ThoughtExchange

School Climate Templates

ED School Climate Survey (EDSCLS)

This document lists the school climate survey templates available in ThoughtExchange. To learn more about the survey template and its topics, please visit this help article.

Student Survey Instruments

Demographic questions
Gender: How do you identify?[1]
What grade are you currently in at this school?[2]
What is your ethnicity?

Cultural and linguistic competence (5)
All students are treated the same, regardless of whether their parents are rich or poor.[3]
All students are treated equally well.
This school provides instructional materials (e.g., textbooks, handouts) that reflect my cultural background, ethnicity, and identity.
Adults working at this school treat all students respectfully.
People of different cultural backgrounds, races, or ethnicities get along well at this school.

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[1] This question's recommended answer choices are: Male, Female, Prefer not to respond, Transgender, Non-Binary. The bottom two options are only meant for certain grade levels (e.g. grades 7 and up). The exact threshold depends on your district's context.
[2] This survey is meant for students grades 5 and up.
[3] Unless otherwise indicated, here are the answer choices for each question: Strongly agree, Agree, Disagree, and Strongly disagree.

In what ways can our school enhance its inclusivity and responsiveness to the cultural and linguistic diversity among students and families?[4]

Relationships (9)
Teachers understand my problems.
Teachers are available when I need to talk with them.
It is easy to talk with teachers at this school.
My teachers care about me.
At this school, there is a teacher or some other adult who students can go to if they need help because of sexual assault or dating violence.[5]
My teachers make me feel good about myself.
Students respect one another.
Students like one another.
If I am absent, there is a teacher or some other adult at school that will notice my absence.
What steps could be taken to strengthen the bond between students and teachers, fostering a supportive and nurturing learning environment?

School participation (5)
I regularly attend school-sponsored events, such as school dances, sporting events, student performances, or other school activities.
I regularly participate in extracurricular activities offered through this school, such as, school clubs or organizations, musical groups, sports teams, student government, or any other extra-curricular activities.

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[4] These italicized open-ended questions have been added by the ThoughtExchange team for an enriched blend of feedback, as the questions invite reflection on the current state and suggestions for the future state.
[5] This question is only meant for certain grade levels (e.g. 7th graders and up). The exact threshold depends on your district's context.

At this school, students have lots of chances to help decide things like class activities and rules.

There are lots of chances for students at this school to get involved in sports, clubs, and other school activities outside of class.

I have lots of chances to be part of class discussions or activities.

How can our school create more opportunities for students to actively engage in shaping their educational experience and contributing to the school community?

Emotional Safety (7)

I feel like I belong.

Students at this school get along well with each other.

At this school, students talk about the importance of understanding their own feelings and the feelings of others.

At this school, students work on listening to others to understand what they are trying to say.

I am happy to be at this school.

I feel like I am part of this school.

I feel socially accepted.

What could be done to promote a sense of belonging and emotional well-being for all students?

Physical Safety (8)

I feel safe at this school.

I feel safe going to and from this school.

I sometimes stay home because I don't feel safe at this school.

Students at this school carry guns or knives to school.

Students at this school threaten to hurt other students.

Students at this school steal money, electronics, or other valuable things while at school.

Students at this school damage or destroy other students' property.

Students at this school fight a lot.

What measures can be taken to ensure that students feel safe and secure both on campus and while traveling to and from school?

Bullying / cyberbullying (7)

Students at this school are teased or picked on about their race or ethnicity.[6]

Students at this school are teased or picked on about their cultural background or religion.

Students at this school are teased or picked on about their physical or mental disability.

Students at this school are teased or picked on about their real or perceived sexual orientation.[7]

Students at this school are often bullied.

Students at this school try to stop bullying.

Students often spread mean rumors or lies about others at this school on the internet (i.e., Facebook™, email, and instant message).

How can our school cultivate a culture of respect and empathy, effectively addressing instances of bullying within the student body?

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[6] Questions such as this one are negatively valenced; the favorable answers are "Strongly Disagree" and "Disagree", as opposed to most other questions in the template.

[7] This question is only meant for certain grade levels (e.g. 7th graders and up). The exact threshold depends on your district's context.

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Substance Abuse (5)

Students use/try alcohol or drugs while at school or school-sponsored events.

It is easy for students to use/try alcohol or drugs at school or school-sponsored events without getting caught.

Students at this school think it is okay to smoke one or more packs of cigarettes a day.

