



HORRIS HILL SCHOOL
Play Your Part



Message from the Headmaster



Horris Hill has been the setting the standard for excellence in boys' prep school education for over 130 years. We have a well deserved reputation for the amazing ethos of the school, the whole school community that allows every boy to grow, and be challenged, but in a supportive environment.

The sense of stepping forward, playing your part, alongside your peers is central to our work here, particularly as the boys are at such a crucial stage in their personal development.

At the heart of this sense of community is the way in which we come together often, as a school. Everyday we sing together in chapel, eat our meals, play sport and we are well resourced for this. However, we have no dedicated theatre and lecture space. Creating this space is something I am passionate about.

We know that children and young adults who are accustomed to standing in front of an audience develop empathy, inner strength and self confidence which last a lifetime. Our current place to practise those skills is the

Music school which is too small to fit us all in and lacks a stage, or the stage in the sports hall where the acoustics are notoriously poor and the lack of banked seating makes it difficult for the audience to see; hardly worthy of all the boys' efforts. We want to make the sports hall exclusively for sport: without the stage not only will it grow substantially to fill the space but will allow for fresh ideas and no more will it be out of bounds in the evening while rehearsals are going on.

In addition, as a fee-paying school situated since 1888 in the parish of Newtown, near the market town of Newbury, we take our broader, social responsibilities very seriously and wish to extend the benefits which a theatre will bring to the local community. You will find more information on this later in the booklet.

We hope that on reading this booklet, speaking with me, Molly, David, Governors, Foundation Members, staff, fellow parents and Old Boys, you will see the excitement, momentum and potential of this project to transform lives. The vision of Jonathan Tuckey, the architect, and his team and our commitment to realise it is complete but to do so we need your help.

Giles Tollit
Headmaster

The Design

The school is comprised mostly of red brick buildings with a Victorian flavour. We believe that the new theatre will provide the opportunity to use more modern materials thus bringing a contemporary flavour to the school. Carefully balancing old and new, the modern theatre structure will sit sympathetically alongside the original features. Horris Hill has never been and will never be a “flashy” school. The design of the building is designed to reflect this ethos.

We will replace the existing single storey DT Block with a new theatre built from engineered timber and which would be naturally ventilated. Its position on the Greenhill Courtyard offers an opportunity to create a specific “civic square” for social occasions. The new building will change the spaces around it, creating new pockets of activity and journeys around the whole school campus.

The strong links between theatricality, citizenship and civic architecture prompt a design approach which treats the theatre building as a key protagonist in the ongoing rejuvenation of the school grounds as well as the school’s tradition of theatrical performance and debating.



Fig 1

- FIG 1** Site Plan.
- FIG 2** View Looking East over Greenhill.
- FIG 3** Internal view.
- FIG 4** View of Civic square on approach to the New Theatre.
- FIG 5** View of East Facade of Theatre through trees.
- FIG 6** View from Playing Fields of Southern Facade (Outdoor Stage).
- FIG 7** ‘Detailed View’ of Portico and Entrance from Greenhill Courtyard.



