

Be a part of history...



...invest now in the future of this school

Thank You



Thank you for your interest in Vision 312, our bold initiative to prepare Archbishop Tenison's School for future generations.

We have inherited this school from those who went before us: their endeavour, their faith, their courage have brought us this far. It is now our task in turn to pass on the school in good heart and in good shape to the next generation.

As we approach the next academic year, we will reach a new milestone in our pupil and student numbers, surpassing 800 for the first time. We want to be prepared to succeed rather than to fail in fulfilling our vision for a greater number of pupils.

We are engaging in a special one-year fund-raising campaign, so that we can offer pupils and students better opportunities in the future. Good teaching needs to be accompanied by adequate facilities. Good learning is much helped by proper resources. A good schooling is much better if it comes with the appropriate equipment for the task.

This booklet explains not just the resources we seek, but the difference we want those resources to make.

Thank you for helping us achieve our vision.

Richard Parrish
Headteacher

Archbishop Tenison's

We are inspired by what Thomas Tenison himself did. Carpenter's biography of Tenison (SPCK, London, 1948) records that *"Tenison's devotion to matters educational was no passing enthusiasm. ...as late as 1713 he was occupied in establishing another charity school in Croydon. The premises ...were an adapted stable ...and the school, situated in the north end of Croydon and designed for the education of ten poor boys and the same number of girls, was opened on 25 March 1714."*

This devotion was expressed also in the practical arrangements he made: *"For its endowment he purchases a farm at Limpsfield in Surrey, valued at £42 a year, and he bequeathed to the school £400 to be laid out in land for the enlargement of the charity. The revenues from these sources increased in the nineteenth century, and as the old schoolhouse was no longer adequate, a new building was erected in 1892 on a space*

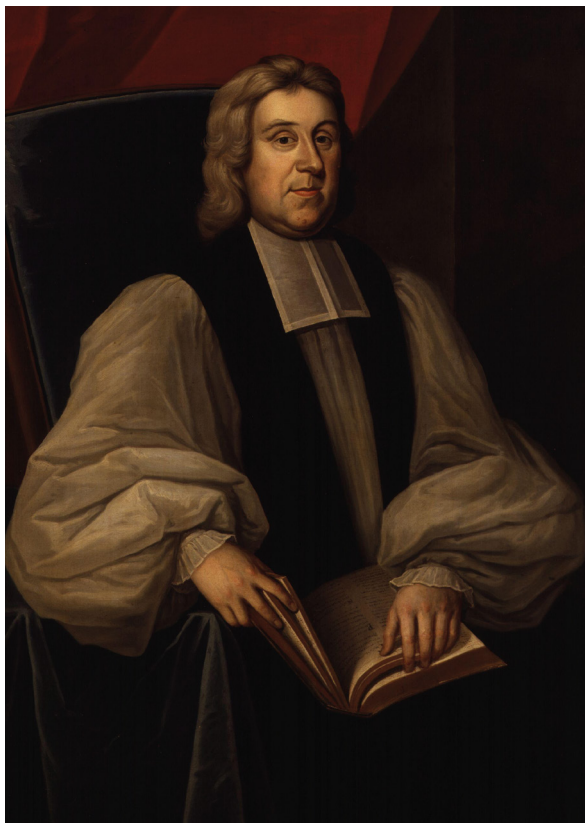
adjoining the old house, which was then let by the trustees. New premises were again built in 1928."

What Carpenter did not know in 1948, was that the school would move to a third location in Selborne Road in 1959, our current building. Over the next year we want to make provision for the school at this new point in its history.

This booklet seeks to share with you the vision we have for this growing and continuing contribution to the education of young people in Croydon.



Thomas Tenison's last school



Archbishop Thomas Tenison had an amazing educational vision for his time. This school was the last he founded. It was the first mixed school, reflecting his commitment to girls' education, unusual at that time. It was also the only school he founded in Croydon. It is his last remaining school. Vision 312 is part of our commitment to pass this school on in good shape to the next generation of pupils, teachers and parents.

