

# 5 children killed in Niger school toilet building collapse

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By Wole Mosadomi.

Five children were, on Friday, smashed to death when the toilet block of the UK Bello Memorial Primary School, Paiko, Paikoro Local Government Area of Niger State, collapsed on them.

Two of the children died instantly while three others who were rushed to the hospital in Paiko died yesterday.

Our Correspondent reliably gathered that the children had gone to the refuse dump site which was very close to the toilet to scavenge for materials to sell to their customers.

It was learnt that the building had been on the verge of collapse for years and efforts by the Niger state Universal Basic Education Board (NSUBEB) to repair the

building and fence the school had met stiff resistance from the residents.

A resident in the area who wanted anonymity confirmed that the school building was regularly vandalised and had been on the verge of collapse for the past years.

According to him, "if you go to the school, no classroom has a door or window because they have been vandalised making it porous for hoodlums to have access to", he said.

"The toilet block is outside the school building and there is a refuse dump very close to the toilet where children usually go to dig up for things they can sell. It was in the process of that the block which was on the verge of collapsing eventually collapsed on them," he narrated.