

# SCHOOL HEALTH CENTER

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Name

Course

# INTRODUCTION

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- A school health centre is a building or structure set up in a learning institution to provide health services to the learners, teachers, and other personnel.
- These centers mainly deal with adolescents whose health is at risk from exposure to various environmental circumstances.
- Such young individuals have little capacity to understand how their body functions and thus school health centers shoulder the responsibility of identifying health challenges affecting this population.

# ROLE OF SCHOOL HEALTH CENTERS

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- Promote positive health
- Prevent diseases
- Ensure early diagnosis, intervention and proper follow-up
- Create awareness on health matters among children
- Provide a healthy learning environment

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# SIGNIFICANCE OF SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICES

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- Schoolchildren's welfare forms a vital component in the continuity of the society.
- These young people are the most vulnerable of the population as they are prone to physical, emotional, and social interference (Williams-Mbengue, 2016; Littlecott, Moore & Murphy, 2018).
- They come from diverse social and economic backgrounds that determine their health and nutritional status and schools provide a different environment that may interfere with their health (Brunello et al., 2016).

# SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE PROGRAM COMPONENTS

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- Routine health appraisal of the learners and other personnel.
- Follow-up measures on children diagnosed with various illnesses.
- Sensitization on how to prevent communicable diseases.
- Providing first aid services.
- Conducting mental health assessment.
- Storage and maintenance of school health records.

# ROUTINE HEALTH APPRAISAL

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- Regular examination of the children, teachers and other medical personnel.
- Undertaking medical examination of all learners during entry.
- Regular clinical assessment for nutritional deficiency through examination of the faeces (Wisikin et al., 2015).
- Regular screening of the vision of the learners.
- Assessment of the mental health of all learners to determine their mental stability (Schulte-Körne, 2016).

# FAST AID CARE

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- Learning institutions are a community by themselves and ought to have arrangements for the provision of first aid and emergency care for the learners (Qureshi et al., 2018).
- School health centers should train teachers and prepare them to handle emergency situations both in their institutions and at home (Urso & Rozalski, 2014).
- Learners should also be taught basic first aid procedures to apply in emergencies.

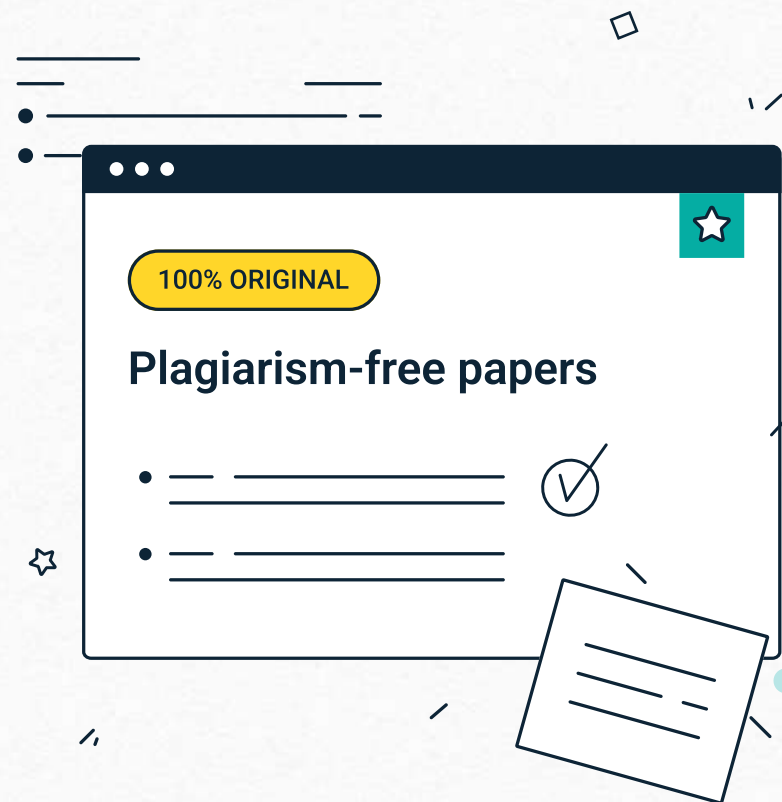
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