

The records of Red Hill School in the National Archives

The National Archives (TNA) contains many documents sourced from the Ministry of Education and its predecessor the Board of Education, relating to Red Hill School (RHS). This document is the author's attempt to catalogue and explain those documents, as well as drawing certain conclusions from their content. It is not a complete record of all the documents in TNA, and some additional information from other sources has been included. The item numbering is the author's, and refers to one or more documents within a record. I have attempted to group coherent documents together under a number, but this is not always easy due to the format of the record. It my intention to extend and improve this document as more records are examined. Many of the original documents are undated, and handwritten. The wartime ones are often written on odd scraps of paper. Peter Still Sept. 2007

Record ED 32/384

Item

1. Letter to Shaw from the Director of Education, Kent, dated 28/3/1934. Declines financial assistance for Shaw's school.
2. A similar letter from Kent School Medical Services. Addressed to O L Shaw, 66 Park View Road, New Eltham.
3. Correspondence from OLS at Red Hill School, Chislehurst, to Board of Education, including a Prospectus (see TNA 13 Sep 07 015 to 017) and attempting to establish a legal status for the school that would permit referrals from LEAs.
4. Various internal Board of Education memos regarding the establishment of an inspection regime for the school. Neither the status of the school under the Education Act, nor Shaw's intentions, are clear.
5. Board of Education Interview Memorandum dated 24/4/1934 (TNA 13 Sep 07 018). Believed to be written by Mr Turnbull (possibly Secretary at BoE) and refers to Dr Weaver (Medical Branch, BoE).
Transcription "Mr Shaw called by appointment and was seen by Dr Weaver and myself. He explained that his school has at present only 3 children, though he hopes in due course to have about 25. It was clear from what he said that the aim of the school is the same as at Dallington, i.e. to deal with mal-adjusted children (of both sexes) of the type who at present are dealt with in child guidance clinics. We understood him to say that Dr Moodie [a consultant child psychiatrist] was in sympathy with the aims of the school and is willing to visit it.
I told Mr Shaw that until the school had become larger it was not worth our while to inspect it, and I explained our relationship with Dallington. As Mr Shaw is at present taking children from apparently well-to-do parents and hopes to get some of the misfits from public schools, I warned him that it might in due course be necessary for him to decide whether he should become another Dallington, taking children sent by Local Education Authorities (LEAs), or confine himself to the public school type.
I should add that Mr Shaw himself did not create a favourable impression upon either Dr Weaver or myself. If an application ever comes to recognise this place in any way we both feel it will be necessary to go extremely carefully."
[Dallington appears to be a school for maladjusted girls]
6. Letter dated 4/7/1935 from OLS at CC, to BoE, stating that there are ten children at the school at present, and that is expected to increase to 14 in September.
7. Memo to Mr Rokeling dated 23/8/1935. Signature unclear. "...it is quite clear that Medical Branch will not recognise the school...the school cannot be recognised under any of the Grant Regulations..."
8. Undated visit report by officers of the Board. Some significant extracts follow:
"There are 11 boys and 2 girls, generally 6 – 15 years although one boy is 17."
"The premises are somewhat shabby and not too well ventilated"

“Children are referred from child guidance clinics, The West End Hospital for Nervous Diseases, or private sources. The Principal states he gets more applications than he can accept.”

“4 children pay no fees, for the others ...fees...as high as £200 per annum”

“The school is definitely not one for mentally defective children and the IQs of most are around 90-100. There is at present one with an IQ of 50 and one of 120”

“*[the children's]* educational attainments are far below expectations since schools found them impossible to deal with”

Reference to unsatisfactory home lives, no discipline.

“The principal devoted 6 hours each day to Freudian psycho-analysis”

“The staff have few qualifications and little experience of teaching”

“Mr Shaw is perfectly sincere in his views” [*this last comment implies a “but...”*]

9. Letter dated 2/10/35 stamped “Private” from Mr Rokeling to Dr Weaver, who is about to inspect RHS. A Kent Inspector, Mr Vickers, who is a psychologist, had visited at Shaw’s request and came away “very uneasy” for reasons including: “attitude of Shaw and his staff to sex questions”
“sexes not kept apart”
“lack of instruction”
10. Dr R Weaver, Medical Officer, BoE, declines to stay overnight to inspect RHS. Shaw replies that he will alter his arrangements to be available on the morning of 14/11/35.
11. Letter from Borough of Willesden to the Medical Branch, BoE, dated 23/7/38. Shaw is willing to accept boy A [*named*], age 5½, at fees of £2.2s 0d per week. Writer requests BoE approval.
12. Confidential report 11/7/1938 by Miss E F Turner, Registrar [of Child Guidance Council?](see TNA 13 Sep 07 025 and 026).
“Mr Shaw impresses one as rather an unpleasant person...”
Child Guidance Council declines to register the school.
Further detailed correspondence regarding boy A.
13. Letter from Registrar of Foster Homes & Schools for Nervous, Difficult and Retarded Children 5/9/1938, regarding a visit made to RHS.
“Boy A [*named*] appeared settled. The premises and grounds are delightful. It would be in the best interests of the boy to leave him at the school”
Boy A described as “unstable”
14. Letter from Ministry of Health; “there is no provision under the Education Act for this kind of school”
Expresses some concerns & criticism.
Suggests that Child Guidance might suggest an alternative place for boy A, and criticises them for recommending RHS.
15. Draft letter regarding LEAs sending maladjusted children to special schools.
Only 2 are approved, Dunmow Hall in Clitheroe, Lancs (Principal Dr Fitch) and Little Missenden Abbey, Bucks (Principal Mrs Lister Kaye).
“An application is underway for the Caldicott Community”
“Red Hill School has been inspected and rejected”.
“We cannot reconsider in the case of boy A.”
16. Report on boy A [*named*] age 5½, sent for psychological tests at Gt. Ormond St.
“The child suffers from very severe masturbation and is dangerously aggressive toward other children.” He had tried to strangle a small child. “The mother is anaemic and has had 3 breakdowns. The father was shell-shocked and is still being treated for leg injuries. The mother is frightened for the boy to be with his father. He has threatened to strangle the boy”
Board agreed to maintenance of the child at 2 guineas per week, at “Mrs Barton’s Residential Home” for 3 months.
“The child is regarded as a danger at school”
Mrs Barton is unable to accept him.

