

Introduction: this study was to assess the levels of water and sanitation facilities in primary schools of Kisumu and influences on hygiene by pupils. The main objective of the study was to assess the level of water and sanitation facilities in primary schools and effects on hygiene practices by the pupils and the specific objectives were to establish the level of water and sanitation facilities in primary schools of Kisumu, to establish the hygiene practices of pupils in primary schools of Kisumu, and to determine the effect of water and sanitation facilities on the hygiene practices of pupils in primary schools of Kisumu.

Methodology: the study adopted a cross-sectional survey in 20 schools with a sample size of 365 respondents. A structured questionnaire, key informant interviews to assess the level of water and sanitation facilities in primary schools of Kisumu and influences on hygiene by pupils was employed. The data was then analyzed using SPSS computer software and Excel.

Results: The major findings of the study were that 55.9% of the respondents were female while 44.1% were male, of the age range between 11-13 years (61.9%) and of which 49.9% respondents were from primary six and 50.1% from primary seven. 90.9% of the pupils reported that the schools had clean and safe water whose main source was tap water which was pure, clean and safe for domestic consumption for pupils. 76% reported that the school environment was clean, 92.2% reported that boys and girls did not share latrine facilities which were available for use whenever they needed, 90.6% reported that the school had a rubbish pit, 65.8% reported that each class room had a rubbish bin, soak pits and septic tanks were used for disposal of sewage, majority of pupils washed their hands regularly 76%. 145 pupils were found to be in the boarding section of the primary schools involved in the study, majority, 75.9% reported to have access to enough water for bathing and washing clothes. However 50.9% reported that there are times when they fail to get water for hand washing latrine. Privacy at the latrine was high. 32% of the girls reported to have experienced menstruation periods with most of the girls reported to using sanitary pads and used the latrines and dormitories for changing the pads (sanitary towels).

Recommendations: The study recommends that schools' administration should continuously health educate the pupils through health talks with during assemblies and classroom lessons on the importance of maintaining proper sanitation and hygiene practices in the prevention and control of diseases and secure water tanks for water storage. Construction of latrine facilities that are appropriate to the number of pupils within the school, ensure that the doors and walls on the latrines provide adequate privacy to students and schools' management through the senior women should health educate girls on how to handle menstruation periods such that girls need not to miss schools due to menstruation.

Recommendations for further areas of research: The researcher recommends two related studies to be done: levels of sanitation and hygiene in dormitories and staff rooms, secondly a study how poor sanitation and hygiene practices influences pupils performance in schools