

## Malbar School

India's independence day is always a memorable one every year. This year something made it just that much more memorable.

On this auspicious day, we came by a small tribal village named Malbar Town in Jambugoda, approximately an hour and a half's drive from Vadodra, Gujarat. Intrigued by the area, we drove a little further in and came across a small school, Malbar Primary School, where we saw a few kids playing in the front yard of the school.

The approach to the village is through the forest, on a road that barely looks like it ever existed. Visitors are far and few. In a way it was nice, the beauty of the morning, the sounds of god's creatures, and a few families hidden away. The village has a population of 478 including 20 children from 0-3, 60 children from 4-12 and 10 children from 13-16.

Along with the beauty of the land, there are also great problems. With the forest being so rocky, cultivating the land to grow crops is proving very difficult, thus causing poverty on a high scale. To make matters worse, generations have gone by without educating their children on the importance of health and hygiene and the value of a good upbringing.

Please see picture below where little girl chew a rusty metal railing.



Although the school has a little funding from the government, it is minimal. The support for education is so low, that the funding makes little difference. The school is in very poor condition and with structural defects. It has no toilets for the students, and when we say school, what we actually mean is one room size 17ft x 15ft where 60 students are taught from ages 3 to 12 and a second room which is deemed to be a nursery for 20 kids.

Currently there are 2 female teachers and 1 male teacher, but they are not qualified at all. They are only in this position as they are deemed to be the cleverest in the village. A kind gesture yes, but their teaching methods are sub-standard.

This is no foundation for the next generation. To put this into context, a 12-18 year old sitting a UK primary school test would fail.

There is no teaching available for kids older than 12 as no-one knows how or what to teach. The nearest high school is approximately 40km away and even that has been closed by the government, as there was little attendance, hardly surprising given that there is no means of transport available for the kids to travel.

Please see pictures below:



The state of these kids' health is the most worrying. They regularly go a day or two without even a morsel. When their parents do have food for them, it is comprised of rotli made with really cheap wheat flour, onion and a little water. They cannot afford milk for their kids and even the most staple food of rice. They have never even had a basic curry, something that is available to us on a daily basis.

Clothes? There is no need to wonder what to wear as most live in the one pair of clothes that they have for days on end. They wash their one pair of clothes now and again in the morning and when it has dried, they put it straight back on. They don't have shoes, so most spend their days walking around the rocky forest in bare feet in the heat of the summer and the chill of the winter. Medical supplies are also so limited from the government. Not really much of a life is it? Especially when you live in a house made of cow dung and straw.

Please see picture below:



Poverty is not something that these children have chosen; they have been born into it.

See picture below:



Medical supplies are expensive and rarely available.

One little child, just 3 years old had been suffering from a fever for a few days and due to the lack of medical supplies, his parents were unable to give him any medicine to speed up his recovery.

See picture below of this 3 year old child.



Education and Local School building:



**Building:**

The school is in need of urgent repairs. There is potential to build two more rooms for the school and to also make current classroom bigger so that the 60 students have a little more space to study. Of the two additional rooms, one could be for kids aged 12 + who have nowhere to study, and the second could be turned into a kitchen.

One must have is a toilet for both the boys and girls.

**Outdoors Space:**

There is space to create a play area with swings, slides and a merry-go-round. There is also the potential to have some sports equipment.

**Education:**

Currently there are three non-qualified teachers who teach Gujrati, Math's, English and Science. As already mentioned the teaching is so sub standard that no child would pass any sort of exam. There is a need therefore for one professional teacher to teach the village teachers current teaching practices. Once the school has been restructured, the school will need to employ another teacher to teach those students age 12 years +

**After School Hours:**

Kids go out and play in the forest, as there are no other facilities available. Their close pets are dogs and snakes. The kids are still clever enough to know which snakes are poisonous, and not to play with them.

**Farming:**

Farming is very limited and seasonal, therefore not all kids attend school during unseasonal farming time as some families move to other towns to earn money and take their kids with them. Obviously this is a very unsettling way of life for the kids. This also adds to the inconsistency in their education. I strongly believe that there should be provision for a small guest-house to accommodate approx 15 children.

A child named Satish, age 10 lost his father recently. Due to the depth of poverty that they were in, the boy's mother abandoned Satish and he is now being looked after by his uncle, who already has two children of his own and cant even afford to raise them.