17. Internal BoE Minute containing various memos. Dr Weaver has said to someone that “his opinion of Mr Shaw and his school was much worse than appeared from his report as there were some things that could not be put on paper. He could not think of allowing any child who he knew or was interested in, to come into contact with Mr Shaw, and that should be a guiding principle”.
18. Letter from Shaw to BoE, 28/12/1939, introducing the school and offering to take evacuee children whose behaviour makes them difficult to place elsewhere, but not more than 15 cases.
Internal memo states “BoE cannot approve sending children to this school”
Copy of reply to Shaw noting his information.
19. Letter from Shaw to BoE, 14/12/1940, applying for recognition under Section 80 of the 1921 Education Act.
Statement of staff and pupils, 15/12/1940
40 pupils;
1 working for Inter B.A.,
4 working for matriculation,
3 seniors not taking matriculation,
18 juniors in 2 groups,
9 younger children,
5 pupils not at present educable,
Staff;
I. W Holland
C. W. Weatherhead BA (Science)
Miss R Ward Certificated Teacher (Domestic Science)
Mrs L Holland Qualified Teacher of Dancing
Mrs J Shaw unqualified teacher.
20. Various minutes and memos regarding the need to update the visit report. One (possibly Mr Lumsden, referred to in later documents as HM Inspector) states “my former visit left me with such definite views about Mr Shaw that I cannot be considered unprejudiced”. Dated 12/1/1941
Mr Lumsden had visited April 1934 and 14/11/35.
1/3/1941 London Child Guidance Council and North Western Clinic have reported satisfactory progress by children at RHS.
“hitherto we have regarded Red Hill as beyond the pale”
21. Letter of 28/4/41 from LC Duke at Min of Health, Whitehall, to BM Strong at BoE, Bournemouth, quoting a psychologist’s opinion that “we should continue to use this school for certain evacuated problem children”.
Note written on a letter from ENS [?] 10/5/41 stating “we are waiting for Home Office News about Mr Shaw’s past activities”.
22. Visit report (copied) by Dr Bywaters, Dr Hervey (MoH SE Region) and Dr Underwood on 18/3/41.
36 pupils, 7 girls 29 boys. Youngest 5, oldest 17. 5 are evacuees. Describes the premises “an old mansion and cottage” as shabby and impoverished-looking. “Mr Shaw states that however much attention it received the house would not remain in a decent state owing to the depredations caused by the children. Some of the W.C.s have to be distempered once a month.”
“It should be recorded that Mr Shaw volunteered the information that of recent years he has changed his views on certain principles of treatment which he formerly held.”
This refers to introduction of a 2d fine for missing lessons.
“Mr Shaw according to his own story started his career as a manager of an oil refinery under Shell Mex. He holds a degree in chemistry, but no other academic qualification.”
“Our impression was not so unfavourable” compared to the previous visitor’s views on Shaw.
Subject to evaluation of the psychological treatment, sees no reason to refuse recognition under Section 80.
23. Summary by Shaw of RHS as at 17/3/41. No reason apparent, probably in preparation for the visit at item 22.
FEES
Usually 15/0d to £4.0.0d a week. Widest limits: free to 6 guineas.
Children are received from, e.g.,

The Mental After Care Association
The Invalid Children's Aid Association
Clinic Funds
Moral Welfare Associations
Middlesex Public Health Department
LCC Peckham
Etc.

An extra fee, making 15/-d per week, is charged for certain evacuees.

DOMESTIC STAFF (non resident)

Mrs Sharpe	Cleaning
Miss Sharpe	Cleaning
Mrs Freed	Mending all clothes
Mr Brown	Gardener
Mrs Brown	Cook

Also handy man and girl.

Clerical staff: Miss Perry, part-time typist (left 10/3/41)

STAFF (resident)

Miss O'Farrell	SRN Royal Medical Society Psychology Diploma
Miss R Ward	Elementary teacher's certificate
Mrs J Shaw	Unqualified teacher. Art
Mrs S Shaw	Assistant to Miss O'Farrell (part-time)
Mrs I W Holland	Certificated teacher of Dancing
Mr I W Holland	Bsc. Certificated teacher. Diploma in Art & Crafts from Hull University
C. Weatherhead	BA (Science)

PUPILS

Resident at Sutton Valence	2
Resident at the school	34

There were 20 pupils before the war, but owing to the extraordinary number of applications we felt obliged to take the maximum possible. It is not likely we could take more.

24. Several Home Office memos referring to the possibility that Mr Shaw's methods may have improved.
25. Letter from Conybeare (MoH Regional Office, Kent) to Underwood (?) dated 9/6/41 referring to psychiatrists in child guidance who send him [Shaw] cases. Considers this to be an indication "that Mr Shaw is not dangerous. You will probably be aware that he is now married."
Dr Neustatter has agreed to keep an eye on the evacuees and personally I am satisfied with this safeguard".
26. Letter 2/5/41 from Neustatter to Conybeare, broadly supporting Shaw. Followed by recommendation to approve the school under Section 80 of the EA, subject to inspection.
27. Letter 19/6/41 from School Medical Service to Shaw, stating that the Board will be prepared to approve the school under Section 80, allowing proposals by LEAs to send maladjusted children to RHS for a period of psychological treatment.
28. Letter from Bosworth-Smith of BoE to S W Harris of Home Office (undated).
"we cannot refuse to consent to LEAs sending children [to the school]"
"We shall keep this school under pretty close observation".
29. Letter from Shaw to BoE proposing fee of 48/-d per week. Various internal memos, leading to approval of the fee (signed H Marshall).
30. Internal BoE correspondence regarding supervision of RHS and similar schools at six-monthly intervals.

A notable exception is given in "The Caldecott Community is, I think, in a class by itself and there is no need for such frequent visits there." (N D Bosworth-Smith, 21/6/41)

