

TATTINGSTONE SCHOOL
1841 – 1991

**150 YEARS OF EDUCATION
AND STILL MOVING FORWARD**



Introduction

The purpose of this brochure is to explain the proposed improvements we would like to make to our school in the year which celebrates our 150th Anniversary.

We are seeking help in these improvements in order that our children can benefit as soon as possible from them and so that we can go on providing education of high standards and relevance into the 1990's.

May I take this opportunity in thanking the Governors and P.T.A. of the school for their support and encouragement of these proposals and to you for taking the time to read this brochure.

We very much hope that you will consider helping us in achieving our aims.



Duncan Allen

HEADTEACHER

The History of the School

Tattingstone school was built in 1841 at a cost of £205.11.0 at the expense of the Rev. C.B. Elliot the Rector of Tattingstone and this same building, with a few additions made at the turn of the century, is the one that we use today.

Built in brick and pebble with slate roof and two interesting hexagonal chimneys, both false, the school is a central part of the village both in visual and practical terms.

From its earliest days the building has been a problem to the staff and children working within it. In 1896 it was reported that the lack of light in the classrooms was making drawing and needlework impossible and that these lessons were to be held in the mornings 'till the days get lighter.'

The school logbook also details a series of events starting on 25th January 1906.

'The rain came through the roof of the Infant Room.'



8th February. 'A terrible snowstorm, with thunder and lightning came on in the afternoon. The walls of the Infant Room were swamped with water.'

1st March. 'A board in the centre of the floor has given way and the hole causes considerable worry and anxiety.'

Neither is self-help a new thing for the school for in 1897 the log book reads: 'The Master gave the second of his lantern lectures on Friday evening — the proceeds of the lectures were handed over to the Treasurer of the school in aid of the proposed new windows.'

The windows are still there and in many ways the lantern shows continue through the work of the P.T.A. but the costings for today's improvements are out of reach of our parents' means.

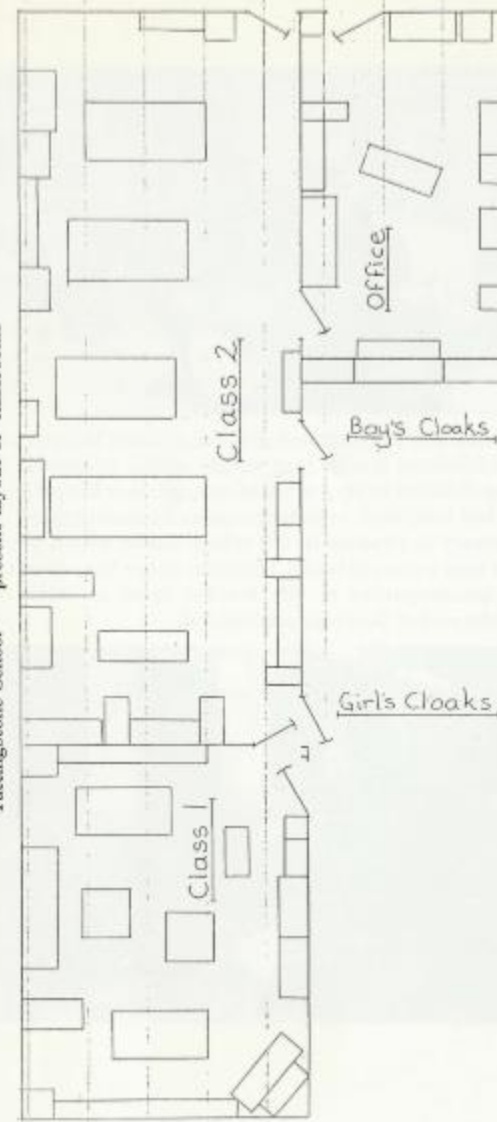
Our problems

Education today makes great demands on space and resources. Our school at Tattingstone is a delightful building of flint pebble and soft red brick. It is set in gardens which are well established with shrubs, trees and a large pond, all of which offer a secure and happy environment in which to work. We place great emphasis on the family atmosphere within the school, believing it to be the sort of environment in which children learn effectively and well.

The internal layout of the building although adequate in the past poses great problems for the staff and children in meeting the needs of modern education.



Tattingstone School — present layout of classrooms





The rooms are tall and dark and echo badly. The size of our smaller classroom is such that we are unable to provide room for young children to play, work at computers or have the space to carry out long term investigations and constructions.

