

## SAFE PLACE FOR LEARNING SPACE

*by:*

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Safety is one of the most important aspects a school should offer to ensure that students will learn better. It is true that if a learner is aware that the environment is unsafe, he or she will be restless and there will be no focus on the mastery of competencies. No matter how good the teacher may be, if the student feels that he or she is under threat inside the school learning will not take place.

The learning environment must be conducive enough to foster a healthy and comfortable atmosphere where the students feel at ease and give full attention to the lessons and classroom activities. There are multiple threats to safety and security that a student may experience. These are bullying from classmates and even from teachers in the form of verbal, physical, and emotional abuse. Even non-teaching school personnel can be a part of the perpetration of the students. The lack of facilities such as comfort rooms, study areas, or availability of resources and equipment may also contribute to the learning threat a student might get. This also includes old dilapidated rooms and facilities that pose as a grave threat to the safety of not just students but to all. The community might also be a safety concern for the students. If the school is situated in a very densely populated community and drug trafficking, prostitution, and sexual harassment abound, the student will not feel safe going to school. This will hamper the access of the student to quality education.

Having all of the above, it seems that the school head has a lot at hand to ensure that the school will be able to protect the students and make sure that they learn properly and diligently. The school head, along with the teaching and non-teaching staff and the

stakeholders should take time and effort to develop a school environment supportive of learning. A collaborative and cooperative means of intervention in maintaining peace, order, and functionality of facilities are the key ingredients in having a school that is safe for learners.

*References:*

ASCD, (2013), Fostering safe learning environments,  
<https://www.ascd.org/el/articles/fostering-safe-learning-environments>