31. Visit report by Dr Lavender and Mr Morley, 20/10/41.
Followed by a fairly complimentary letter to Shaw. Shaw's reply, dated 18/11/1941, includes, in response to some suggestions in the report, "we are certainly in a position to buy much apparatus and materials", implying the school is not in financial crisis at that time, and also "Holland and I...have a rule that no child is admitted with an IQ of under 100 but humanity makes us break it continually". Shaw also refers to the necessity for an order from the BoE to build more classrooms. He refers to plans for 2 wood classrooms which "we could well afford if such a permit were forthcoming". Shaw makes brief references to Maidstone Borough Education Committee regarding a girl B.
He includes a note about farming activities at the school, listing the following activities of school groups:
 - a. Driving 20 sheep 2 miles to new pasture.
 - b. Treating foot-rot in sheep with cuprous sulphate and creosote.
 - c. Marking 10 sheep.
 - d. Assisting the headmaster to find 12 sheep that had broken the hedge and strayed.
 - e. Chopping down ash trees in the wood, trimming them and cutting them and then stacking them.
 - f. Manufacture of a 100 yard long fence from cut and split saplings.
 - g. Helping in the naphthalene treatment of a 4½ [acre] ploughed up pasture field. Turning over disc ploughed sods in same field.
 - h. Planting fruit trees.
 - i. Harvesting sugar beet and parsnips.
 - j. Clamping carrots.
 - k. Laying bricks, cementing and repairing broken wall.
32. Memo from London CC Education Officer to D H Leadbetter at MoH, 11/3/42.
CC had sent an "adopted" Poor Law girl (Girl C) born 17/5/31 there [RHS] in October last. Shaw raised the fees for this girl twice. An Inspector, Miss E K Edwards, visited the school unannounced, and was not allowed to see the girl. Girl C was moved to another school. "We are left with the feeling that there is some ground for enquiry".
Miss Edwards' report states that Shaw had said that he required notice of visits to children; that he would not have allowed access on this occasion "because of having made an obscene remark to him" [*presumably girl C made this remark*]; and also "she had been in his own house for two days when she could receive more individual love and attention".
33. Visit by Dr Bywaters and HMI Mr Lumsden on 22/4/42.
This was an unannounced visit during the Easter holiday and all the pupils were out all day with Shaw. Mr I Holland answered scholastic questions but was unwilling to answer general questions, even the number of admissions.
Girl D from E. Ham left after a few weeks, girl E has lost her miserable look and become happy. Boy F, whose intelligence is only average, is doing a secondary type of work but is unlikely to become a School Certificate candidate. Boy G is a very intelligent boy who is expected to take School certificate. Others are Barry Stokoe, John Youngman, Robert Rickett, Violet Pratt, and Boy H, a recent admission from Middlesex, a solid child of destructive tendency. [*Presumably these are Holland's assessments, since the pupils were not present during the visit*]
34. Draft of a letter from BoE, 6/5/42.
Concerns Boy I, sent by Ealing LEA; Shaw is proposing in addition to the 48/- weekly fee, charges of £7 for bedding and £5 for clothing.
Letter from Shaw justifying the charges.
Reply to Shaw by BoE stating that LEAs cannot make such payments, suggest Shaw recovers costs from parents.
35. Letter from BoE to Leytonstone LEA, 8/6/1942.
Concerns Girl J. Shaw has arranged her leaving direct with her mother, rather than through the LEA.
36. Letter from BoE to T Smith of Herts CC, 9/6/42.

“I agree that Mr Shaw’s reports and letters are verbose and rather cranky, but in my experience schools for maladjusted children are apt to be a little queer”. States that Caldecott Community is not inspected but other schools for maladjusted children are inspected at six-monthly intervals.

37. Letter from Shaw to BoE regarding the extra charges referred to in 34. Shaw suggests that LEAs lodge a deposit with him, and act as his agent to recover bedding and clothing costs from parents.

38. Letter from Shaw to BoE, 19/9/42.

“We can convert a well-built brick pergola into one of the following:

- a. Classroom
- b. Playroom
- c. Storage

Refers to pressure on premises, there were twenty applications this week. Reason for letter is the wartime restriction on purchase of building materials.

Reply from BoE requiring a detailed list of the materials needed. [*Where was this pergola, and was it actually converted?*]

39. Visit report 24/11/42 by Dr Bywaters and HMI J. Lumsden.

Roll 49 pupils, of which 19 are referrals from LEAs (see list)

Maidstone	Violet Winifred Pratt	9 ⁵ / ₁₂	(left – cured)
Middlesex	Vera Fowler	5	
Middlesex	Barry Stokoe	5	
Middlesex	Robert Brumfit	14½	
Middlesex	John D Pawsey	14	
Middlesex	John Youngman	10 ¹ / ₁₂	
Middlesex	June Morris	12 ⁸ / ₁₂	
Herts	Robert Rickett	9 ³ / ₁₂	
Middlesex	Derek Prosser	?	
Ealing	Reginald Pritchard	10 ¹⁰ / ₁₂	
Middlesex	Alan Brown	12 ¹¹ / ₁₂	
Middlesex	Peter Kiff	10 ⁵ / ₁₂	
Middlesex	Collin Pearson	12 ⁷ / ₁₂	
Middlesex	Ian Elliott	12 ¹⁰ / ₁₂	
Middlesex	Hubert D Porter	8 ⁷ / ₁₂	
Maidenhead	Edward Shorter	9 ¹¹ / ₁₂	
Surrey	Gordon Derek Finch	10 ⁵ / ₁₂	
Derbyshire	John Barber	?	
Doncaster	Reginald Maurice Goring	13 ⁸ / ₁₂	
Herts	John de Soyres	?	
Middlesex	John A Glover	12 ¹⁰ / ₁₂	(expected but has not yet arrived)
Middlesex	Anthony Baron	7 ¹⁰ / ₁₂	
Middlesex ^{unknown}	Richard Lawrence	10	

[*The word “unknown” appears roughly in the position above, between the two lines of text. “ditto” are used in the original instead of repeating the county.*]

“Paul Pollak’s group appeared apathetic and uninterested”. “[Boy K] is a psychotic case who may not be retained. [Boy L] is also psychotic and if the BoE will not pay for his retention after 14 the Home Office will since he is a menace if let loose.”

“ I think we can now accept Mr Shaw as a genuine convert from his A S Neill ideas of discipline – he candidly admitted that he had realised that they led nowhere”

“breakages are estimated to cost 2/- per week per child”.

40. Visit report by Robina S Addis, 16/12/42 (no affiliation given).

“There are 4 bathrooms in various stages of dilapidation, dirty towels left about everywhere. There are said to be 4 lavatories in the house and 2 outside.”

Difficulty in obtaining fuel limits the use of some rooms. 60 boys and girls taken – 12 girls at present.

“His curious dallying over showing the muddy farm in the rain and lingering over his outrageous Regency prints made one wonder if he was avoiding other things being seen.”

His partner, Mr Holland, was not seen, only two nondescript young women as well as a drab and sluttishly dressed woman with an off-hand manner were met. A slatternly domestic was serving the dinner.”

This copy of the report has been circulated, and some of Addis’ points refuted by another, whose signature is illegible.

[I suspect that Shaw was not prevaricating to conceal something, but was winding up Miss Addis in response to her obvious pomposity.]

41. Visit report 6/6/43 by Drs Bywaters, Alford, and Saunders-Jacobs of MoE.
There was a new master, Mr Westby (art)
Since our last visit Mr Shaw has become a J.P.
There are 60 children aged 6 to 17, including 12 girls.
34 were sent by LEAs.