Croydon's only Church of England High School

A Church of England secondary education is something special. Archbishop Tenison's commitment was to offer ten poor boys and ten poor girls a strong academic education in a secure Christian context which they could not have had otherwise. That remains our vision for the young people of Croydon today.



Croydon is London's largest Borough. In 1959 the school moved to its current location in Selborne Road, close to East Croydon station, in the centre of the Borough. It serves pupils and families from the whole of Croydon.

Croydon is a Borough in need of greater investment. To invest in this school is also to invest in the future of young people from this Borough and to give them something distinctive they would not have otherwise.

A Christian learning community

We learn best when we learn together. In this school our vision is that each part does its work. That's why we work so hard at the pastoral care of pupils from the moment they join the school in Year 7 or Year 12. That's why we have invested over the years in Pupil Welfare and strong links with home, Pupil Support - for those who find school hard; Teaching Support - for staff; Curriculum Support - for those with gaps in their understanding; Learning Support - for pupils with Special Educational Needs. Alongside this our Chaplaincy Team offers relational, practical and spiritual help.

Contrary to what many people imagine, learning is not just something which we do individually. A school community also learns. A year group learns. A class learns. Teachers learn how to teach better. Governors learn how to oversee the school better. Parents and families learn about education as their children go through

the school. Most importantly, we learn from each other, and sometimes this is not easy.

People often say about this school is that it is a genuine community. This comes from its Christian foundation and is another reason why it is important that we are here.



Educating the whole person

Church schools the world over believe education to be holistic. Our definition of what it means to be human is drawn from the two great commandments of Jesus – to love the Lord our God with all our heart, soul, mind and strength, and to love our neighbour as ourselves.



To invest in this school is to invest in human decision-making, in human longing to learn something of value, in human thought, in human endeavour, and in human society. These are the things which matter to us.

Our aim for the pupils and students who leave this school is for them to become intelligent, compassionate, enterprising, public-spirited and reliable people, who are also patient, and eager to do what is good.



Offering the whole curriculum

We see the curriculum as an orange with its different segments. Each subject matters equally within the curriculum as a whole.

In Years 7-9 our pupils study up to 16 of those subjects. OFSTED described it as “an ambitious curriculum”. How could it be otherwise?

Pupils have one life to live and one schooling to prepare for it. We must give them the best foundation we can.

At GCSE pupils study fewer subjects, but exercise more choice over what those subjects are, as well as all completing GCSE courses in English, Maths, Science and Religious Studies. Many study Languages, Humanities and Arts subjects, too.

In the Sixth Form our curriculum offer is principally a range of A Level courses, but with these the Extended Project Qualification, the Duke of Edinburgh Award and a rich set of

opportunities beyond school such as the Eton Summer School. Most of our Sixth Formers progress to Higher Education, but an increasing, smaller number go into an apprenticeship directly from school instead.



Teaching with a double understanding – of the subject we have studied, and of the person before us

We invest much in the quality of teaching, knowing this to be the key gift we have to offer our pupils and students. Specialist subject knowledge to a high level, a good understanding of pedagogy and practical teaching skills all play their part in this.

Our Principles of Teaching recognise how important it is for lessons to connect with the learners. Our Standard Classroom Practices acknowledge the vital role played by good routines. Our commitment to Initial Teacher Training and continuous professional development demonstrates how much we value our teaching staff. There are so many good stories of those who have started their teaching career here or have become teachers here over time.

The best teachers enable their pupils and students to take more responsibility for their own learning. But, to do this, pupils must be sufficiently literate, knowledgeable and disciplined in the subject first. Teaching pupils to read, write, listen and speak well academically is a key priority for us in the mobile phone age.



