

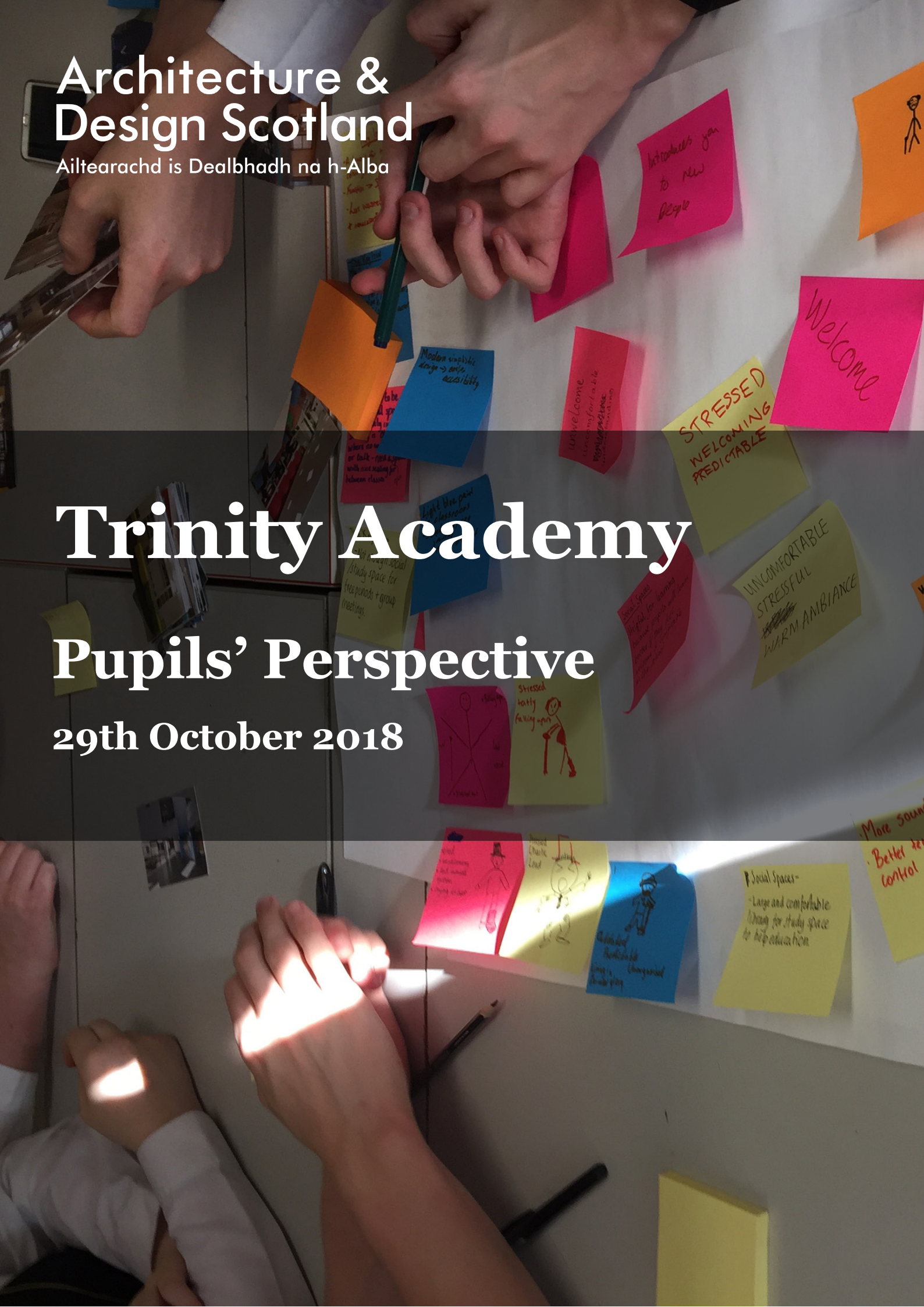
Architecture & Design Scotland

Ailtearachd is Dealbhadh na h-Alba

Trinity Academy

Pupils' Perspective

29th October 2018



Architecture & Design Scotland

Aithearachd is Dealbhadh na h-Alba

Trinity Academy Pupils' Workshop

Attendance List

Date: Monday 29th October 2018
Time: 1.50 – 3.20pm
Location: Trinity Academy, Edinburgh

Pupils

Name	Year Group
Holly Blair	1 st year
Rachel Baxendale	1 st year
Sumie Jones	2 nd year
Rhannon Munro	2 nd year
Zara Khan	5 th year
Abbie Crawford	5 th year
Amy Haddow	5 th year
Sean McLean	5 th year
Jack Thomson	S.S
Sam Adler	"
Lewis Boyd	"
Anna Davidson	"
Gowan Muchay	"
Anelia Pachala	"
Max Middleton	3 rd year
Archie Powell	3 rd year
Kitty Styles	251 (2 nd year)

1.0 Introduction

In order to create a masterplan for Trinity Academy, City of Edinburgh Council are progressing with a number of stakeholder engagements to help determine the strategic brief for the investment. The masterplan will consider future options for the school, links with the cluster primary schools and wider community service needs before determining the mix of facilities to be provided.

A workshop was held on 21st Sept 2018 which brought together schools in the cluster, teachers from Trinity Academy, parent councils, community groups, officers from CEC and members of the project team for Trinity Academy. One of the priority outcomes from this workshop was the need to consult with both teachers and pupils at Trinity Academy on learning and teaching needs. These took place on 29th Oct 2018 and this report is a summary of the Pupils' Workshop.

Architecture & Design Scotland, a non-departmental public body of Scottish Government, has been invited by City of Edinburgh Council to facilitate conversations with learners, staff and community stakeholders to help explore opportunities and determine priorities for Trinity Academy.

www.ads.org.uk

1.1 Purpose

To understand the experiences and ambitions of young people at Trinity Academy.

1.2 Outcomes

To capture and describe young people's priorities for the future of Trinity Academy.

moving around
better would
make us feel
less rushed
and ready
for the ~~next~~
next lesson

If the school is
organised it
promotes us to be
more organised

looks +
feels outdated
doesn't feel like
its built for
purpose
cramped hallways
no outside area
GREEN ^{apart from} park

Depressing Atmosphere.
No real "nice" outside
space

Bigger Gym
Hall &
Stage

• Space isn't
being maximised
• It doesn't make
you want to learn
• It's embarrassing to
~~talk~~ talk about to others

Gym Hall &
Stage bigger
for P.E &
after school
activities to
give us stress
relief

Lack of doors
leading outside

Children who
grow up in a modern
technology filled
area will feel more
comforted in a modern
building

classrooms
are dark curtained
closed
noisy

Outside Areas
- more sociable
- more enjoyable

no where
to hang
out when
its raining
and cold

Bigger
Library.