Please see picture below:



**We donated floor mats for the kids so that in the cold months of winter, it would provide a little protection from the cold tiled floors.**

**After giving them some lunch, one of our family member, Shanil, kindly donated school bags to the kids which included a clip board with a note pad and pencil.**

Objectives:

In order to ensure that all kids attend school every day, we need to offer the following incentives:

- **Proper daily lunch**
- **Milk**
- **2 x sets of uniform**
- **Footwear**
- **Sports Activities and equipment's**

- **Hot water supply**
- **Better school building and build 2 x extra rooms, toilet facilities for boys and girls, kitchen, and extend the current classroom**
- **2 x professional teachers**

One of those teachers to report to us so that our services are not abused and also for them to report to us on a weekly basis with progress reports.

To also hold meetings every Sunday with parents to give them progress reports and make them realize that there is a chance of a brighter future for their children too,

To teach parents to behave like parents and take on a more proactive role in their kids' lives through socializing and spending more time with their kids.

Approximate yearly costs for the above:

2 x Sets of uniforms for 70 children @ Rs200 per uniform = Rs28,000.00 = £400 in sterling (current exchange rate £1.00 will by Rs70.00)

70 x foot wear @ Rs50.00 each = Rs3500.00 = £50.00 x by three times a year = Rs10,500.00 = £150.00

2 x Professional teachers @ Rs5000,00 each = Rs10,000.00 per months (£143.00) yearly Rs120,000.00 (£1716.00)

	Per Week		Per Month		Per Year	
	Rs	£	Rs	£	Rs	£
Basic food per day for age 4 to 12 years x 60 @ Rs20.00 per child	7200.00	103.00	31,200.00	446.00	374,400.00	5350.00
Basic food per day for age 12 to 16 years x 10 @ Rs20.00 per child	1200.00	17.20	5,200.00	74.50	62,400.00	891.50
Basic food per day for age 0 to 4 years x 20 @ Rs10.00 per child	2400.00	34.40	10,400.00	149.00	124,800.00	1783.00
Milk for all kids: 8 Liters per day @ Rs22.00 per liter	1056.00	15.00	4,576.00	65.50	54,912.00	784.50

Re build school as follows:

3 x teaching rooms

1 x bigger nursery room

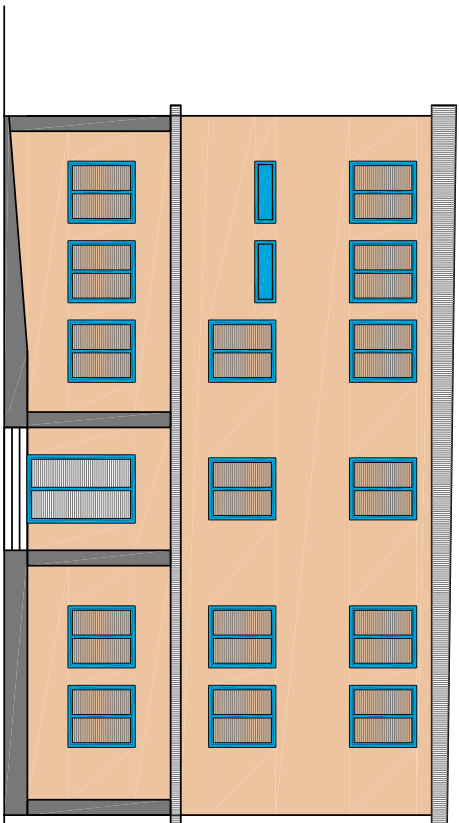
1 x kitchen

1 x toilet facilities for boys

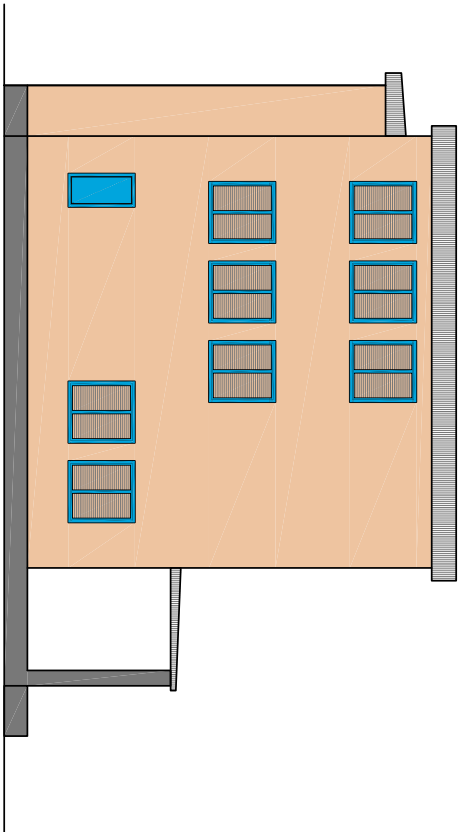
1 x toilet facilities for girls

Approximate Rs4000000.00 = £57,000.00

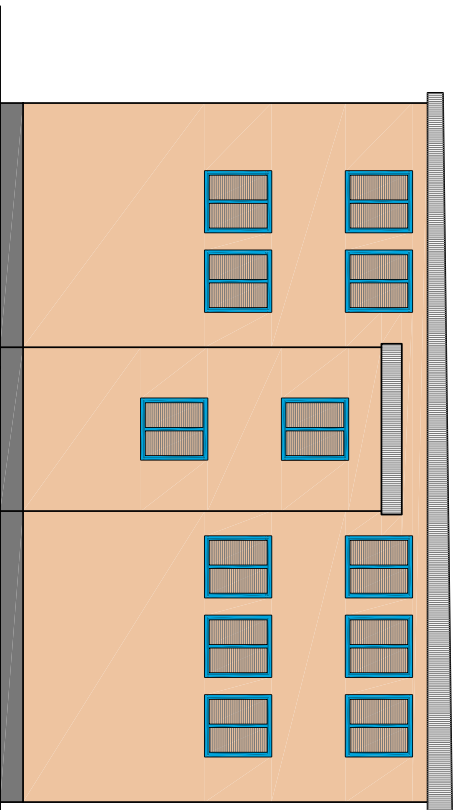
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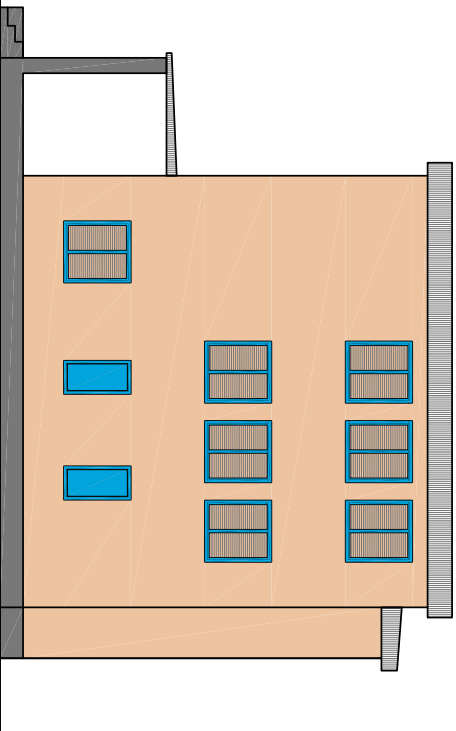
FRONT ELEVATION