Middlesex	Brown, Alan
Middlesex	Brumfit, Robert
Middlesex	Clarke, John
Middlesex	Elliott, Ian
Middlesex	Fowler, Vera
Middlesex	Glover, John
Middlesex	Morris, June
Middlesex	Mountford, Gordon
Middlesex	Pawsey, John
Middlesex	Porter, Hubert
Middlesex	Prosser, Derek
Middlesex	Stokoe, Barry
Middlesex	Youngman, John
Essex	Prichard, Reginald
Essex	Welham, John
Essex	Whiteman, Desiree
Surrey	Ansdell, Derek
Surrey	Finch, Gordon
Surrey	Grinstead, Donald
Nottingham	Harris, Colin
Nottingham	Leach, Lila
Nottingham	Quarton, Victor
Nottingham	Walker, John
Maidstone	Lewis, Betty
Maidstone	Wilding, Anthony
Bucks	Morrish, Mauley
Bucks	Wyles, Robin
Derbyshire	Barber, John
Northamptonshire	Crick, Joan
Croydon	Davies, David
Doncaster	Goring, Reginald
Norwich	Grigglestone, Ralph
Herts	Rickett, Robert
Herts	de Soyres, John

There is also a lesson timetable attached. Generally a positive report recommending continued approval. Suggests that the school’s results would benefit from restricting admissions to boys only, aged over 11.

42. Letters from RHS requesting the removal of Boy M, since “he cannot benefit from remaining at Red Hill”. Recommends a mental hospital. Not expected to benefit from psychoanalysis, Shaw states he is schizoid, with a tramp-like personality.
43. Response 7/6/43 by Shaw to visit reported in 41. He will refuse further admissions of girls but continue to accept boys under 11 but over 9.

44. Letter 7/11/43 from Berks CGC to RHS regarding Boy N “the Clinic’s greatest problem”. Shaw replies that he will not accept him “if the fits are genuine”. [*His name appears on the RHS web site name gallery, so presumably he was accepted.*]
45. Further correspondence between Shaw and BoE about costs of bedding and clothing.
46. Shaw writes 4/3/44 to Dr Muriel Bywaters, BoE, offering to start another school “if I receive any unofficial hint”
Reply “hesitates to give him any encouragement.”
47. Shaw writes 11/5/44 to BoE asking how to apply for priority for allocation of huts. Board asks for details. Shaw replies 23/6/44 that he wants a wooden hut 18’ x 16’ x 10’; to have 2 doors, windows for natural lighting, and coke stoves for heating.
Board prefers a larger hut 24’ x 18’6” if the site will allow, since this is 4 sections of standard prefabricated building. Cost is £125.
Ministry of Works needs detailed costs, assumes the BoE will pay. Cost is £125 or £10 less for clay block filling of walls.
Ministry of Education is unable to recommend allocation of a hut unless shown proof that the need is urgent.
48. 21/9/44 Shaw requests a 2/- increase in the fee to 50/- per week so he can increase salaries in line with the new Burnham scales.
Internal memo remarks that “Red Hill’s fee is already the highest of any List 250 school”. Seen as difficult to refuse the request due to Burnham – approved provisionally.
49. 9/10/44 Shaw writes justifying the urgent need for a hut. To be considered at the next periodic inspection.
50. Visit report 20/10/44 by Bywaters, Elliott, Alford.
61 children, aged 7 – 17 years, including 10 girls, 46 LEA “cases”. “Mrs Gayton is a CT and can take a class in an emergency but her position is linen-keeper”. “Shaw has taken a bungalow a little way from the school for himself and family (wife and 2 children).”
The urgent need for the hut is noted, since “there are only 2 good classrooms”.
Noted the prevalence of smoking and chewing.
Internal memo approving the allocation of a hut, but no labour.
- Supplementary report by Elliott [*presumably not satisfied with the joint report*]
“The laboratory is a small outdoor shed with room for no more than 2 pupils...”
The art room is also a converted outhouse.” Remarks that there is no assembly room, gymnasium, carpentry shop or practical room. There is however “a large and extra-ordinarily tidy potting shed”.
“There are two girls over 16 – Mr Shaw says it would have been cruel if not criminal to have refused them when pressed by a Probation Officer. They were on the verge of prostitution”.
“Mr Shaw seems to relish talking about children who are sexually abnormal.”
51. 8/11/44 Letter from Shaw to Dr Bywaters.
He states “We are obtaining very much larger premises, fortunately in this district.” [*Where is this?*]
He proposes to keep Charlton Court solely for girls – asks for more referrals of girls but not of boys for a few months. [*Implication is that these new premises are available within a few months.*]
52. Letter signed by Shaw from Red Hill School Limited, 2/1/45 regarding agreement to pay Ministry of Works £121 for a 24’ x 18’6” prefabricated hut but with clay-block filling. To be erected by the gardening staff. [*This building was located on the hill above the stables and was used as the art room in the early 1960s*]
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Record ED 32/1556

Special School Files. Kent; East Sutton, Red Hill School (Maladjusted)

1. Letter from Shaw dated 2/6/1949 to Secretary, MoE, regarding Ministry's request for budgetary figure for running costs. Data is with the accountants, who will contact the MoE when they have completed the report. Awaiting the end of the financial year on 1/4/49
2. Minute sheet (undated)
Fee of £255.14.0d approved from 1/5/48.
Actual cost per head 1949 (48 pupils) = £252.9.0d.
(45 pupils) = £269.12.0d.
3. Minute sheet signed by Miss Young.
Shaw's salary of £512 [*from a list of teachers that is referred to but is not in the file*] (a marginal note states "£600 p.a. according to the F.I. report") does not appear to be in the accounts unless he is included under "upkeep of buildings" or a "servant". "From what we know of this gentleman either of these suppositions is likely to be completely wrong. I must confess that when one item is omitted from an account one wonders what else is missing."
"According to List 42, Red Hill is the only grammar sch. for maladjusted chn. Approved b the M"
4. Letter Approving fee of £5.10.0d per week from 1/5/1950 signed D. Neylan
5. MoE memo from C. W. Witterick regarding gaps in accounts; he is not suspicious.
6. Staff Register Sheets (records of education and appointments) for Shaw, Holland, P-D, Gayton, Pollak, Plottke, Lane. See 128TNA 056 to 062. Most are typed but Shaw's seems to be in his own handwriting. Shaw gives his position as "Secretary to Managers", a note alongside initialled WJH states "In fact H.M.". Shaw born Feb 26th 1905*, educated Eltham College, Kent from 1915 to 1922, "Abroad" 1922 – 1923, Birkbeck College, London 1923 – 1927. He claims an MSc [the 'M' might just be a 'BSc'] from London University granted 1927. Residence abroad in Sweden, France, and Germany. [*Shaw's day of birth is now known to be Feb 21st 1908*]
7. Staff List at time of formal inspection, with Inspectors' notes. See 128TNA 063. Undated and in very poor condition.
Holland "dull & pedestrian"
Shaw "capable but hasty...shrewd opportunist...sex obsessed...philanthropic through desire for power..."
Gayton "enlightened teaching ideas.
8. Typewritten report by RHS on "Activities apart from lessons".
9. Minute sheet signed CWW 3/4/50
Refers to problems with a report; not convinced of educational standards.
10. Minute sheet signed Heasman making various comments and concerns on the FIR (Formal Inspection Report). Doubts about Shaw's statements (referring to the Staff Register Sheets) and also the description of Plottke's qualifications.
11. MoE memo CWW to Heasman 17/2/40 regarding a conversation about Shaw's qualifications. "Re our talk on the 'phone I have looked at the London Univ. Calendars for the years 1926/27 and 1927/28 and can find no trace of this man in the indexes. Pen service [?] at Canons Park also report that they have no file for, or trace of, this person. It therefore appears that your suspicion is confirmed."
12. Letter from W J Heasman to Howlett, 5/6/50. He and Huss had visited Shaw and "challenged him about his degree. He disclaimed any claim to a London B.Sc but said he had claimed a PhD in Chemistry, of Halle. Eventually we produced the Staff Register Sheet on which he had written his claim to a B.Sc – he could not understand it."
He produced an Inter. B.Sc Certificate which had been issued in 1936 for an examination taken a number of years earlier. This confused him because he had claimed that he was allowed to take his

