

THE FROEBEL DEMONSTRATION SCHOOL IBSTOCK PLACE, ROEHAMPTON

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The Incorporated Froebel Educational Institute Grove House, Roehampton Lane, S.W.15

The future of Ibstock Place School

The time has now come when quick, decisive steps must be taken to relieve the pressure on space and to make improvements, which, if left to the slow progress of normal finance, would come too late.

Many improvements have been made to the existing Kindergarten and Nursery building, known as Grove House School, but the present structure limits further adaptation. We need a completely new building all on one floor with easy access to the grounds, with larger class-rooms, adequate and well designed storage facilities, cloak-rooms suitable for very small children and dining and rest space. At Ibstock Place the wartime hut which has for too long served as a dining room is inadequate and over-crowded and is long over-due for demolition. It is proposed to build an entirely new dining-hall and to modernise the kitchen premises, thus freeing some rooms for adaptation into group study rooms.

If Ibstock Place is to maintain its position in the forefront of educational thought and practice, then this additional expenditure must be incurred.

However, resources of non-profit making schools such as ours are not sufficient to meet rising costs and to carry out essential modernisation. In the case of State schools larger grants from the Government and the Local Authority overcome this problem but if independent schools, such as Ibstock Place, are to survive they cannot avoid greater expenditure; they have no State aid, so where and how can they find the necessary funds?

We have no endowments. We have kept the fees down below those of many comparable schools. We regret being forced to appeal at all but we can see no practical alternative. PLEASE HELP US.



The wartime hut used as a dining-room is long over-due for demolition

Twenty-one years at Ibstock Place

The demonstration School of the Froebel Educational Institute was established in Colet Gardens, W.14., in 1894. It was a co-educational school, and was later recognised by the Board of Education as a Preparatory school and equipped to teach children up to the age of 14. The School was evacuated to Little Gaddesden, Hertfordshire in 1940.

Twenty-one years ago the School returned to London and was re-opened on October 1st, 1946 at Ibstock Place, with 48 boarders and 112 day pupils aged 3 to 12 years.



We need a completely new Kindergarten and Nursery, of modern design

Today, twenty-one years later the number has grown to 250 boys and girls aged $3\frac{1}{2}$ to 14, with a full-time teaching staff of fourteen.

During the past twenty-one years every effort has been made to meet the requirements of the growing population of the School, out of the available financial resources. New cloak-rooms were built at Ibstock Place in 1951 at a cost of £9,414. New class-rooms added in 1954 costing £8,181 and in 1964 a new gymnasium was constructed at a cost of £12,422. These additions were all financed through generous gifts and accumulated savings over many years. We have done all we can to help ourselves but without your generosity our new plans cannot go forward.

To understand and to appreciate

In order to appreciate the special qualities of Ibstock Place School it is necessary to understand something of our philosophy and its application.

Ibstock Place is not just another private school. It sets itself the task of forming an educational spearhead and its influence, through countless children, students and teachers, spreads far beyond the independent sector. Every child in every Primary school owes something to Froebel, that great educator and founder of the Kindergarten who was the inspiration behind those who formed the Froebel Educational Institute. His remarkable insight into child development led others to probe more deeply into the natural ways in which children think, learn and behave, and the Froebel movement in this country is largely responsible for enlightened educational outlook both here and overseas.

A progressive school is one which is at all times seeking to assimilate and apply new knowledge about children. Work of this kind cannot stand still. We must constantly be researching into new ideas, new methods, new equipment and, with the eyes of the educational world upon us, we must have premises which provide more scope and opportunity for further development.

The need is so urgent that, in the confident hope that the money will be forthcoming, it is planned to commence work on the new buildings in September 1967.



Part of the new gymnasium, constructed and equipped in 1964 at a cost of £12,422



The Froebel Demonstration School, Ibstock Place

. . . . The future?