More
Windows
(more bright
and open)

~~no~~ POOL
(broken)
taking up
space

Whats wrong
• old
• run down
• ugly
• worn
• cramped
• need multi purpose
rooms

Wider stairs
with more
windows

depressing
atmosphere
• not enough green
outside space
• class room
controlled
heating

there is no ~~room~~
outside place

So many
STAIRS

Such busy
corridors
(mainly MATHS)

anywhere
past the dinner
is 500000
hot ^{(all the way}
_{to home}
_{excuse}

MORE
LIGHT &
AIR ^(win doors)

The dinner
hall is quite
claustrophobic

put-toilets
- water fountain
- card machines
on every
FLOOR

Old,
feels used.
Ugly
uneven.
Multi-purpose
strange layout.

Dinner hall
is
* crowded
* loud
* claustrophobic
* hot
* not enough seats

Dinner Hall
Queing
in terms
of only school starts
2 queues
solomon
When
it's so
BUSY

changing
rooms
smell
bad
Pool
changing
room
curtains
don't close

Sample of pupils' thoughts on the key issues for learners of the current school

2.0 What are the key issues for learners of the current school from your point of view?

At the start of the workshop the pupils were asked 'what are the key issues for learners of the current school from your point of view?' They were asked to put their thoughts down on post-its and then discuss their thoughts as a group. The results of their responses are summarised below:

General

Looks and feels outdated

Corridors and stairs are too cramped

Bad ventilation - need environmental controls

Need more windows/more natural light

Lack of furniture

When you come into the school there should be a big lobby space

Places people don't go - some space just isn't being used

Spaces are underused and aren't maximised

Need more toilets higher up the school - more water fountains as well

Strange layout

It's embarrassing to talk about to others

Depressing atmosphere

Doesn't feel like it's built for purpose

Broken pool taking up space

Lack of doors leading outside

Changing rooms smell bad

Arrival is busy, hot, stuffy and annoying

Social

Not enough social space for free periods and group meetings

Need variety of social spaces

Too many people sitting on the floor

Dinner hall is crowded, loud, claustrophobic, hot & not enough seats

Nowhere to hang out when it's raining and cold

Learning

Group relevant subjects together - break down into different 'neighbourhoods'

Classrooms too small area wise - but ceilings are too high

Need variety of learning spaces - so its not all the same classroom

More interesting spaces required - feels very enclosed and narrow

More IT facilities

It doesn't make you want to learn

Classrooms are dark

Outside

No real 'nice' outside space

Outside space shouldn't be all concrete

Not enough green outside space

KEY ISSUES

- **moving around**
- **social spaces**
- **light**
- **corridors**
- **dining**
- **outdated**
- **heating/control**

SOLUTIONS?

- **arrive, big hall, big space**
- **spaces underused**
- **places people don't go**
- **layout for 21st century**
- **group relevant subjects together**

Flipchart Diagram Summary:

This flipchart diagram prepared at the workshop summarises the discussion on key issues (in blue). The right hand side column (in green) represents possible solutions to address the key issues.

The Key Issue.
- Not enough social / study space for free periods + group meetings.

there needs to be more social spaces, as the only comfortable seating is the library where no one can eat or talk - need a space with nice seating for between classes open

The Key Issue
No Drggs guidance department - more rooms for pupils needing time alone
"quiet/sofa space"

Key Issue
- A layout for the 21st + century, not the 19th
- Function → Style
- Less wasted space + unnecessary ground.

make it more eco-friendly

Key points:
- Not enough social space
- Bigger corridors
- Outside spaces don't feel welcoming.

Key Issues
- Corridors & stairs are too cramped
- More social spaces
- Classrooms are too small area wise, but ceilings are too high.

A key issue:
Class room ceilings are too high

Social Spaces-
- Large and comfortable library for study space to help education.

• Don't bother with a swimming pool.
• However, outside P.E. space is **ESSENTIAL!**

Social Spaces
Helpful for learning because pupils will learn better if they feel welcome & comfortable in the school

Modern simplistic design → easier accessibility

Light blue paint in classrooms
↳ calming, not jarring environment

• More soundproofing
• Better temperature control

more toilets— spread throughout the school

• Lots of light in classrooms
• Ban taps in science classroom should not be there
• Sports facilities