Students at this school think it is okay to get drunk.

Students at this school think it is okay to try drugs.

What steps can be taken to educate students about the risks of substance abuse and provide support for those struggling with addiction?

Emergency Readiness & Management (2)

Students know what to do if there is an emergency, natural disaster (tornado, flood) or a dangerous situation (e.g. violent person on campus) during the school day.

If students hear about a threat to school or student safety, they would report it to someone in authority.

How can our school enhance its preparedness and response protocols to ensure the safety of students and staff in the event of emergencies?

Physical environment (5)

The bathrooms in this school are clean.

The temperature in this school is comfortable all year round.

The school grounds are kept clean.

I think that students are proud of how this school looks on the outside.

Broken things at this school get fixed quickly.

What improvements can be made to maintain a clean, comfortable, and aesthetically pleasing learning environment for all students?

Instructional environment (5)

My teachers praise me when I work hard in school.

My teachers give me individual attention when I need it.

My teachers often connect what I am learning to life outside the classroom.

The things I'm learning in school are important to me.

My teachers expect me to do my best all the time.

In what ways can our school create a more dynamic and engaging learning environment that meets the diverse needs and interests of students?

Physical health (4)

This school provides the materials, resources, and training necessary to support students' physical health and nutrition.

This school places a priority on making healthy food choices.

This school places a priority on students' health needs.

This school places a priority on students' physical activity.

How can our school promote healthy lifestyles and habits among students, fostering physical well-being both in and out of the classroom?

Mental health (5)

My teachers really care about me.

I can talk to my teachers about problems I am having in class.

I can talk to a teacher or other adult at this school about something that is bothering me.

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Students at this school stop and think before doing anything when they get angry.
Students at this school try to work out their disagreements with other students by talking to them.
What initiatives can our school implement to support the mental health and emotional resilience of students, creating a positive and supportive school culture?

Discipline (5)
My teachers make it clear to me when I have misbehaved in class.
Adults working at this school reward students for positive behavior.
Adults working at this school help students develop strategies to understand and control their feelings and actions.
School rules are applied equally to all students.
Discipline is fair.
How can our school ensure fair and consistent discipline practices that uphold a sense of accountability and respect for all students?

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Instructional Staff Survey Instruments

Demographic questions

Gender: How do you identify?

What is your ethnicity?

Is your main assignment/responsibility at this school to provide instruction or other support services to any of these types of students - Special Education, English Language Learners, Gifted and Talented Education students, or Migrant Education?

How many years have you been working at this school?

Cultural and linguistic competence (6)

At this school, all students are treated equally, regardless of whether their parents are rich or poor.

This school encourages students to take challenging classes no matter their race, ethnicity, nationality, and/or cultural background (e.g., honor level courses, gifted courses, AP or IB courses).

This school provides instructional materials (e.g., textbooks, handouts) that reflect students' cultural background, ethnicity and identity.

This school emphasizes showing respect for all students' cultural beliefs and practices.

This school provides effective resources and training for teaching students with Individualized Education Programs (IEPs) across different languages and cultures.

This school provides effective supports for students needing alternative modes of communication (e.g., manual signs, communication boards, computer-based devices, picture exchange systems, Braille).

In what ways can our school enhance its inclusivity and responsiveness to the cultural and linguistic diversity among students and families?

Relationships (5)

Staff do a good job helping parents to support their children's learning at home.

Staff do a good job helping parents understand when their child needs to learn social, emotional, and character skills.

If a student has done something well or makes improvement, staff contact his/her parents.

This school asks families to volunteer at the school.

This school communicates with parents in a timely and ongoing basis.

What steps could be taken to strengthen the bond between students and staff, fostering a supportive and nurturing learning environment?

School participation (6)

My level of involvement in decision making at this school is fine with me.

Staff at this school have many informal opportunities to influence what happens within the school.

At this school, students are given the opportunity to take part in decision making.

Administrators involve staff in decision-making.

This school provides students with opportunities to take a lead role in organizing programs and activities.

Students are encouraged to get involved in extra-curricular activities.

How can our school create more opportunities for staff members to actively engage in shaping their educational experience and contributing to the school community?

Emotional safety (6)

I feel like I belong.

I feel satisfied with the recognition I get for doing a good job.

I feel comfortable discussing feelings, worries, and frustrations with my supervisor.

This school inspires me to do the very best at my job.

People at this school care about me as a person.

I can manage almost any student behavior problem.

