

NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Faculty of Information and Communication

Department of Library and Information Science

AN INVESTIGATION OF THE PROVISION OF SERVICES BY MZILIKAZI HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY TO STUDENTS AT THE SCHOOL

BY

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ABSTRACT

The study investigated the provision of services by Mzilikazi High School library to students at the school, specifically looking at the collection, staffing, training and promotion of the library services. The research method used in the study was the survey method. Data was collected through the use of an interview with the school librarian and, a questionnaire that was distributed to 170 students at the school. These students were sampled using the stratified sampling method. The survey found that 87% of the students did not use the school library. The major reason cited for the lack of use of the school library was that the collection was outdated and irrelevant to their studies. The researcher also found that the school did not have a budget that was set aside specifically for the library; that school did not have a professional Librarian and support staff, but was being manned by an English teacher; that there were no activities being done by the school library to promote and publicize its range of resources; and that there was also no indication that students were trained on fundamental library skills. Recommendations were that the Mzilikazi High School should be equipped with a set figure allocated to the library so that the school library would be able to maintain and expand its collections, this way, the library would be able to purchase more resources and provide students with current and relevant collections that were adequate in size to meet the needs of all learners at the school. It was also suggested that the School Development Committee should employ a professional Librarian who would ensure control and continuity rather than relying on teachers who frequently transferred and had other duties to perform.