Learning with humility, tenacity and hope



Schools do not always think enough about learning. We want our pupils to be active participants in their education. Our vision of learning is informed by seven questions:

- **Whom are you imitating?**
- **With whom are you recollecting what is important?**
- **From whom are you learning your craft?**
- **Who is teaching you to become reliable?**
- **With whom are you working closely?**
- **What are you studying in depth?**
- **Whom are you going to serve with what you have learnt?**

Learning in a secondary school is academic: learning the craft of each subject; personal: becoming a reliable, independent learner; practical: putting what you learn to good use in the service of others.

We want to help pupils see the point of school. Through work with partners on a programme called Tenacious Together we seek to make a better connection between learning and life.

In September 2025 our pupil numbers will be greater than ever before

Since 2011 the number of 11-16 pupils at Archbishop Tenison's has steadily increased, from 488 in 2011 to 540 in 2016 and 600 in 2021. Now we are growing further: in September 2025 we will have 150 pupils in Year 11 – 750 pupils overall.

At the same time the Sixth Form is also growing again, too. In September 2025 we hope to have 850+ pupils and students in the school for the first time.

As the school has grown, so have the buildings!

2010 – C Building for Languages, Religious Studies and SEN

2012 – New rooms for Music, Technology, Art, Food Technology, Drama

2013 – New Sixth Form Centre

2017 – A completely new Sports Hall

2019 – New rooms for Sixth Form teaching and Geography

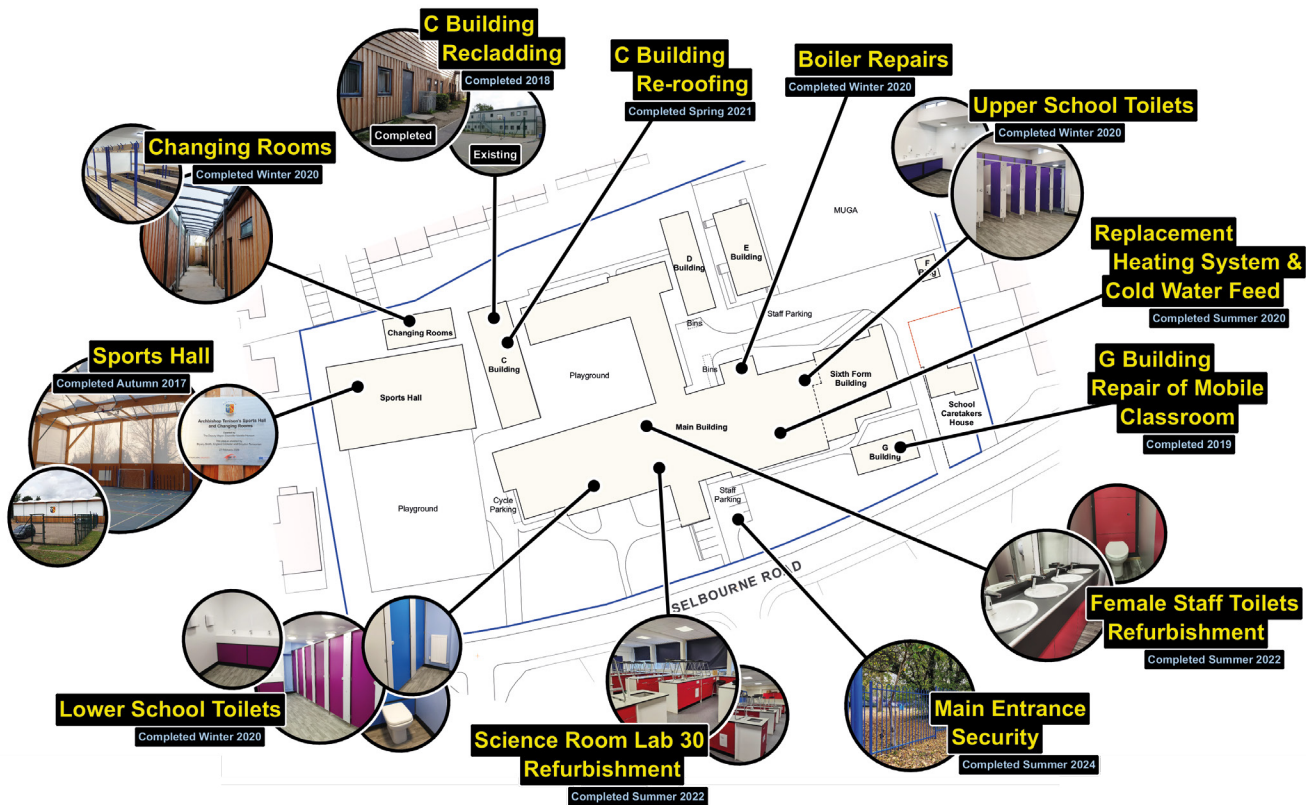
2020 – New pupil toilets and PE changing rooms