What could be done to promote a sense of belonging and emotional well-being for all staff members?

Physical safety (8)

I feel safe at this school.

The following types of problems occur at this school often: physical conflicts among students.

The following types of problems occur at this school often: robbery or theft.

The following types of problems occur at this school often: vandalism.

The following types of problems occur at this school often: student possession of weapons.

The following types of problems occur at this school often: physical abuse of teachers.

The following types of problems occur at this school often: sexual assault or dating violence.

The following types of problems occur at this school often: student verbal abuse of teachers.

What measures can be taken to ensure that students and staff members feel safe and secure on campus?

Bullying / Cyberbullying (8)

I think that bullying is a frequent problem at this school.

I think that cyberbullying is a frequent problem among students at this school.

Students at this school would feel comfortable reporting a bullying incident to a teacher or other staff.

Staff at this school always stop bullying when they see it.

Staff at this school are teased or picked on about their race or ethnicity.

Staff at this school are teased or picked on about their cultural background or religion.

Staff at this school are teased or picked on about their physical or mental disability.

Staff at this school are teased or picked on about their sexuality.

How can our school cultivate a culture of respect and empathy, effectively addressing instances of bullying and abuse?

Substance abuse (8)

At this school, how much of a problem is student drug use?[8]

At this school, how much of a problem is student use of electronic cigarettes?

At this school, how much of a problem is student use of tobacco (e.g., cigarettes, chew, cigars)?

At this school, how much of a problem is student alcohol use?

This school collaborates well with community organizations to help address youth substance use problems.

This school has adequate resources to address substance use prevention.

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[8] The answer choices for these four questions are: Large problem, Somewhat a problem, Small problem, Not a problem.

This school provides effective confidential support and referral services for students needing help because of substance abuse (e.g., a Student Assistance Program).

This school has programs that address substance use among students.

What steps can be taken to educate students about the risks of substance abuse and provide support for those struggling with addiction?

My teaching is hindered by a lack of instructional space (e.g., classrooms) at this school.

My teaching is hindered by a lack of textbooks and basic supplies at this school.

My teaching is hindered by inadequate or outdated equipment or facilities at this school.

What improvements can be made to maintain a clean, comfortable, and aesthetically pleasing teaching and learning environment?

Emergency readiness (4)

I know what to do if there is an emergency, natural disaster (tornado, flood) or a dangerous situation (e.g., violent person on campus) during the school day.

This school has a written plan that describes procedures to be performed in shootings.

This school has a written plan that clearly describes procedures to be performed in natural disasters (e.g., earthquakes or tornadoes).

This school or school district provides effective training in safety procedures to staff (e.g., lockdown training or fire drills).

How can our school enhance its preparedness and response protocols to ensure the safety of students and staff in the event of emergencies?

Physical environment (6)

This school looks clean and pleasant.

This school is an inviting work environment.

My teaching is hindered by poor heating, cooling, and/or lighting systems at this school.

Instructional environment (6)

The students in my class(es) come to class prepared with the appropriate supplies and books.

Once we start a new program at this school, we follow up to make sure that it's working.

The programs and resources at this school are adequate to support students' learning.

Teachers at this school feel responsible to help each other do their best.

Teachers at this school feel that it is a part of their job to prepare students to succeed in college.

The programs and resources at this school are adequate to support students with special needs or disabilities.

In what ways can our school create a more dynamic and engaging learning environment that meets the diverse needs and interests of students?

Physical health (4)

This school provides the materials, resources, and training necessary for me to support students' physical health and nutrition.

This school places a priority on making healthy food choices.

This school places a priority on students' health needs.

This school places a priority on students' physical activity.

How can our school promote healthy lifestyles and habits among students, fostering physical well-being both in and out of the classroom?

Mental health (5)

This school provides quality counseling or other services to help students with social or emotional needs.

This school provides the materials, resources, and training necessary for me to support students' social or emotional needs.

This school places a priority on addressing students' mental health needs.

This school places a priority on teaching students strategies to manage their stress levels.

This school places a priority on helping students with their social, emotional, and behavioral problems.

What initiatives can our school implement to support the mental health and emotional resilience of students, creating a positive and supportive school culture?

Discipline (6)

Staff at this school are clearly informed about school policies and procedures.

Staff at this school recognize students for positive behavior.

School rules are applied equally to all students.

Discipline is fair.

This school effectively handles student discipline and behavior problems.