Fig 2



Fig 3



Fig 4



Fig 5



Fig 6



Fig 7

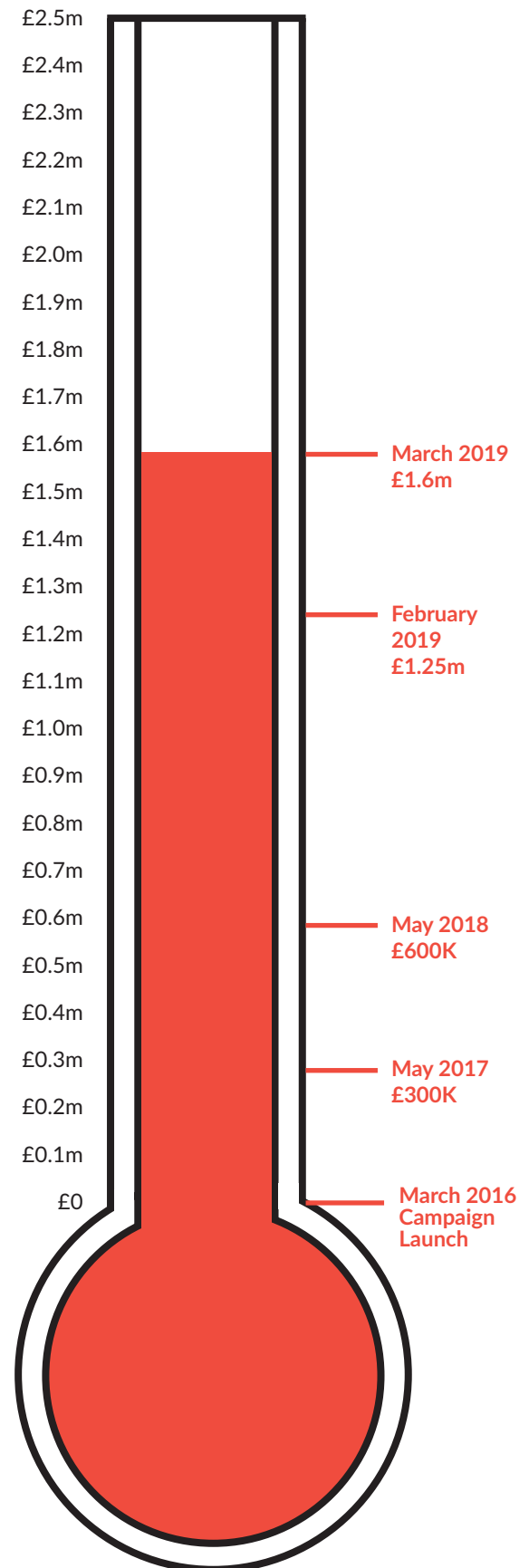
The Appeal

Our full campaign target is £2.5million.

We are very grateful to those of you who have already donated to this project. Through your generosity we have so far raised £1.6 million; this project has support and momentum; the final target is in our sights.

The Governors fully appreciate that £2.5 million is a significant sum for a school of our size, but relative to similar or even more simple building projects at others schools, it is a comparable number. We are confident that if this target is reached we will get this building for that amount with this design for 2020.

I hope therefore you share in our renewed hope if we all pull together that this building and all it offers the boys of today and tomorrow and the wider community is achievable.



How Can You “Play Your Part?”

Every donation, whatever its size, moves us closer to getting the spade in the ground and is much appreciated. All donors will be recorded on the plaque in the Foyer as a token of our appreciation and invited to the opening ceremony.

There are various tiers of donations:

£5,000 **‘Play your Part’**

As thanks for ‘playing your part’ the name of your son / the OB and his years at Horris will be recorded on one of the 168 wooden panels inside the auditorium as shown in the photograph.

Donations from £7,500 and up to £25,000 will be offered a bench in the auditorium to name.

£7,500 **Small Bench**

£10000 **Medium Bench**

£15000 **Large Bench**

(See overleaf for details)

Donors above £25,000 are greatly appreciated and will join our Silver Benefactors; their contribution will be celebrated separately.

Donations above £50,000 will join our Gold Benefactors; their contribution will be celebrated separately and the following additional naming opportunities are available:

£50,000 **Portico**

£50,000 **Cloister**

£75,000 **The Tech Box - lighting and sound**

£100,000 **Open-air stage (sole opportunity or x2 donations of £50K)**

£100,000 **Civic Square (sole opportunity or x 2 donations of £50K)**

£150,000 **Foyer**

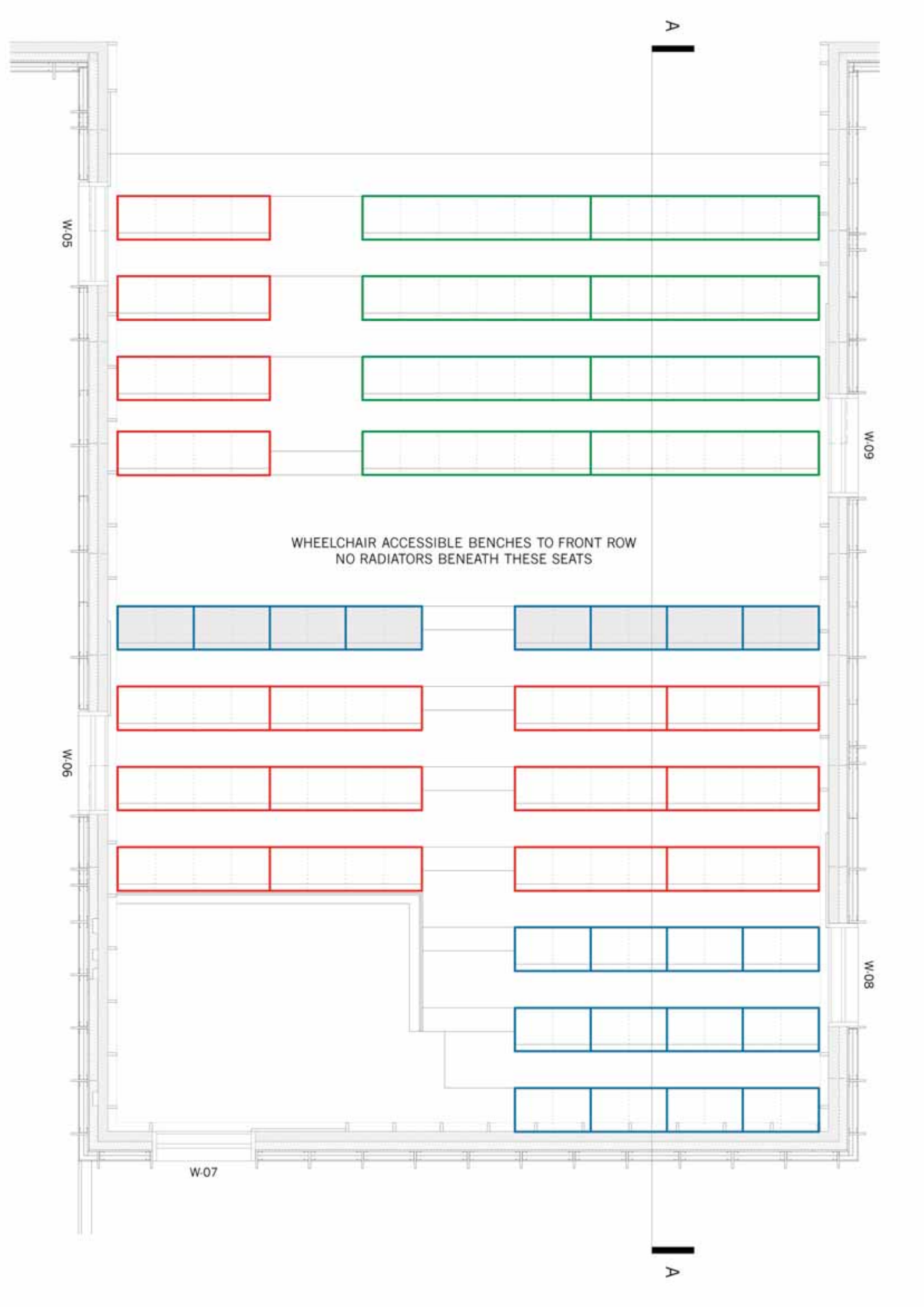
£250,000 **Stage**

£250,000 **Auditorium**

Donations may be spread over two tax years ie 2019 and 2020, so the cost to a 40% tax payer to reach the higher gift levels will be much reduced. We have established tax efficient ways for those based in Hong Kong and the US to donate; please contact Molly directly for details. While lump sum donations are preferred, paying instalments over up to the next six months are also very welcome. If you are a UK tax payer we will receive an additional 25% of any amount you donate.

e.g. for Parents of Leavers:

£800 per month February through to June and then leaving your deposit of £1000 or alternatively £572 per month from February through to August and then leaving your deposit of £1000 would both come to the £5,000 ‘Play your part’ amount before your son leaves Horris Hill.