SIDE ELEVATION



RAER ELEVATION



SIDE ELEVATION

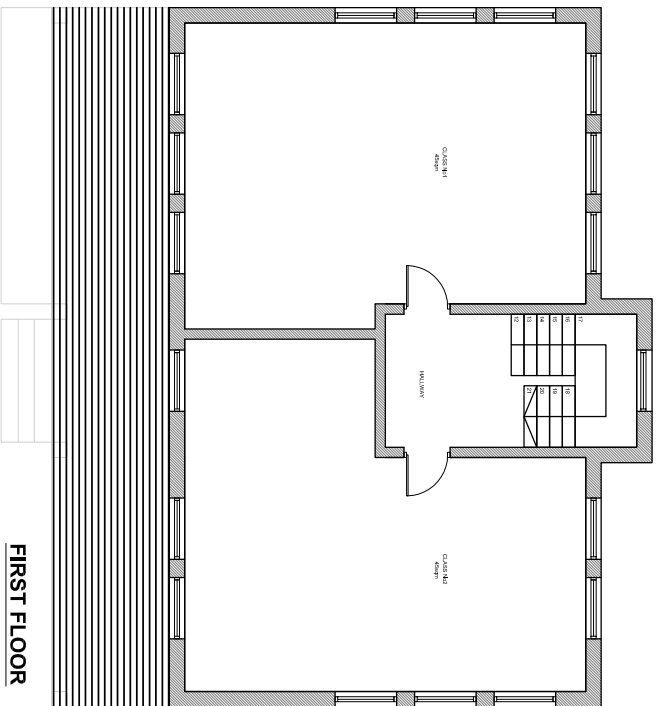
NO.	REVISION	DATE	BY	CHKD.
1				

**bell:buttrum**  
CONSULTING ENGINEERS

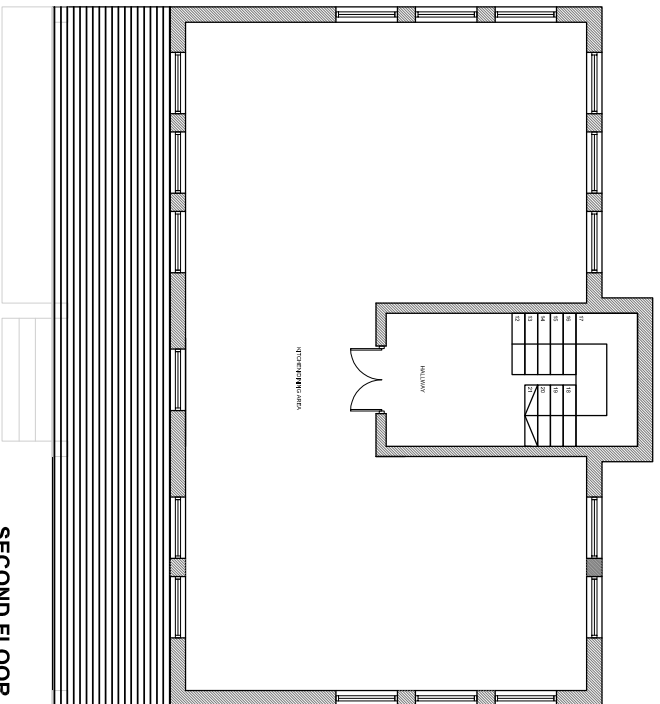
PROPOSED ELEVATIONS

DATE	3
SCALE	1

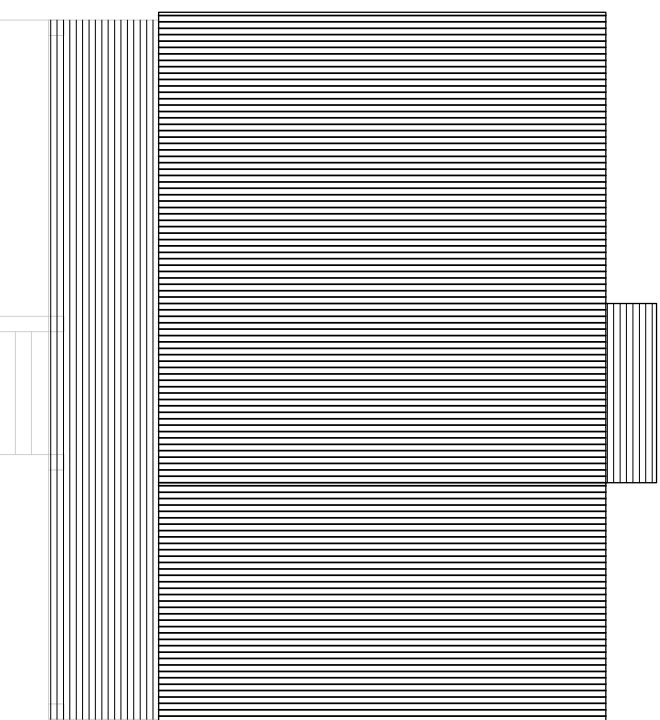




**FIRST FLOOR**



**SECOND FLOOR**

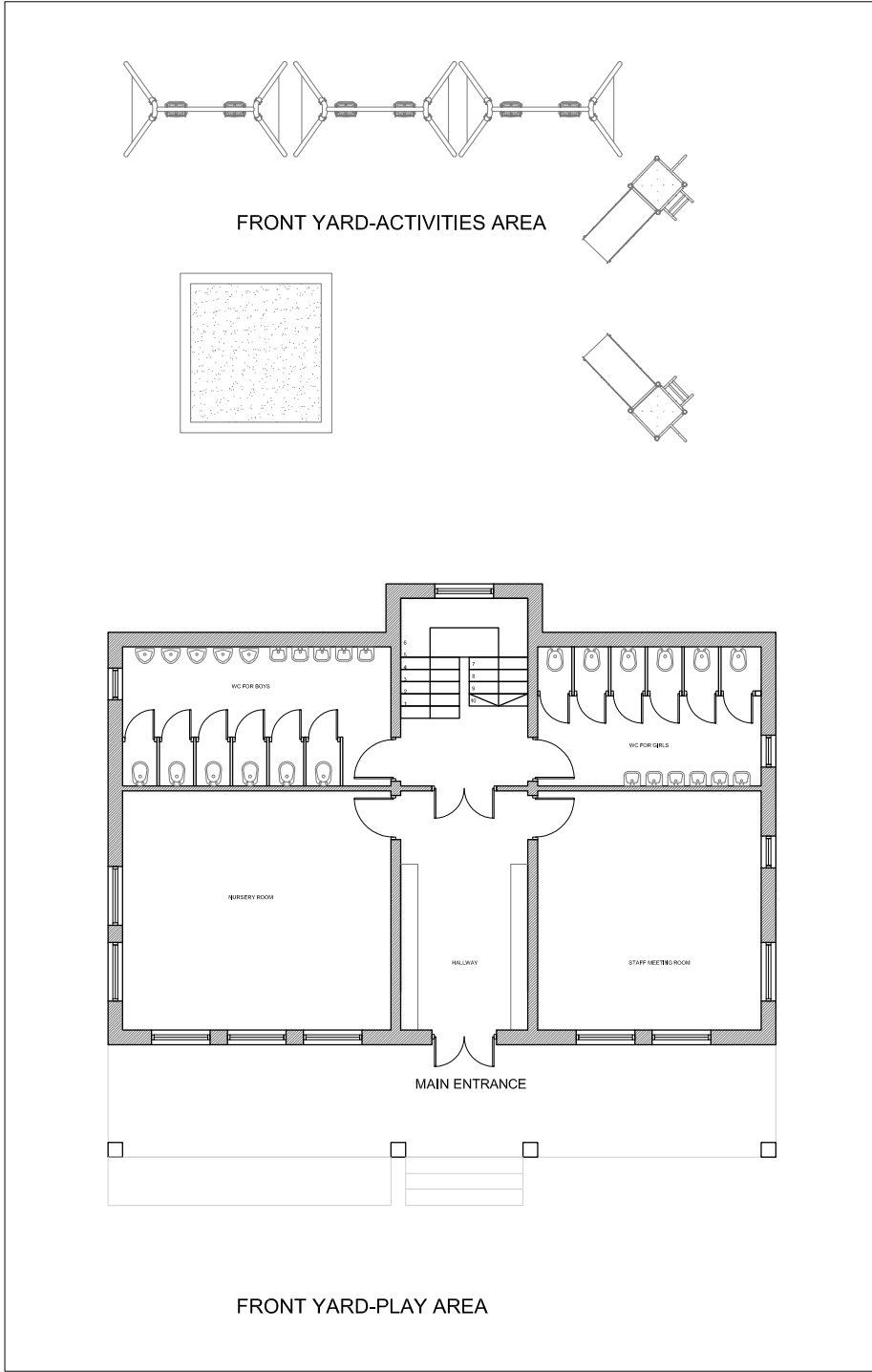


**ROOF PLAN**

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 CONSULTING ENGINEERS

NO.	REV.	DATE	BY	CHKD.	APP.
1					
2					

SHEET NO. 1  
 OF 1



NO.	1	DATE	10/10/2018
BY	ARCHITECT	DATE	10/10/2018
BY	ENGINEER	DATE	10/10/2018
BY	1	DATE	10/10/2018

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CONSULTING ENGINEERS

Project Name: [REDACTED]  
Client: [REDACTED]  
Address: [REDACTED]  
Scale: 1:100

DATE: 10/10/2018

THE GROUND FLOOR PLAN