

ABSTRACT

Transition from Primary School to Secondary School

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This qualitative study explored the experiences of students during their transition from primary school to secondary school, and sought to understand how they coped with, and responded to, their new experiences. It also attempted to understand how students perceived their experiences during their transition. Data were collected through interviews with three students, as well as through observations. Findings of the study indicated that the transition from primary school to secondary school is generally fraught with fear and uncertainty for most students, but that others often experience positive anticipation about the new experience. Additionally, the level of parental involvement at this stage was deemed crucial to the transition process. Ultimately, the study found that there was an increased need for the Ministry of Education to institute a formal and structured policy for the students' transition.

Keywords: Student adjustment; Primary school students; Student attitudes; Student progress; Trinidad and Tobago