2021 onwards – First new Science Laboratory and spaces for Pupil Support and Pupil Welfare

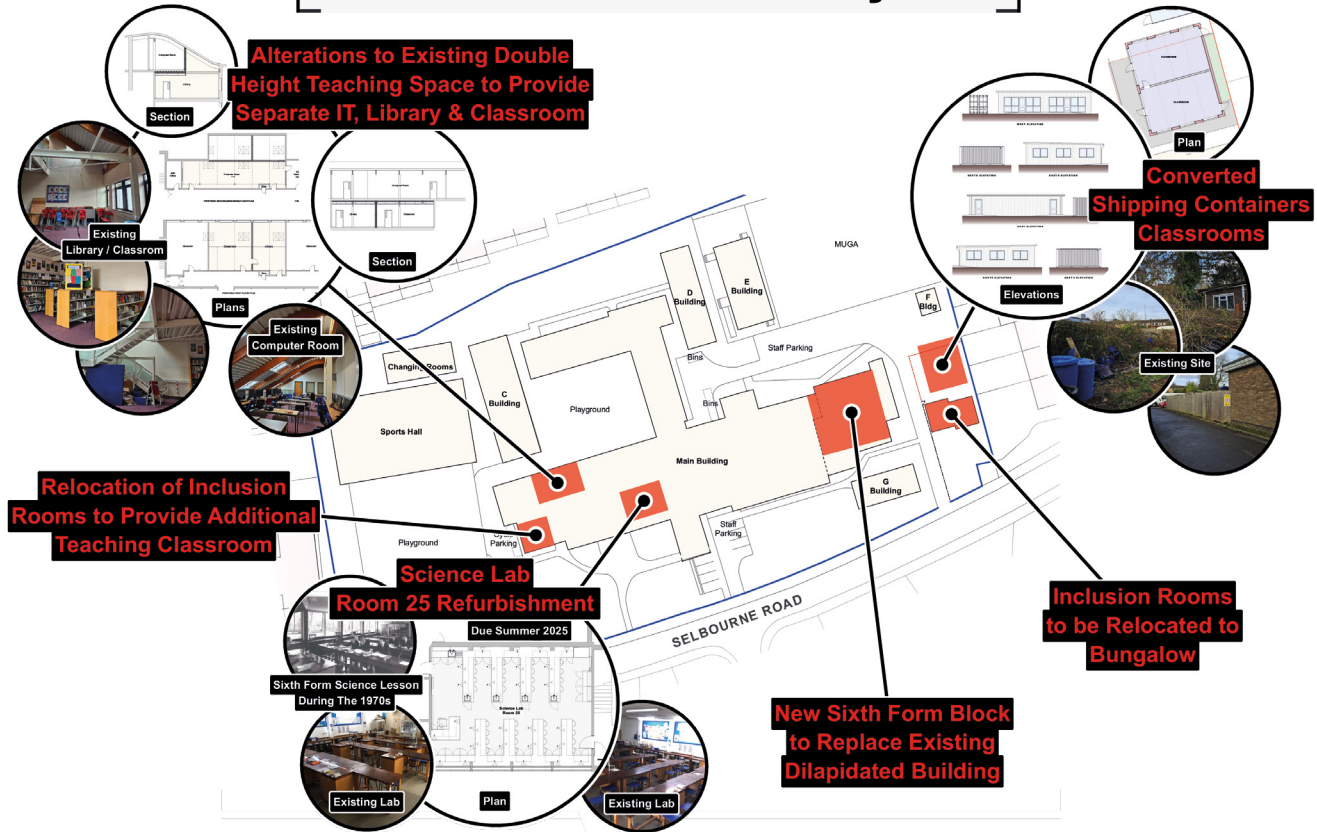
This is a year for further significant changes. It is a once-in-a-generation opportunity.