bigger library

Wide Corridors

lots of light
- more connected

CORRIDORS + FOYER

- Good Library - a nice space for people to study + spend break and lunch

wider corridors & staircases - always a crush after class

stuffy
bussy dark
clostraphobic

Bigger classrooms

CLAUSTROPHOBIC
way worse

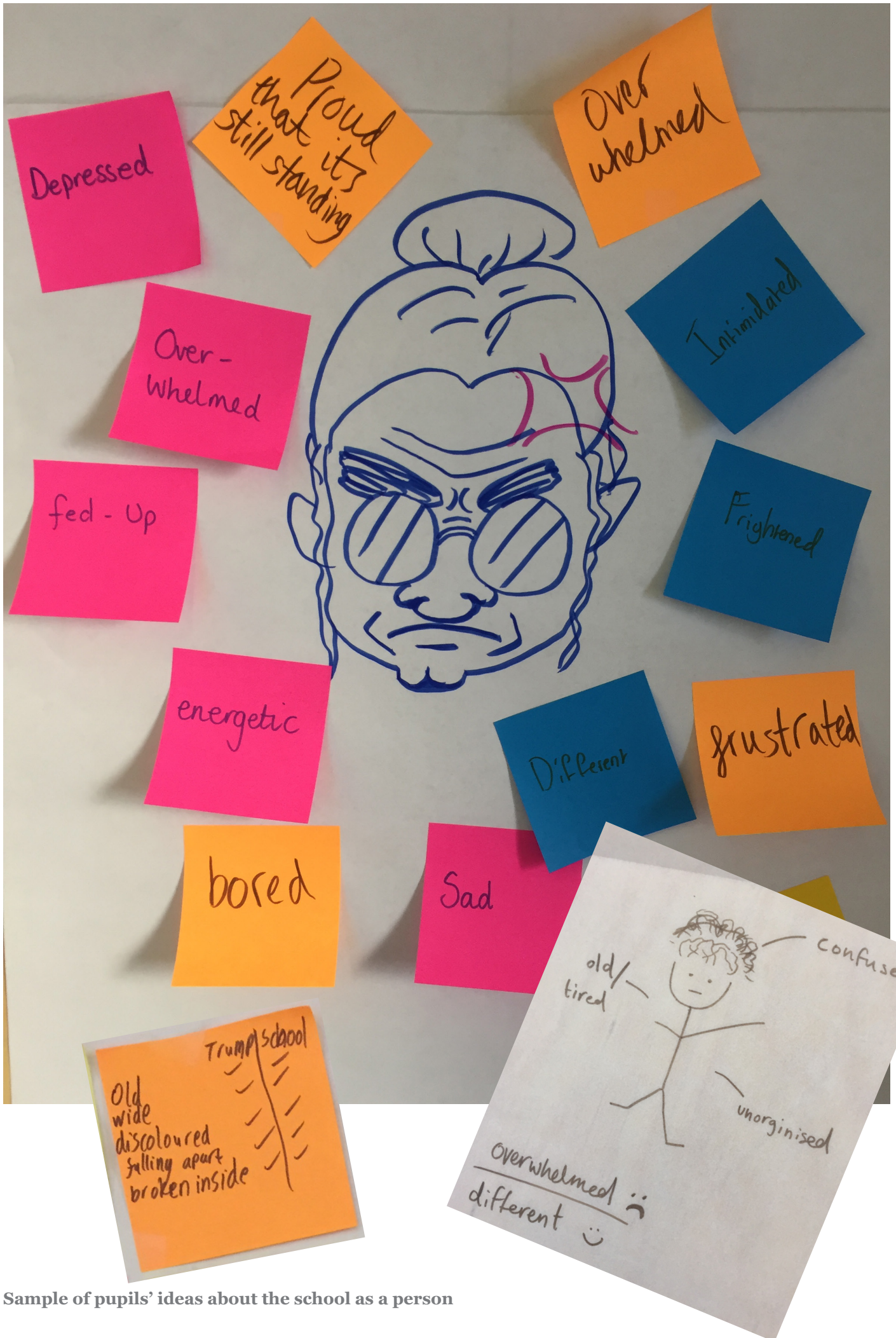
- Temperature control
- sound proof

Need more engaging and personalised teaching methods.

The new building is disgusting but the original building actually looks nice (ism)

1.
2.
3.
4.
5.

Need high school four

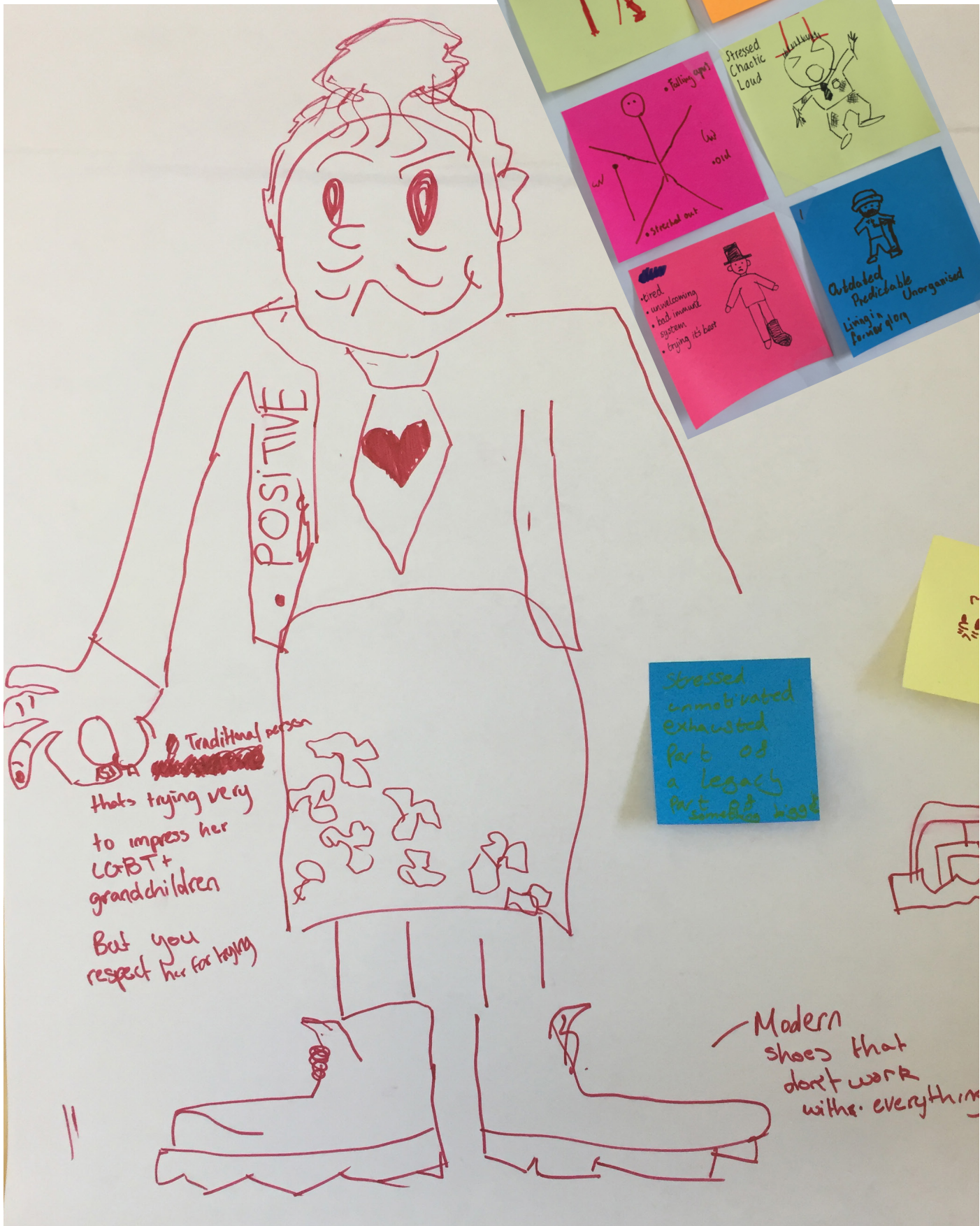


Sample of pupils' ideas about the school as a person

3.0 Imagine the school is a person, what type of person is it?

The pupils were asked to imagine the school was a person rather than a building, and asked to describe and draw it's personality. Their responses are summarised below and overleaf:





Sample of pupils' ideas about the school as a person

3.1 How does the building make you feel?

The pupils were asked to describe how the building makes them feel. Their responses are summarised here:

Unmotivated

Sad

Stressed

Unwelcome

Daft

Claustrophobic

Pressured

Intimidated

Occasionally indifferent

Frustrated

Uncomfortable

Overwhelmed

3.2 What is the one good thing about how the building makes you feel?

The pupils were then asked to highlight one good thing they liked about the school and how it made them feel. Their responses are summarised here:

Unique

Historical

Approachable

Homely

Relatable

Legacy that matters

Relaxed

Pride (that it's still standing)

Prepares you for adult life

Energetic

Understanding

Warm ambience

Nurse/guidance/
office close to
the middle of
the school

More functioning
lifts throughout
the school

Stairs

- Better one way systems like ~~the~~ ~~GP~~ ~~room~~
- more rooms ~~for~~ ~~the~~ ~~GP~~ ~~room~~
- more toilets
- more music practice rooms
- temperature control
- ~~Access~~

more toilets throughout
the school, on multiple
floors

rooms available for
activities (more like
GP room)

More outdoor
school benches

Intuitive subject
placements so
visitors and new
pupils can get around
easier

Blinds instead
of curtains
- more convenient

ART
SO
STUFFY

windows that
can open

Half is old,
Victorian style,
other half is
modern and over-
used.

light & air ^{tech}
- easier to see
- more focused
- if someone's
too hot they might go
home (no education)

Learning

Make the school more connected -
more time to learn

More engaging and personalised
teaching methods

Invite pride - easier to be more focused

Interesting spaces to learn in

Calm spaces/calming environment

Large and comfortable library for study
space to help education

Need bigger guidance department -
more rooms for pupils needing time
alone 'quiet/safe spaces'

More quiet spaces to study and relax

Need multi-purpose rooms

Quieter, more tranquility so we can
focus on tasks in silence

Outside

Big outside spaces that are enclosed -
feel pleasant to be in

Don't bother with a swimming
pool, however outside P.E space is
ESSENTIAL

More open spaces - indoor and outdoor

4.0 What would help your learning here?

The pupils were asked 'what's the one thing that would help your learning here?' They were asked to put their thoughts down on post-its and then discuss their thoughts as a group. The results of their responses are summarised below:

Building

'doesn't need to be fancy, just needs to work!'

Layout is clearer

Making sure spaces are fit for purpose

Wide corridors with nice materials

All quite simple - nothing too complicated

Make circulation much better

Connected spaces

Toilets need privacy - not too public

A layout for the 21st Century, not the 19th

Modern simplistic design - easier accessibility

Bigger, more comfortable dining hall - maybe nicer seating etc.

Moving around better would make us feel less rushed and ready for the next lesson

Bigger gym hall and stage

Children who grew up in a modern technology filled era will feel more comfortable in a modern building

Making sure spaces are fit for purpose

Wider stairs with more windows

Social

Good social spaces

Good library - a nice space for people to study and spend break and lunch

There needs to be more social spaces, as the only comfortable seating is the library where no-one can eat or talk - need an open space with nice seating for between classes

Social spaces - helpful for learning because pupils will learn better if they feel welcome and comfortable in the school

After school activities to give us stress relief

Environment

Temperature control

Vibrant colours

Use of natural materials and light

Simple things done well

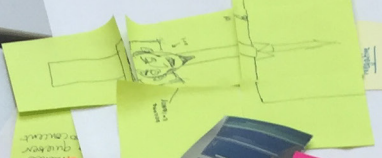
Natural light to feel more comfortable

More soundproofing

If the school is more organised it promotes us to be organised

Put toilets, water fountains and card machines on every floor

Make it more eco-friendly



More outdoor school benches

More outdoor school benches

Need more bits higher up the school - more water fountains as well

Not enough variety of after school clubs - eg. Dance, drama, arts etc.

Guidance + school nurse next to each other

Blinds instead of curtains - more convenient

More fun lighting throughout the school

More fun lighting throughout the school

Combine subjects together - eg. English + local history - more fun

Unnecessary or the top, bad for Scotland.

Use heavy power door a mystery

Windows are nice, but is not good.

using all 3 dimensions

Open staircases are a win. Loving it!

Some male + female toilets but also have non-gendered toilets throughout the school so anyone could use

Nice design, open, spacious, place to rest, thumbs up.

like the nooks & crannies to relax

5.0 Precedent Images

What kind of place do we want to create?

In their individual groups the pupils were given a large selection of precedent images from other education facilities across the UK. They were asked to select images that they felt would help to address the issues raised earlier in the workshop.

Once each group had selected their images they presented them to the other groups and discussed what they did and did not like.

All images selected have been included in the following pages:





nice to have
throughout corridors



Good common
room



More entrances
+ exits in school



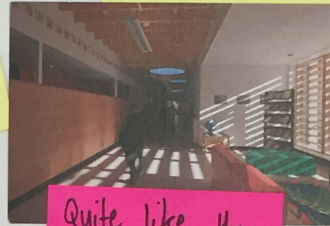
nice, open



nice, can be bigger,
chill out room for the
seniors



Nice, spacious.
I like it.
Could be used
in Bangholm (?)



Quite like the
small nooks &
crannies to relax
at.



using all 3
dimensions



nice & open.



wide open space,
lots of light



like the 'round'
idea. Make learning
more collaborative



nice, light, open



Nice design, open,
spacious, place to
rest, thumbs up.



Open staircases
are a win.
Loving it!



nice open spaces,
different outdoor
levels



separate
male + female toilets
but also have non-
gendered toilets throughout
the school anyone could
use

5.1 Precedent Images - LIKE!

LIKE



like windows

good social / comfortable space

LIKE



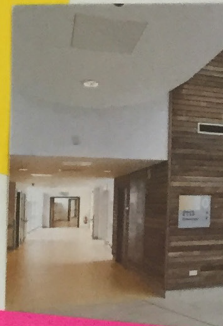
space & light



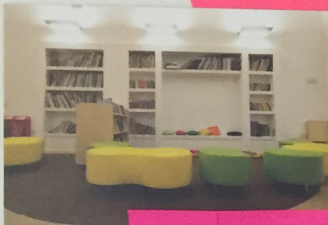
like but if there were numerous.



nice & sophisticated, lots of light & open space



like the wall



like shelves



good social space & lots of light



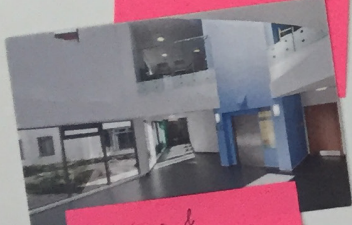
open & welcoming



wide corridors



good open social space, lots of light. 😊



spacious & classy & modern



WIDE CORRIDORS and nice wooden AESTHETIC



nice social space, outside



still simple but effective



nice



outside social space

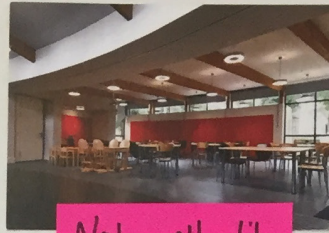




Bit of both.
Good + bad.
Balconies are nice
but unsafe.