PhD – after residence of two academic years – on the strength of this certificate and had told us that the date of his PhD was about 1931.”

Heasman continues that a PhD from Halle would make Shaw a Qualified Teacher, but he has been unable to confirm the PhD and Shaw has not done so in spite of a telephone promise. Letter continues “I am sending by registered post a letter telling him that unless I have the confirmation we shall have to report “though there has been some confusion as to your degree qualifications it now appears that you are a non-graduate”.”

13. Memo from R. Howlett to W J Heasman HMI regarding the report and proposing a meeting of Heasman, Howlett, and Huss to agree the final wording of the report. Concerns about the conduct of the Governors and Trustees, the premises “How far ought we to press for improvements given that the school now only has a short lease of the building?”

“Finally, there is the question of Otto Shaw himself, his qualifications – real or imaginary – and his precise status in the school.”

Reply from Heasman, 3/7/50, proposing the meeting be at Curzon St on July 7th, proposes to include HMI Miss Lindsay as the General Inspector for the school

14. Minute 19/8/50 from RH releasing a report (presumably for the visit in February 1950 – see item 15) and requiring special attention to points including shortcomings of Governors “HM Inspectors found them singularly uninformed as to their duties and responsibilities”, finances, in particular what are the Managers’ intentions when the lease on CC expires, and the state of the premises “The seven huts being used for sleeping are not really suitable for this purpose, and their use should be entirely abandoned as soon as possible. In the meantime, no hut should be used for sleeping more than one person”

15. **Report (very poor condition with parts of the paper missing) on a full inspection of RHS carried out on 14th, 15th, 16th, February 1950 by HMI Miss Lindsey, Dr C. [surname illegible], and HMIs Messrs. Heasman, Alington, Cooke and R W Morris. HMI Miss Mackay was present on the 14th. “The permitted number of boys is 45, and 46 are present”

Type of case less seriously maladjusted than previously, IQ over 120 preferred.

Staff Administrative Mr Shaw, the principal. Miss Oliver, secretary.
Teaching Mr Holland, Headmaster

Mr Powell Davies, Mr Plotke, Mr Gayton, Mr Pollack and Miss Audrey Lane assistants. All resident.

Nursing

Mrs Pollak, S.R.N.

Mrs O’Farrell, S.R.M.N. Both resident

Domestic

Mr Hart, Cook.

Mrs Haden, kitchen work.

Mrs Howard, kitchen work, part time.

Mrs Freed, Seamstress and linen room duties.

Mrs McIlroy, domestic duties.

Mr Wallace, maintenance.

Mr Brown, gardener.

Mr Sharp, gardener, half time.”

Diet generally satisfactory. Remarked on the general drabness of the premises “The feminine members of the staff appear not to have made their presence felt in this respect”

“The general state of repair and maintenance of the building is poor...” “On the second floor the fire risks are considerable, and in the case of the room known as the East attic, it is essential that a hatchway connecting it with Top dormitory should be opened.”

Short response from Shaw – he is awaiting the School Certificate.

[** full report on this inspection is available as a separate Word document]

16. Report on health at RHS for the year to 31 December 1949.

17. Memo from CB Huss

“re Red Hill School.

The Principal, Mr Otto Shaw, asked if the Ministry would cease addressing correspondence to this school as “Red Hill School for Maladjusted Boys”, as the boys see the envelopes and the label “Maladjusted” can upset them.

I think this is a reasonable request, and said I would point it out. 24/2/1950.”

Further internal memos agreeing to this request, registering and circulating it within MoE.

18. Various memos regarding concerns, including the premises, which need improvement but no money is available in view of the short remaining lease. Shaw has approached various charitable trusts etc. but has been refused.
19. Letter from Howlett to Thomas Wall Trust, stating that MoE cannot fund improvements to the building due to the short remaining lease. Reply from the Trust; 5/4/50 “You gave me just the information I needed to come to a decision”.
20. Various memos regarding the usual concerns; state of the building, short lease, staff qualifications.
21. Minutes of a meeting 7/7/50 to discuss the Formal Inspection Report. Participants: Mr Howlett, Miss Young, Dr Huss, HMI Mr Heasman, HMI Miss Lindsay, and Mr Grattidge.
Three points for discussion:
 1. Responsibilities of the Managers,
 2. Premises, and
 3. Personality of Otto Shaw.
 1. The Managers wanted a clear statement of their duties and financial liabilities. MoE had always avoided defining their duties [!] but were willing to invite the Managers to a meeting at MoE when their duties could be explained and Legal could look at the Trust Deed to determine the financial liability, if any.
 2. All agreed there should be new premises for the school, but it seemed very doubtful where the money would come from, apart from accommodation grant. Felt best not to press for improvements, and not to agree to them. “...as no voluntary funds were available an LEA should eventually provide new premises.
“A small amendment [to the report] was agreed to place the onus for not carrying out fire practice on the Principal.”
“The heating system was not to be mentioned in the accompanying letter...in view of the possible expenditure involved... Similarly the word “grossly inadequate” relating to sanitary accommodation was omitted to prevent an application for improvement.”
 3. Staff. Mr Heasman agreed that no comment was necessary on this section in the covering letter, since he had a letter from Otto Shaw agreeing that he was a non-graduate.
Under “General Conclusions”, Mr Howlett mentioned “the vulnerability of the Ministry as far as maladjusted children were concerned in view of the recent “Times” leading article.” [*This should be available from the Times archive, it must have been just before 7/7/50.*] Changes agreed to the report to avoid adverse comment in the press.
22. Handwritten letter by Shaw on RHS letterhead, dated 2 June 1950.
“Dear Mr Heasman,
I see little purpose in my seeking to establish some claim to psychological or teaching qualification when, in fact, I have none.
Any function I have at Red Hill School has been discharged more than adequately to a fair scientific and professional standard.
My impact has been in responsibly inducing successful “after histories” to pupils ‘live’ so that they might carry on their lives without disadvantages we could remove or avoid.
If certain personal intentions I have to widen the scope of my work arises soon I have little doubt that another will be able to conform to the regulations that during the next 15 yrs or so will be in force.”
23. Booklet titled “Red Hill School History and appeal”. Pencil note on cover begins “This typical Shavian response will have to be considered in detail”
Booklet states that the Managers have drawn up plans for additional classroom accommodation and increased amenities. Before these plans can be launched the building and two cottages will have to

