Architecture & Children Work Programme
The Impact of School Environment on Children’s Health

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UIA Arch&Ch WP (in brief)

Built Environment Education (BEE) knowledge and Expertise worldwide: charter/guidelines/meetings/ workshops/ conferences webinars/ research and publications/ GCA’s/ Reports

The *Golden Cubes Awards* (GCA’s) were founded to honor people and organizations that help children and young people to understand architecture.

**Four categories:**
- Schools
- Institutions
- Written Media
- Audio-Visual Media
The school outdoor and indoor environment is utterly important for children’s health...

In addition to the need for a school building that is adequately designed for the actual pedagogic purposes, children also need to have a schoolyard big enough for movement, sports and utterly for outdoor education.
Studies and practices reveal that children’s learning capacity is equally dependent on both the physical as well as mental health. This short talk will tackle the issue and showcase three examples from the UIA Architecture and Children WP experiences

• Research,
• Hands-on Practices, and,
• Golden Cubes Awards winners.
PhD. Krizstina Somogyi
Faculty of Architecture
Budapest University of Technology and Economics:

How school children experience the school environment?

Observation of school by students
+
Evaluation of school socio-physical school setting
+
Retrospective narratives

School: A life-long experience for children to understand themselves and the world ...
Example from Egypt, Interactive Schools: School children participate in refurbishment of their schools.

Altering children behavior towards school and education in remote poor areas.

+ Engaging the entire community.

School scale is comprehensible by children for sustainable interventions.
Example from France: Ecole Jean Lurcat:

Students contribute in renovating their school.

A course:
- Design Brief
- Planning/Material/Tools
- Building Full-Scale

A pilot for self-initiative in social housing and less privileged urban settlements.

School: The common ground between community & education system.
Conclusion #1:
Both indoor and outdoor school environments that not only elevate children’s learning capacity, but also promote their physical and mental health.
Conclusion #2: Learning about the built environment starts with the children’s daily experienced school context.
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Thank you ...