Vision 312 | Historic Projects



Vision 312 | Future Projects



Here are eight ways in which we would like to develop our school in the years ahead

Deeper Reading



Developing in our pupils the habits of mind which go with the literate study of each school subject.

Reading is critical to progress and success in secondary school. ***Deeper Reading*** is a research project in which we are engaged with other schools in the Southwark Diocese. The focus is on giving pupils the vocabulary they need to read fluently and with a high level of understanding in each of the different subjects they learn. The language of each subject reflects its way of thinking about the world, the good habits of mind it gives you and the disciplines you learn through it.

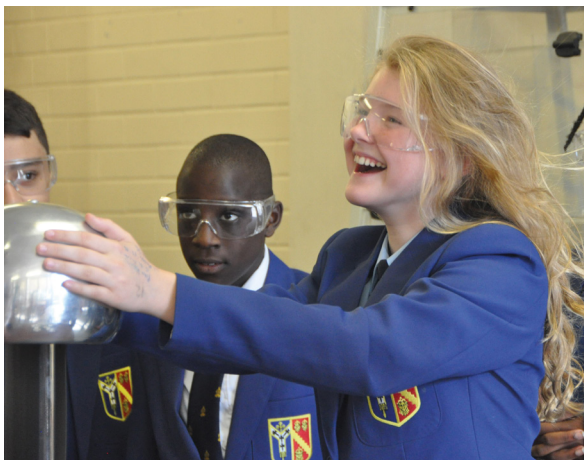
One practical thing we would do better in our school is to rebuild our Library. We want to make the new Library a place where pupils can go both in lessons and at other times and where they read happily and borrow books cheerfully.

The John Treadaway Science Laboratory

Inspiring a lifelong interest in Science.

John Treadway was the Head of Science at Archbishop Tenison's for 34 years. One of his great achievements was to inspire a whole generation of pupils to do and pursue Science. The Laboratory in which he taught is going to be refurbished this year, with a DfE capital grant of £140,000. This will be the second

Science Laboratory we have redone. But there are three others still to do! And we now want to create a 6th Laboratory to serve the needs of the increased number of pupils in the school. This alone would cost £150,000. Since we now typically have six teaching groups for Science in each year group, this would help greatly.



A Respite Centre

For pupils needing space and help to reconnect with their schooling.

Our caretaker's house is now available for school use. With minor adjustments it could become a good Respite Centre for pupils not ready and able to cope with a normal school routine. This facility would also help those struggling to attend school.

With care, it could be opened to those from other local schools, too. We estimate the refurbishment itself would cost £40,000. We have staff with the expertise and the commitment to run such a centre and to make it work.



An EAL Teaching Space

Improved opportunities for pupils with a first language other than English.

The number of pupils in our school for whom English is an Additional Language is increasing. It is impressive how they respond to this challenge. Many do extraordinarily well over time. Their dedication to the combined challenge of learning English and succeeding in education is often remarkable. We would like to help all of them more, particularly in their first two years in the school. A dedicated teaching space and more bespoke teaching would help. In redeveloping our Library and Study Centre our vision is to create a new classroom alongside the Library – to be used by English and other subjects for library – based lessons, but also specifically for EAL teaching.

