

CHILDREN EDUCATIONAL CENTRE, ABUJA

(Designing Spaces to Influence Learning Habits)

BY

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CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that this thesis carried out by ABODERIN DEBORAH OLUWAFUNMILAYO was supervised by me and has met the required standard for the award of a the degree of Master of Science [M.Sc.] in Architecture and has been submitted to the Department of Architecture, School of Environmental Sciences, College of Science and Technology, Covenant University, Ota.

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DEDICATION

I wish to dedicate this research work firstly to GOD ALMIGHTY, HE that was my ever present help every moment spent working on this project. THANK YOU GOD FOR YOUR FAITHFULNESS. Secondly, to my parents Engr & Mrs O. I. Aboderin, for their love, care, prayers, words of encouragement and provision for me. May GOD continually bless you both and cause HIS face to shine on you in JESUS Name, Amen.

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ABSTRACT

Children are the future of our world. Giving them the best form of education ought to be the priority of every community. Ekeh, (2006) stated that early years in life are very crucial in the formation of intelligence, personality and social behavior of a Man. However, there is an increase in the rate at which schools for children are being erected. Many of which fail to properly communicate the knowledge of self-discovery and uniqueness to their students. These shortcomings are mostly expressed in the learning environment of such schools. Chism, (2006) stated that we can facilitate a deeper and richer learning when we design spaces with learning in mind. Learning environments should be such that promotes the learning habits of students that use the facility. In this study, the researcher was able to ascertain and deduce from interviews from children, school teachers, guardians, books, journals, magazines, etc., that children learn uniquely and self expressively when given the opportunity of being actively engaged on a task and when they collaborate, interact, discuss in groups, learn from nature, and spend time alone listening to their hearts. The findings however, influenced the proposed design of the Children educational centre by considering some architectural design elements like colour, day-lighting, ventilation, acoustic measures, circulation, material used, furniture, play area, easy flow and access to spaces, security and some sustainable measures in our part of the world such as the use of solar panels, rain water harvest, durable material, building orientation and an easy interaction between the natural environment and within the centre.

Conclusively, there is nothing as educative for a child as learning being conveyed into his or her mind from their five senses such as what you see, hear, smell, touch, taste and feel. Children should be prepared to be fully utilize their potentials. Architecture simply designs purpose built learning interior and exterior environment in ensuring that children maximize their early developmental years.