Windows are nice,
rest is not good.



Not well lit.
Gives off bad
vibe.



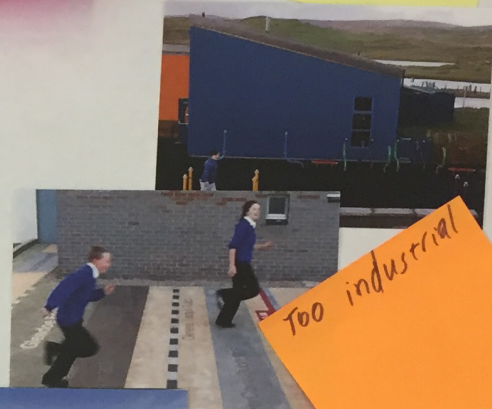
Complete waste of
space. Childish
nursery?



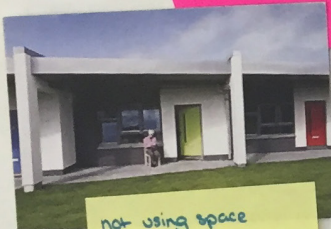
Unnessecary, over
the top, bad for
Scotland.



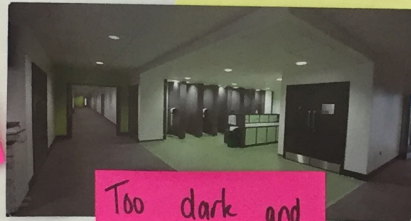
like harry potter.
dark & mysterious



Too industrial



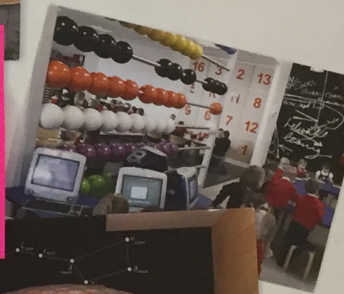
not using space
effectively. More like
housing estate



Too dark and
dodgy. Really
open for a
toilet.



Dodgy stuff will
happen here.
A bit gratty.



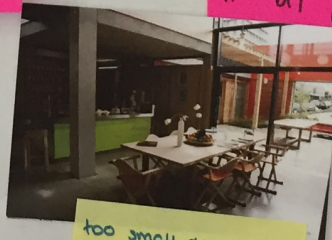
Too much like a
museum



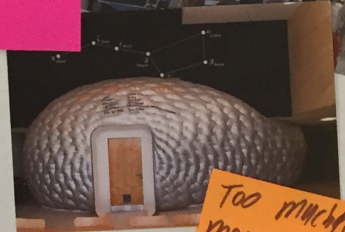
too childish,
not much purpose



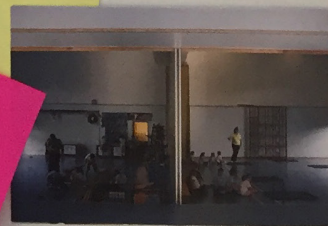
too much like primary
school outdoor play area,
however building is
nice



too small, dark in
parts. Homely feel but
not for school



Just not good,
impractical!



5.2 Precedent Images - DISLIKE!

DISLIKE



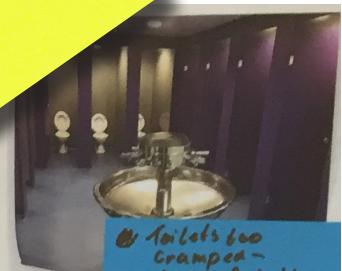
Dislike but like balcony



people would say its not gender neutral and it would be awkward being so close



Cool aesthetic, waste of space



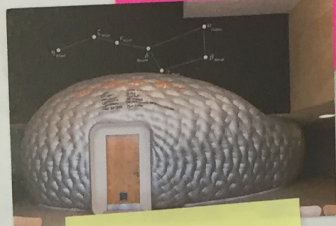
Toilets too cramped - uncomfortable mirrors are missed



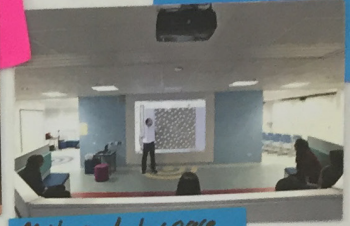
Dislike but like shelter.



DISLIKE



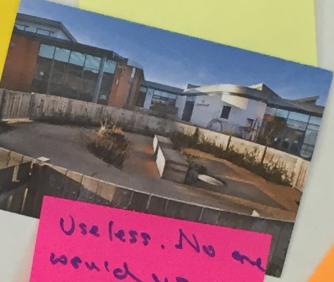
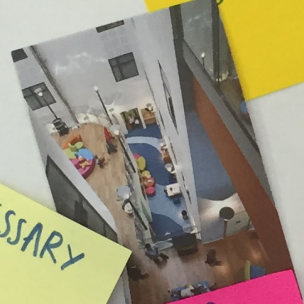
Waste of space



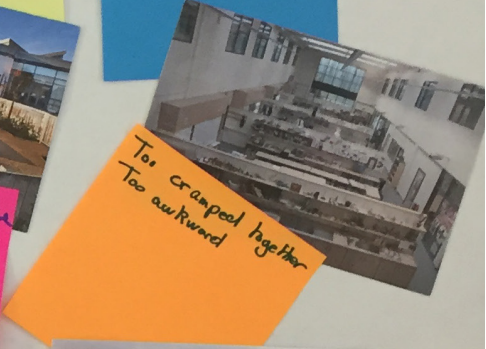
No desk space -> Open space -> may be noise into fence



UNNECESSARY



Useless. No one would use

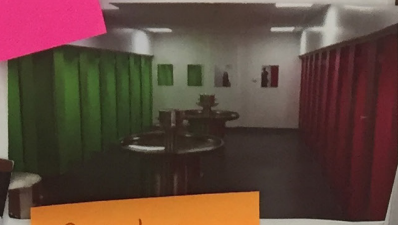


Too cramped together Too awkward



Childish

Waste of space Design prioritised over function.



looks bad.