be purchased. "The Managers have no capital although the revenue is totally adequate to run the school perfectly.

Of the purchase price 50% would be available from the Ministry of Education and the Managers would be permitted to recover 25% over a number of years by another method, from the ordinary income fees paid by local education authorities. The remaining quarter of the purchase price would not be more than £3000.

It is difficult to foresee the future of the school unless voluntary assistance can be obtained..."

24. Report on Medical and Scholastic testing at Red Hill School. Apparently produced by RHS. Contains a list of pupils which in the original is ranked by IQ, but here is randomised.

B. Abley	C Andrews	M. Taylor	J Cousins
D Bragg	G. Angell	D Almond	A Beest
A Chapman	A Dandridge	R Gee	B Pridmore
T Samuel	F Sharman	L Strevens	P Coutanche
B Hawley	P Searle	A Rivers	G Whipps
O Brittain	D Fisher	K Fullegar	A Garnett
A Gates	P Goddard	E Groves	M Hall
J Hiorns	G Isaac	M Leggett	T Molloy
T Sibbett	B Smith	P Baxendale	D Galvin
R Horner	D Hughes	J Martin	B Pearson
B Reeves	R Reeves	J Rogers	J Southouse
D Ward			

Educational Report for the year ended 31 December 1950.

25. Cutting from Daily Telegraph 26/2/51 "45 Boys Rule "free" school" "All Allowed to Smoke and Swear" [TNA 13 Sep 07 009.jpg]

26. Letter from Shaw 24/1/51 asking permission to implement pay rises to new Burnham scale.

Staff	Actual present salary	Present Burnham entitlement	New Burnham scale entitlement	Increase required
A. Lane	£327	£330	£446	£119
L. Bloom	£280	£375	£507	£227
I. Holland	£604	£660	£780	£176
M. Gayton	£617	£645	£762	£145
T. Davies	£545	£480	£615	£70
P. Pollak	£300	£252	£315	£15
		£2742	£3425	£752

Memos re increase of fees as a result. Fee increased to £304.10s per annum.

27. Correspondence re meeting of RHS Managers with MoE. Shaw, Brook, and Oxendale to visit MoE at Bryanston Square 12/6/51 [just north of Hyde Park Corner]

28. Draft Minutes of that meeting. RHS represented by Shaw, Oxendale and Harris. MoE by Mr Howlett, Mr Hughes, Dr Huss, HMI Miss Lindsay, HMI Mr Heasman, Mr Grattidge. Howlett stated that the MoE would be pleased to answer specific questions but wanted to concentrate on the 3 issues raised in the official letter [i.e. the letter accompanying the report at item 15].

Discussed the Governors – claimed to now be aware of their responsibilities. Howlett accepted this. Discussed the premises – MoE unwilling to spend money due to the short lease. Oxendale replied that Managers are keen to purchase the freehold and would want a further grant to cover improvements. MoE doubtful if the building can be made suitable. Oxendale and Harris consider the location ideal. Several other properties had been looked at but were not so suitable. Oxendale revealed that the owners were asking £8000 for the freehold. Thought this could be reduced. MoE thought this reasonable but would want accurate costs/values before considering a grant. Shaw produced a file of correspondence with various trusts who were unable to help. Miss Young suggested the Carnegie Trust. Howlett said that the MoE would accept the cost of a surveyor's report. Managers agreed to prepare a definite scheme.

Oxendale proposed to increase the number of pupils to increase income. Shaw thought that 55 could be handled. Huss felt 45 was as many as desirable. Howlett said if the Managers wanted 55 under the new scheme the MoE would agree.

29. Shaw requests increase of fee to £345 from 1/8/51. MoE accept after much correspondence.
30. Valuation survey by E J Parker & Sons, Pudding Lane, Maidstone, requested by RHS. Notes the poor decorative order and condition of the chimneys. Current rent £230 p.a. Understands the owners have expressed willingness to sell at £7500, but this should be reduced to £6500.
31. Various MoE documents related to the valuation – District Valuer will have to comment before any offer of grant can be made.

File ends

Record ED 32/1557 1952 – 1955

1. District Valuer's report 10/1/1952. £5500 [!!!] of which land £2000, building £3500. Includes a map dated 1940 (photo P1010024) but looks identical to the map in the 1948 sale papers.
2. Letter from MoE referring to the valuation, stating that "no accommodation grant could be paid above this figure".
3. Report dated 26/2/1952 from H.M.I. Miss Lindsay and Dr. Huss.
"The complaint from Nottingham was not mentioned", the report goes on to discuss supply of hot water, and the horseplay associated with sharing baths.
45 boys sharing 3 slipper baths; "one cannot be certain that this is strictly true, as with so much at this school...."
Miss Wright recently appointed as House Mother at £440 a year.
6 chalets and one summer house in use, each with one bed in it.

Staff.

Teaching.	Headmaster	Mr. Shaw
	Deputy	Mr. Holland
		Mr. Davies
		Mr. Pollak
		Mr. Payne Art master
		Mr. Taylor - off sick

No French Master has been appointed – many seen but none chosen.

Administrative.

Mr. Shaw	Principal
Mrs. O'Farrell	Matron
Mrs. Oliver	Secretary
Miss Wright	House Mother

Domestic.

Mr. Hart	Cook	work in shifts overlapping at dinner
Mr. Smith	Assistant Cook	part-time. Work all week-ends.
Miss Freed	Sempstress	Attends 1-3 days a week. Often takes work home. Paid £10 a month.
Mrs. Hayden	Cleaner	2 or 3 times per week.
Mrs. Bourner	Cleaner	£12 a month.
Mrs. Woods	Cleaner	Is about to give up her work here.
Mrs. Howard	Kitchen duties	£5 a month.
Mr. Wallace	Maintenance man.	