Our library is situated in the school house which does not allow for easy access to books. Children either have to go to the house unaccompanied or the teacher must go with them, leaving the rest of the class unattended.



Ideally our library needs to be within the working area of the main school building. The same can be said for activities such as cooking or baking. What we need is space in school to provide a Home Economics area.

We would also like to see carpeted space provided for a story corner and home play area, as well as vinyl floor covered areas for work in science and maths involving sand and water.

How can we solve our problems?

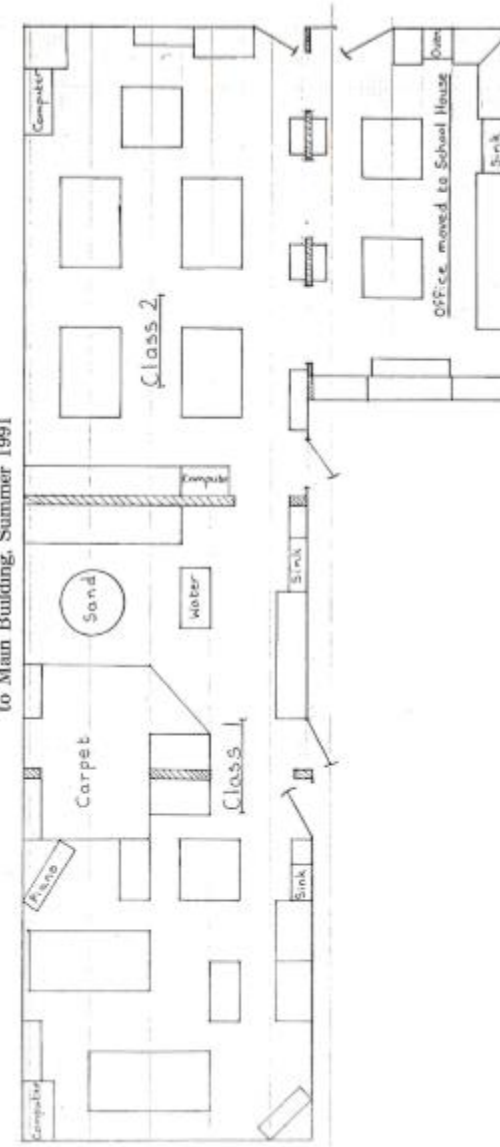
The idea of changing the external appearance of the school does not appeal to us: It would be expensive and would spoil an historic building in the centre of the village.

By using the space we have more effectively we feel it would be possible to provide all we need for the children in our care.

The environment created would be light and spacious, secure and pleasant; retaining the close family unit we feel so important. At the same time the educational opportunities would be greatly improved. New areas for a Library, Home Economics area, story corner, free play and investigational work would be created and the office, at present within the school, would be moved to the school house allowing more privacy for both staff and parents.



Tattlingstone School — Proposed Alterations
to Main Building, Summer 1991



Our ideas would involve taking down two existing walls and building a new wall to re-divide the two classrooms. In terms of structural alteration this would not be a major undertaking. Re-equipping the classrooms with modern units, tables and chairs would also be necessary, if we are to create the aesthetically pleasing working environment we feel so important.



The Education Authority are considering funding the structural alterations necessary within the building as well as re-equipping the classrooms with essential furniture such as tables, chairs and storage units. What we would like to do is to provide extra storage space and items of equipment over and above the essentials.

This equipment would centre upon the following areas of the curriculum. The Arts, Technology, Science and Communication Skills. Within these areas we are looking to provide the following equipment.

A home economics area within the school including work surfaces and cupboard space

Science and technology equipment such as good quality microscopes and constructional kits.

A video camera and high quality tape recorder.

A 35mm camera suitable for close up work.

Reference books and shelving for our library.

The purchase and installation of a kiln.

Large construction toys for our younger children.

Display blocks and screens to allow our work to be displayed to its best advantage.

Computer equipment such as a colour printer to complement the hardware already in use.

Suitable storage units to allow for our equipment to be kept safely and tidily yet be readily available to the children.



The purchase of this equipment would allow us to build upon the activities and events already initiated within the school through the hard work of staff, parents and children. These include professional writers working alongside the children; an artist in residence scheme and a technology week being planned with other local schools and set to take place early in the new year.

We would be most grateful if you might consider helping us either by direct sponsorship or by providing us with some of the equipment we need. By doing so you would be enabling the children within our care the opportunity to experience the wide, balanced and stimulating curriculum which is so important when they come to take their place in the adult world.