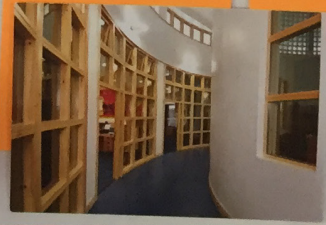


Too big for a school

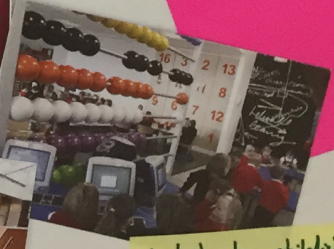


Too cramped

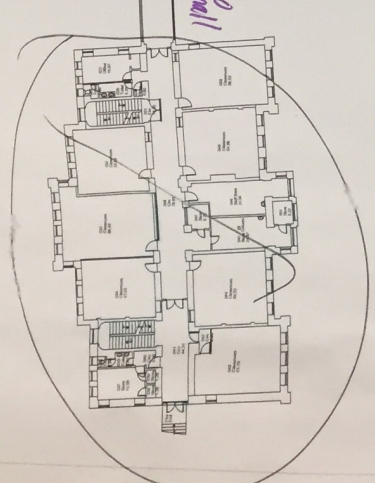
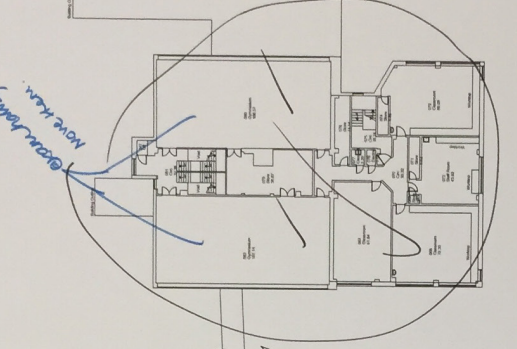
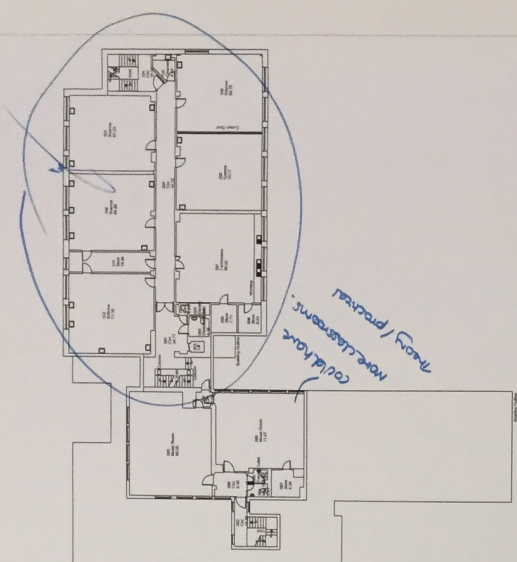
Don't hate single facing toilets



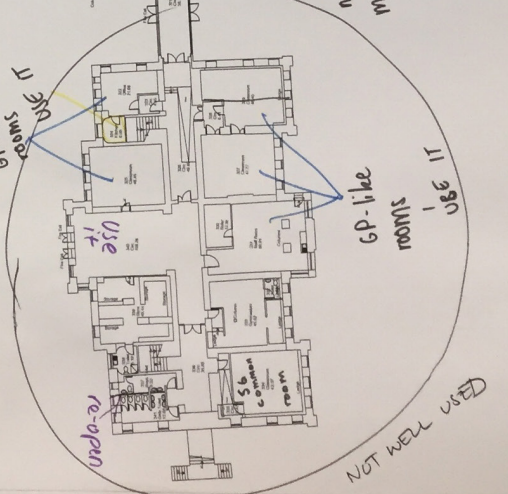
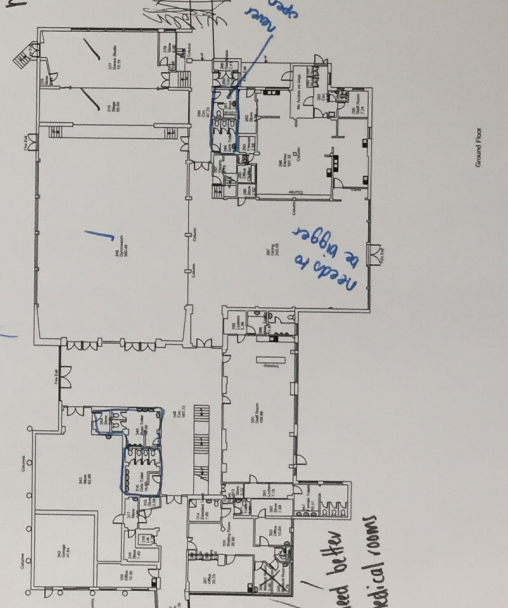
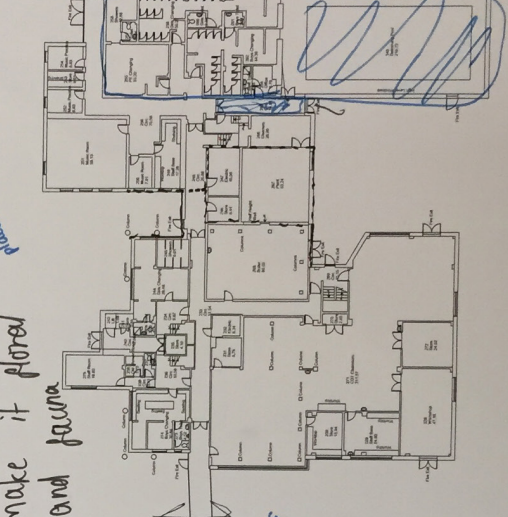
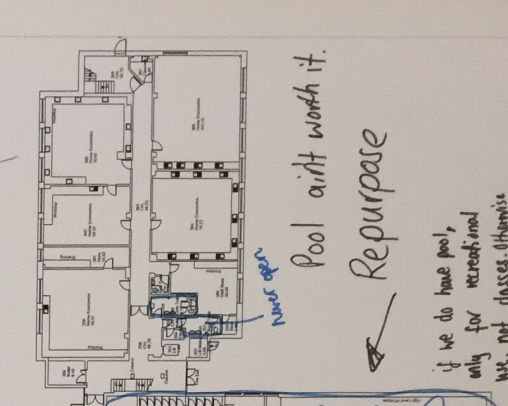
Waste of high space.



