5. Service Condition: Various Public Services like drinking water - pipe arrangement and lighting arrangement should be easily accessible. It should not be situated in a direction which will take decades to develop.
6. Scope for future Expansion: While selecting a site for the school, we should take into consideration the future expansion of the town or city. The Planning Department of the city may be consulted in this regard, otherwise the school will soon be surrounded by the populated areas.
7. Soil: The school site should be free from any type of soil complexity. It should be free from decaying organic matter. It should have sufficient underground water supply. The underground water should be good quality so that water pumps may be provided at different places in the premises. The sub soil water should be more than 10 feet deep.
- Conclusion: A Smart Campus is the complete knowledge platform where talents of students are well exploited to their advantage. Smart schooling technology reduce file work thus eliminating the bottlenecks in the process of maintaining huge student data manually.

Reference: Dr. J.S. Walia, Slide share.