Staff at this school work together to ensure an orderly environment.

How can our school ensure fair and consistent discipline practices that uphold a sense of accountability and respect for all students?

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Family Survey Instruments

Demographic questions
Gender: How do you identify?
What is your ethnicity?

Cultural and linguistic competence (4)
This school provides instructional materials (e.g., textbooks, handouts) that reflect students' cultural background, ethnicity, and identity.
This school communicates how important it is to respect the practices of all cultures.
This school encourages students to take challenging classes no matter their race, ethnicity, nationality, and/or cultural background (e.g., honor level courses, gifted courses, AP or IB courses).
This school communicates how important it is to respect students of all sexual orientations.
In what ways can our school enhance its inclusivity and responsiveness to the cultural and linguistic diversity among students and families?[9]

Relationships (4)
This school helps me figure out what social and emotional skills my child needs to develop (e.g., self-control, problem solving, or getting along with others).
At this school, my child feels he/she belongs.
I feel welcome at this school.
This school encourages me to be an active partner in educating my child.

I feel comfortable talking to someone at this school about my child's behavior.
What steps could be taken to strengthen the bond between students, teachers and family members, fostering a supportive and nurturing learning environment?

School participation (2)
This school has quality programs for my child's talents, gifts, or special needs.
This school promptly responds to my phone calls, messages, or e-mails.
How can our school create more opportunities for family members to actively engage in shaping their children's educational experience and contributing to the school community?

Emotional safety (3)
At this school, the staff really cares about my child.
This school is a friendly place overall.
Staff at this school care about what families think.
What could be done to promote a sense of belonging and emotional well-being for all students?

Physical safety (3)
My child is safe at this school.
Racial/ethnic conflict among students is a problem at this school.
Physical fighting between students is a problem at this school.
What measures can be taken to ensure that students feel safe and secure both on campus and while traveling to and from school?

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[9] These italicized open-ended questions have been added by the ThoughtExchange team for an enriched blend of feedback, as the questions invite reflection on the current state and suggestions for the future state.

Bullying / Cyberbullying (2)

Bullying of students at school or school activities is a problem at this school.

Bullying of students via electronic means or devices is a problem at this school (cyberbullying).

How can our school cultivate a culture of respect and empathy, effectively addressing instances of bullying within the student body?

Substance abuse (4)

At this school, how much of a problem is student drug use? [10]

At this school, how much of a problem is student use of electronic cigarettes?

At this school, how much of a problem is student use of tobacco (e.g., cigarettes, chew, cigars)?

At this school, how much of a problem is student alcohol use?

What steps can be taken to educate students about the risks of substance abuse and provide support for those struggling with addiction?

Emergency readiness (3)

This school notifies parents or guardians effectively in the case of a school-wide emergency.

This school takes effective measures to ensure the safety of students.

This school has made it clear to my child what he/she should do if there is an emergency, natural disaster (tornado, flood) or a dangerous situation (e.g. violent person on campus) during the school day.

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[10] The answer choices for these four questions are: Large problem, Somewhat a problem, Small problem, Not a problem.

How can our school enhance its preparedness and response protocols to ensure the safety of students and staff in the event of emergencies?

Physical environment (2)

This school looks clean and pleasant.

The school building is clean and well maintained.

What improvements can be made to maintain a clean, comfortable, and aesthetically pleasing learning environment for all students?

Instructional environment (5)

Attending school every day is important for my child to do well in his/her classes.

This school has high expectations for students.

This school sees me as a partner in my child's education.

My child's teachers make themselves available to me.

The programs and resources at this school are adequate to support students with special needs or disabilities.

In what ways can our school create a more dynamic and engaging learning environment that meets the diverse needs and interests of students?

Physical health (1)

Students have enough healthy food choices at this school.

How can our school promote healthy lifestyles and habits among students, fostering physical well-being both in and out of the classroom?

Mental health (2)

This school provides high quality services to help students with social or emotional needs.

This school has enough programs that develop students' social and emotional skills (e.g., self-control, problem solving, or getting along with others).

What initiatives can our school implement to support the mental health and emotional resilience of students, creating a positive and supportive school culture?

Discipline (4)

When my child does something good at school, I usually hear about it from the school.

This school communicates school policies and procedures clearly to parents or guardians.

School rules are applied equally to all students.

Discipline is fair.

How can our school ensure fair and consistent discipline practices that uphold a sense of accountability and respect for all students?