A bit too childish

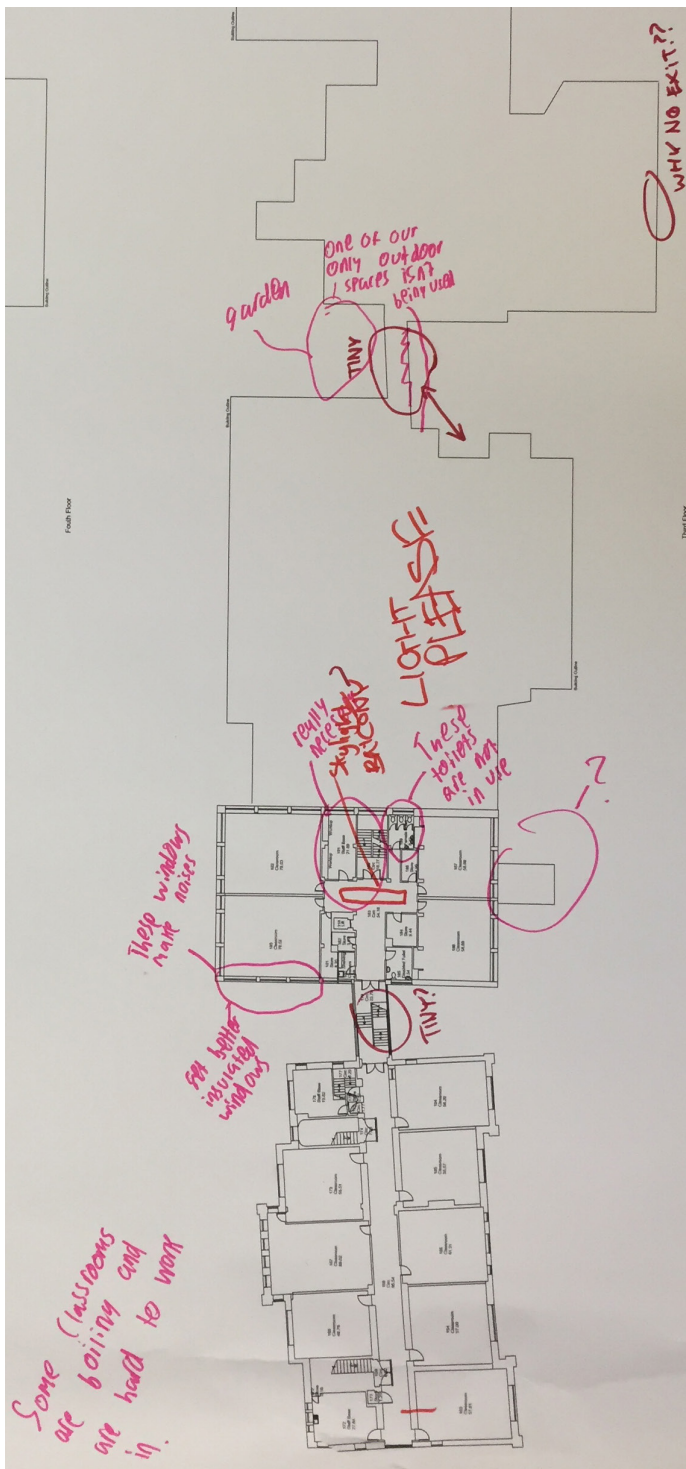


A bit nasty, make it floored and fauna



6.0 Review of existing school estate

The pupils were asked to review the existing school floor plans as well as the wider site area and highlight areas where they thought there were issues and areas where they thought there could be opportunities to address their key issues and concerns. Their comments are summarised below and copies of their marked up plans are included on the following pages:



Light please!

Get better insulated windows

Grass and places to sit outside

Outside a bit nasty - make it flora & fauna

Toilets need to be opened more

More common/social rooms

Exam halls are too central - disruptive

Some classrooms are boiling and are hard to work in

More storage rooms/ space for storage

Rooftop garden/sitting space

Have a whole wall of just windows

Wider corridors

Pool ain't worth it! Re-purpose

If we do have pool, only for recreational use - not classes. Otherwise unnecessary

Floor to ceiling windows

One big classroom with shutters for moveable interior spaces

Glass/windows on ceiling to utilise light and help ventilation

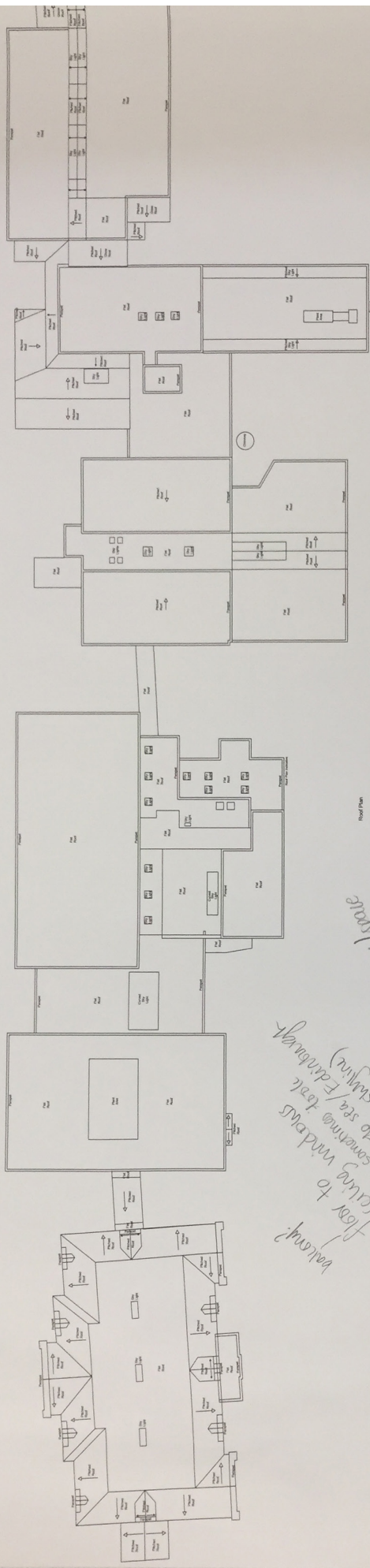
Expand library and make it a more relaxed social space

Use PE hall for new purposes (social spaces and classrooms)