Name a Bench



A new theatre affords us the opportunity to record donations within the fabric of the building.

Naming a bench offers a significant, limited opportunity to have your son's, family's or loved one's connection with the school recorded in perpetuity. It is particularly lovely to see a number of multi-generational families coming together to support in this way and to see a number of families gifting their sons a proud moment of reflection in years to come.

There are limited opportunities to do so; there are just twenty small benches (£7,500), sixteen medium benches (£10,000) and eight large benches (£15,000) available.

Sponsored Seating Types



Small- 2 seats

Total Available -20 (40 seats)



Medium- 4 seats

Total Available -16 (64 seats)



Large- 6 seats

Total Available -8 (48 seats)



Donation Form

Name

Relationship to the School (*current parent / OB years if known*)

Address

.....

Email Telephone.....

I would like to donate: £5,000* £7,500 £10,000 £15,000 £25,000

£50,000 £100,000 £150,000 £250,000

Other:

**Donations for less than this are still very welcome.*

Method of Payment *(please tick)*

I have enclosed a cheque payable to Horris Hill School

I wish to pay by instalments, please contact me with further details

I have made an electronic credit/debit card payment via the Good Exchange
(<https://app.thegoodexchange.com/project/11832/horris-hill-school/horris-hill-theatre-project>)

I have made an electronic bank transfer using the details below:

Account name: Horris Hill School

Account Number: 73280135 Sort Code: 55-81-26

Reference: Theatre – your initial and surname

Through Gift Aid tax relief, Horris Hill School will receive an additional 25% of anything you donate, at no extra cost to you. Please allow us to do this by ticking the box below and signing the declaration.

Gift Aid Declaration

I want to Gift Aid my donation of £..... and any donations I make in the future or have made in the past four years to Horris Hill School. I am a UK taxpayer and understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations in that tax year it is my responsibility to pay any difference.

Signature:

Date:

THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATION

Please return this form to Molly Tollit, Director of Development, Horris Hill, Newtown, Newbury, Berks RG20 9DJ
Molly_Tollit@horrishill.com

The Community

Horris Hill has sat in the parish of Newtown Common for over 130 years and we are ever conscious of the privilege and responsibility that comes with that.

In recent years we have opened up the school and its facilities to a wide variety of local groups. Activities include hosting the Bridge club, giving rehearsal space for the choir of the Greenham Common production of 'One Hundred Years of War and Peace' and collaborating with the Parish council to celebrate its 800th year anniversary. Over 600 people attended that event and Newbury's Rock Choir performed and many local businesses manned stalls.

As a boarding school the security of our site for our boys is paramount and so availability has been focused in the school holidays and then only in two specific areas of the school. We are keen to expand our offering, but have found ourselves restricted. However the new theatre space would be a stand-alone facility which would be much more available and conducive to offering to a broader community audience. A theatre manager will be appointed to run it whose key focus would be to ensure outreach to the local community and to develop the theatre's use in line with what would best serve the local environment. This would ensure much greater access for the community and theatre groups in its use.

Horris Hill boys would benefit from seeing others' productions engaging in collaboration with broader performing groups. Interakt, a charity which provides drama, art and performance workshops for disabled adults has already indicated that they would be eager users of the new theatre space.

This model of providing a resource for the community as well as that of the school is common throughout the independent school sector and is one which we heartily endorse.

The Theatre has been designed to make it the ideal space to meet the needs of the school and the wider community.





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