

ASSESSMENT OF ACOUSTIC CLIMATE OF I ACADEMIC HIGH SCHOOL IN KIELCE

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ABSTRACT

Noise is defined as any unwanted, unpleasant, annoying or harmful mechanical vibrations of an elastic medium acting through the air on the hearing organ and other senses and elements of the human body (PIP 2017). Noise is considered to be one of the most onerous environmental factors. The severity and harmfulness of noise depend on the characteristics of the noise itself which include: intensity, frequency, duration of operation, and to the recipient, his state of health, age, mental condition and individual sensitivity to sounds. In Poland, 13 million people are exposed to noise (Senate Office 2012). Research conducted among children, adolescents and students since the early 1990s has shown that between 20% and 30% of respondents have hearing problems. In May 2017, noise measurements were carried out at Ith Academic High School in Kielce in order to assess the acoustic climate of the school environment. The noise level was measured in 15 selected points with the use of a sound level meter DLM-101, class I. The results of the research showed that the greatest noise in the school environment was generated by road (65.3 dB) and rail transport (53.2 dB). In the school building, the greatest noise occurred during breaks (73.0 dB), but given that the breaks last only 10–15 minutes, it does not pose a significant threat to the students.

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