Mr. Ted Brown Full-time gardener.
Elderly gardener, 3 times a week.

In a few days a new scheme is being implemented in the dining-room – the restaurant system. Small tables for four and individual chairs have been bought. The tables have a buff coloured linoleum top. The chairs looked poor. Mr. Shaw said he could not get modern plastic top tables because of their expense. It seems a pity that when high fees are received for the boys a little more money could not have been spared to make the dining-room really attractive. It may be that Mr. Shaw is completely lacking in taste.

We both commented on the more comfortable and brighter appearance of the interior, but Mr. Shaw stoutly denied this. Everywhere had been well brushed and cleaned. The kitchens are very clean. The two new sinks in the scullery are already showing signs of wear. Mr. Shaw's office, which he keeps locked, was dusty.

Art.

We visited the art room. The new Art master, Mr. Payne, seems promising and has stimulated already a great deal of interest in a variety of Arts and Crafts. He trained at Bath Art College and has had experience in Exeter (Episcopal Secondary Modern). He was full of praise of Mr. Shaw – and of the facilities given to him “no different to the State schools where lip-service only was paid to Art”. The Art Room is to be used for the boys who wish to work seriously at Art. The old dirty stove is to be removed and electric heaters placed high on the walls. We then inspected the loft which it is suggested that the boys should mess about in with paint and clay. This would need more natural lighting and ventilation and a second exit – at present there is one permanent ladderway with locked trap-door at top. The loft could be enlarged by taking in the museum which has been partitioned off this but Mr. Shaw is unwilling to do this. The downstairs stable quarters (very clean) have possibilities for craft work but Mr. Shaw wants it left for rough play. Alternatively it might provide some space for the laboratory so inadequately housed next door.

[continues but nothing of interest]

4. Estimates relating to additional building works. Totals £17, 036 for new buildings, alterations £967, works to cottage, annex, tennis court, swimming pool and pathways bringing the total to £20, 543.
5. Running cost estimate by OLS, 31/5/52, based on 51/52 pupils.
Income £15 009
Expenditure £14 985
Shaw requests an increase of fees to £369.
MoE notes that this is the highest for a special school “except the spastic schools”.
MoE approves an increase to £350.
6. Correspondence between OLS and MoE regarding plans for the building work. Refers to a block to the south of the existing building, and to sketch plans which are not present.
7. Educational report for year to 31/12/1952. Report on health for the same year. Includes the following table of after-histories:

BOYS	
Cured	123
Cured/Improved	2
Improved	20
Improved/Failures	3
Withdrawn prematurely against our advice or withdrawn from residence at the school at our request after a short probationary period or a more protracted observation	15

8. Correspondence from Holland to Grattidge (Secretary at MoE) re drawings and a meeting to discuss the plans on Tuesday 12 May [1953]. Reply by Miss M. I. Young.

9. Report on a visit made 12/5/1953 by HMI Miss M.M. Lindsay, Dr Huss, Miss Young, and Mr. Chaplin (Architect) to discuss the plans for the extension of the building. Staff section noted that a new French Master, Mr. Roberts (C) had been recently appointed. "The House Mother, Miss Wright, about whom a note was made in February 1952 has left. We were told that her mothering of the boys aroused emotions that she could not control and the situation got out of hand. She was offered a post by the local Children's Officer when she left but apparently has not taken this up." General section refers to a great improvement in the appearance of the building, largely due to the Art Master Mr Paine [*note change of spelling*] being allowed to decorate the building with the boys' work. Since coming to Red Hill he has got married and settled down in the vicinity. His wife is an Art Mistress in Maidstone.
Mr Pollak will be leaving in September. MoE has told him that his services cannot be continued after 31/3/54, and the school prefers to start with his replacement in September. His wife is a nurse but is busy with the children at the moment.
Shaw is concerned that Mr. Davies is likely to leave since for personal reasons he needs a post nearer his home.
10. Various correspondence regarding design of new extensions. MoE insists that classrooms are at least 400 sq. ft.
11. Letter from OLS to Miss Young 17/9/1953; having difficulty funding the rebuilding. No difficulty with the purchase price. No need for such large classrooms. Insists the servery is necessary.
12. Further correspondence re design of alterations. 10/9/53 Shaw writes to MoE pointing out the purchase has been delayed. Believes this has something to do with an altered valuation following a meeting between the District Valuer and the owners agent. Purchase will not go through in the current (53 – 54) financial year.
13. Shaw applies 22/10/1953 for increase of fee from £360 by £20, to apply from 30/9/1953. Various internal memos followed by letter to Shaw refusing the increase as not justified.
14. Letter from E. R. Roberts at MoE to OLS approving an increase of fee to £404 from 1/4/54, backdated to 1st April on the understanding that LEAs are willing to pay retrospectively. This fee is over the costs in order to reduce the expected future deficit.
15. Letter 4/12/1953 from Shaw; expects to complete purchase mid-January 1954, at agreed value of £5500. Asks for the forms on which to apply for a 50% grant.
16. Internal MoE memo referring to the purchase by Otto Shaw of Red Hill from the Bethlem Hospital.
17. District Valuer confirms his valuation is still valid.
18. Correspondence between OLS and MoE. Shaw assumes that District Valuer's report included vendor's legal expenses and implies again that there has been "discussion between the District Valuer and the Vendor's agents... I do not think that this increase of £70.0.0 should arise...".
19. MoE internal memos; they have been inconsistent in their approach to paying legal fees.
Letter from Young to Shaw, 1/1/1954, stating that MoE will pay 50% of cost of purchase including legal fees.
20. District Valuer confirms his valuation of £5500 was made with the chimney stacks in need of repair.
21. Letter 12/2/1954 from OLS to MoE stating that his solicitor advises completion will be 24 March at £5500. The price is handwritten by Shaw.
22. Monckton, Son & Collis (Solicitors), 72 King Street, Maidstone, account. £184.5.0 of which £110 is stamp duty.

23. Copy of Monckton, Son & Collis letter to Shaw; Bethlem Hospital are unable to complete on the agreed date, having not been aware they needed permission from the Charity Commissioners to dispose of the assets, which will take a further month. Shaw replies that this creates a financial disadvantage; can he obtain redress?
MoE confirms they will still pay the grant on completion.
24. Letter 6/5/1954 from Nottingham Education Committee re Donald Baird, who is now 16 and District Auditor has said he is no longer a child under the Act, but the child guidance centre feel he needs to remain at RHS for two more years.
25. Principal School Medical Officer of Notts writes to Shaw to ask what section of the EA 1944 – 53 permits an LEA to pay for a child over 16. Shaw replies that RHS is a Grammar School; maladjustment does not always end at 16, even if education does, and vice versa. Senior Medical Officer at MoE writes to Notts stating that he can remain up to 19 under Section 114 of EA 1944.
26. Phyllis Oliver writes 10/6/1954 to MoE saying that Shaw is in the Ophthalmic Hospital in Maidstone having sustained an injury to his eye caused by a boy throwing an object about in a game. Please cancel the appointment for 15th June and rearrange for 29th June.
27. Report of a meeting on 30/6/54, apparently to discuss funding the extensions to the building.