Social area between each floor

Bunch subjects together

PE/Clubs in Park



could we let a
draft in follow
for ventilation
(gets really hot in
the sun)

could we let a
draft in follow
for ventilation
(gets really hot in
the sun)

could we let a
draft in follow
for ventilation
(gets really hot in
the sun)

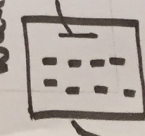
could we let a
draft in follow
for ventilation
(gets really hot in
the sun)

could we let a
draft in follow
for ventilation
(gets really hot in
the sun)

could we let a
draft in follow
for ventilation
(gets really hot in
the sun)

could we let a
draft in follow
for ventilation
(gets really hot in
the sun)

have a whole
wall just windows
projector
screen



windows
everyone sat
facing
backwards to the window

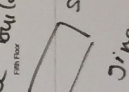
gives good doesn't
light, but you
blind you.

getting light in
outline
of building
bold upwards
onto
5th floor
glass windows - on
ceiling to
allow light
in

more storage room space

flow to
valleys?
(along windows
the corners take
out onto sea / Edinburgh
out onto skyline)

over all
make the building
more
shape,
which gives better
use of space

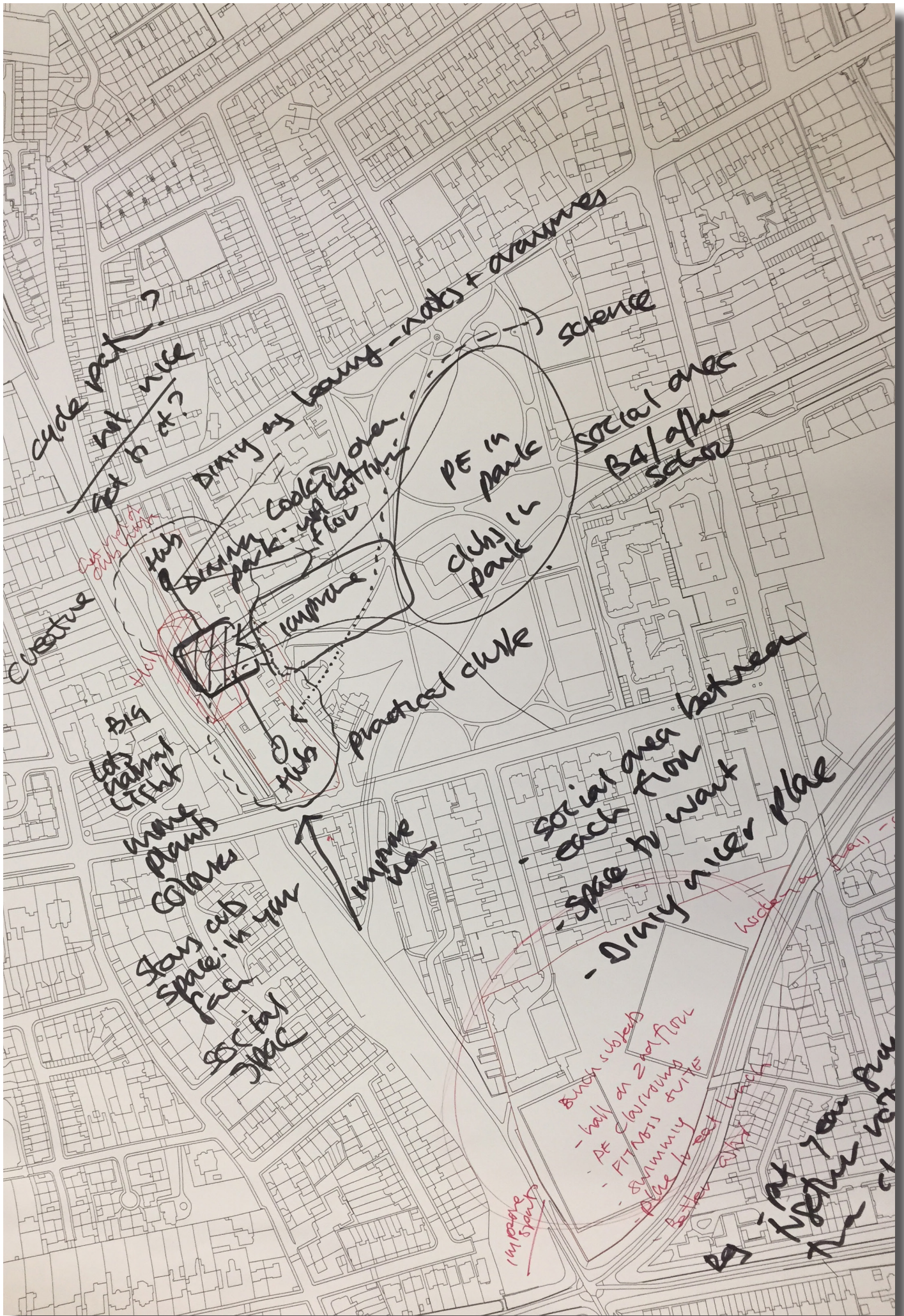


roof top
garden/sitting
space

from one big
clearance
with swivels
for movement
interior spaces.

wider
corridors

projector
screen



cycle path
set to site

Dining area - rats + animals

science

social area
BA/after school

PE in park
club in park

practical club

social area between
each row
space to wait
Dining area place

big lot
many plants
rows and space in your social space

improve space

improve space
- bench
- hall on 2nd floor
- PE clubrooms
- swimming
- place to eat lunch

social area
between each row
space to wait
Dining area place

7.0 What happens next?

Drawing on the knowledge and reflections of the pupils from the workshop, the following next steps are suggested:

1. Engage

Engage the students in shaping the communication of the future proposals for Trinity. This should be a collective project, linked to the curriculum to:

[a] engage the whole school community on key issues and needs to feed into the project development

[b] visualise what is happening and when

[c] establish a key student link to the project so all future communication by the project team include consistent student involvement

2. Explore

Explore the opportunity to develop 'Try before You Buy' experiences in the short and medium term, led by students, to test their ideas on improving spaces before and within the construction phases.

This could draw on the Inspiring Learning Spaces Toolkit;

www.ads.org.uk/inspiring-learning-spaces-toolkit/

and the Tests of Change approach;

www.ads.org.uk/repurposing-learning-space-tests-of-change-information-resource/

3. Empower

Empower learners to develop the culture of the new spaces and ways of working, co-designing values, expectations and ways of using space with teachers and peers.

This might build on the work of similar initiatives elsewhere such as;

http://rubble.heppell.net/media_forum/wesley_spaces2.pdf

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