The redevelopment of this area is expected to cost £125,000. It involves creating separate spaces on the two floors, removing the staircase between them and increasing our classroom capacity for Computing at the same time.



Up-to-date arts facilities

To support the vital contribution Music, Art, Drama and Dance make to the school curriculum

Whatever the educational trends at the time, Archbishop Tenison's has retained a genuine commitment to the Arts. Music has been a known strength of the school in many generations. Art has been consistently popular at both GCSE and A Level, with Photography successfully added recently. Drama is taught to all pupils at Key Stage 3, as well as to those who opt for it at GCSE and A Level, and the school production is a highlight each year.

Dance is a more recent addition, with a GCSE class this year, and continued striking success in local competitions. The computers installed in refurbished Art and Music rooms in 2013 now need replacing, at a likely cost of £30,000. Other technical and creative resources would increase our capacity to teach all these subjects in broader and deeper ways.

The benefits to our young people are seen in their confidence and enjoyment of education overall as well as in their performance in these subjects.



Making the connection

Between school and society, learning and life, pupils and experts in their field: *Tenacious Together*.

We have a growing determination to make pupils more aware of what their schooling is for. They do not always see how their learning here prepares them for life and work later. The project *Tenacious Together* gives them a foretaste of that intimate connection by placing them in a semi-professional context where their talents are needed to complete a task in a team, and to see how important it is to learn co-operatively. The aim is to make something together. This year it is both an evening (*"In search of Tenacity"*) and a film. The film will document the progress from pupil to learner.

What makes such an enterprise possible is the generous commitment of external partners to work with these pupils and students in a professional way. There is a cost to the school, too, in terms of money and time, but we believe that the benefits will be considerable.



Mens sana in corpore sano

A gym, a library, a research space and a chapel to equip young people with an agile mind in a fit body for a full, purposeful and reflective life.

In our curriculum vision every subject has an equally important place in giving our pupils and students a fuller understanding of themselves and the world in which they live. Most teaching happens in classrooms. Both technology and text books have a part to play in the learning.

In our exhibition every subject sets out its own story of the past, the present and the future of that learning. The focus is on the opportunities for the pupils and students. It is these opportunities which can be more limited if the resources are not adequate. Each subject will also offer you a leaflet which shares that story and our vision to ensure that the learning in this school is well resourced.



Teaching life's big questions

Which only a genuine human intelligence can answer - two more classrooms would help continue to improve our Sixth Form facilities.

Space to teach, and to learn, is found not just in buildings, but also in how those buildings are used and owned and shared. As a Christian learning community we seek to be respectful to one another, to live alongside each other peacefully, to make room for a high level of concentration in our lessons, to listen to each other in a way which gives people confidence to speak and succeed, and to be hospitable to others who come into our space from outside or whom we meet elsewhere. We may not have the biggest or most modern school buildings, but we use well what we do have, and we seek to care for it well. With more pupils we need at least two more classrooms.

For this we have sought planning permission to place them behind the caretaker's house. The building we have in mind is an impressively redesigned sea container. Two classrooms would cost, with groundworks, just £150,000. Their proximity to the Sixth Form Centre would be especially helpful - a space in which the big questions of life can be considered fully, as a teacher and a class engage with them.



***But where can wisdom be found?
Where does understanding dwell?***
(Job 28:12).

It is the challenge of any school to answer these and other such questions – to teach the questions which remain with us throughout our lives. As a Church of England school we would hope to know with more certainty what the book of Job also says: ***It cannot be bought with the finest gold, nor can its price be weighed in silver.*** (Job 28:15).

The resources we seek for our increased task are not the key to our future success, but they would help. The most important thing is the heart with which we teach and learn – ***And he said to man, “The fear of the LORD, that is wisdom, and to shun evil, that is understanding”*** (Job 28:28).





For more information and to donate, please visit archten.croydon.sch.uk

Archbishop Tenison's CE High School, Selborne Road, Croydon, CR0 5JQ