

The experience in my new school

The very first day I stepped into the new school premises, I noticed and believed that the Redemption College has, one way or the other, some similarities with my Junior Secondary School, which was the Najude Pioneer School. And at this point, I have to say that NPS is one of the best schools ever that can't easily be compared with other schools in terms of academic quality, discipline, moral standards, etc.

So the first things I observed about the new school were the convenient environment, classrooms with ceiling fans and windows that allow for cross ventilation. Also, there are good personal sitting positions and labs for both science and art students, although they are not well equipped with apparatus. As a result of the crisis in 2011, the school, along with the laboratories and the chapel, was burnt down completely. But now, new class rooms have been constructed, even better than the previous ones. I feel as if I'm in university because of the white board they are using here. I've never come across one before.

Redemption College doesn't employ undergraduates. Rather they employ qualified and standard teachers who don't dare to try to mess up the school or the students. They teach students academically and morally in the fear of the Lord. I got interested in one of the sub-group activities, which is the gospel group. Discipline is highly valued to the extent that any students coming late are sent back home for that day. The school doesn't tolerate laziness, disobedience, rugged dressings, etc. Every junior must respect the elders and isn't allowed to call the name of any senior directly. Another experience I made is concerning the social interactions. Sometimes, other students are looking down on us, the children of Najude and other students, assuming that because we are villagers, we don't know English very well. But we still maintain the discipline, attentiveness and activeness from our previous school to the extent that even the teachers are surprised and ask where we finished from.

I'm glad because I have come to the city. My English will surely improve due to the people I get in contact with. Speaking vernacular (Hausa) in the school is not allowed, and even if one tries to do it secretly, the other students don't understand it. So now, I've experienced the life in the village and also the life in the city. I'm proud of the new school because some subjects I never knew before are taught, for example fishery, trading, technical drawing, etc.

RAHAB PHILIP, November 2012