Present:

Managers

Mr Oxendale
Mr Harris
Mr Bridge
Mr Shaw

Ministry

Miss Young
Mr Peet
Mr Grattidge

Shaw produced a list of Trusts who had been invited to make a donation. Most Trusts had declined to contribute; one has given £50. [Leche charity] 7 yet to reply. Can MoE increase their grant? Miss Young said "...the Managers had clearly done their best... it was not desirable to do part of the work... MoE will consider an increased grant".

She was not happy about the delay caused by the Maudsley Hospital Trust. It was hoped this delay would not result in loss of the property.

Shaw was advised to apply for a maintenance grant.

A note to the accounts by RHS states that "our maintenance man left in October 1953 and was not replaced until March 1954 by a maintenance man/carpentry instructor".

1/7/1954 Shaw writes to Young; states that Oxendale, Harris, and Bridge had "asked me to write to tell you how charmed they were with your advice". Miss Young has circulated the letter and written "Applied psychology" on it!

28. 1/7/1954 Shaw sends accounts to MoE applying for a grant of £724 plus increase of fee to £388, or an increase of fee to £404. Refers to appointment of Miss Davies during previous financial year, and to the new science master who will replace Pollak when he leaves at the end of this term. Several internal minutes comparing costs at RHS with other schools. Result is at item 14. [*not clear why these are filed out of sequence*]
29. 11/10/1954 letter from solicitors acting for RHS, applying for grant of £2843.17.6d and including the Form SB2.
MoE reply that the grant will be paid when the Deed of Conveyance or equivalent evidence of completion is received.
30. Letter 20/10/1954 from Shaw to MoE referring to "a rather more pleasant financial position" which he wants to visit the Ministry to discuss; also "certain issues connected with an appeal that the BBC is allowing us to make".
Meeting OLS – Young agreed for 18/11/1954.
Shaw's suggested agenda for the meeting:
1. Financial position after completion of purchase and further fund raising.

2. Possible reference to Ministry of Education recognition in B.B.C. Week's Good Cause Broadcast appeal on the 30th January, 1955.
 3. Definition of building in three phases:
 - a) North extension of classrooms, bathrooms, laboratory, etc.
 - b) Assembly Hall, dining room.
 - c) Cottage, tennis court, etc. etc.
 4. Process of financing above.
 5. Chimneys repair.
 6. Possible reduction of fees by a small amount in about April 1955.
31. West Sussex County Council write 23/12/1954 stating that they have a maladjusted boy of grammar school calibre who has been recommended for placement at a Special School; can they have a copy of the latest Inspection Report on RHS?
MoE (Young) refuses; it is not MoE policy to release copies of reports to LEAs.
32. Minute of meeting Shaw – Young 18/11/1954 (full transcription)

Mr. Shaw called on 18th November, 1954, and was seen by Miss Young, Mr. Peet and Mr. Grattidge.

Mr. Shaw said that the School had had a fortunate windfall (the source of which he did not disclose) which had enabled the Managers to meet their share of the cost of purchase of the School premises and left them with a balance of £2,000 which could be put towards the adaptations and extensions.

An appeal was to be made on the B.B.C. on 30th January, 1955, by the Reverend J. McCullough. Mr. Shaw said that he had the script of the B.B.C. appeal with him and asked whether he could refer to Red Hill as a grammar school approved by the Ministry. He was advised to call the school "a special school providing grammar school education approved by the Ministry".

Mr. Shaw went on to say that, in view of the uncertain financial position, the Managers had divided the building work into three phases (as indicated in the enclosure to his letter of 3rd November 1954) so that if they could not meet their full 50 per cent of the cost at once, the work could be spread over two or three years.

Miss Young said that it was usually found from experience that phasing added to the cost of the whole job. It was much less expensive if the builder did not have to leave the site and return. If the Managers could not raise their full share of the cost, the ministry might be willing to pay up to 66 2/3rds per cent accommodation grant. Before any decision was reached, however, the Ministry would await the result of the B.B.C. appeal. Mr. Shaw seemed uncertain of the cost of the various instalments of the building scheme and promised to send firmer figures.

Mr. Shaw said that the chimneys had to be largely rebuilt at a cost of £700. The Managers had been trying to raise the money themselves and would probably spend part of the £2,000 "surplus" on the work.

Mr. Shaw hoped to reduce the present fees slightly if, as was anticipated, the Managers managed to collect the backlog of fees owing to them. Any change would take effect from 1st April 1955.

Miss Young said that the Ministry had had some complaints about the fees. Surrey had said that too much was being spent on books. (It was agreed that wear and tear on books in a school of this type was of necessity higher than in an ordinary school.) Southampton had complained about the charges for clothing. An initial outfit costing £50 had to be provided and Mr. Shaw said that there was a clothing charge of £13 per annum but Authorities were not expected to provide all the initial clothing listed and in fact few did. He promised to send on a list for scrutiny.

[Report is signed "D. Grattidge 14/12/54 and he has written underneath "Miss Young, I am sorry that I have not dictated this note before."]

33. Letter from Shaw to Young 19/11/54 regarding clothing, using Peter Milnes as an example. Further correspondence regarding what clothing is reasonable.
34. Letter from Shaw to Young 11/1/55 requesting confirmation that MoE does not require further changes to the plans. Reply by Young 4/2/55 referring to previous written comments on the plans and enclosing copies [*not in the file*] in case they have been mislaid. Requires amendment to the original sketch plans, which then need approval before the commencement of working drawings. MoE are of the opinion that the work should comprise:
- | | |
|--|-------------------|
| Hall | 1,700 sq. ft. |
| Three classrooms at 400 sq. ft. | 1,200 sq. ft. |
| Laboratory | 400 sq. ft. |
| Laboratory store | 70 sq. ft. |
| Dormitory for five | 250 sq. ft. |
| Headmaster's study | 120 sq. ft. |
| Additional provision for 12 washbasins 5 W.Cs. and 4 Baths or Showers (part of the existing building to be used according to the plan) 680 sq. ft. | |
| Total | 4,420 square feet |
- The cost of the work must not exceed the £16,000 allocated in the 1955/56 Building Programme for Special Schools.
35. Letter 5/2/55 from Shaw to Young. Sketch plans have been passed to architect.
36. Shaw proposes to change the plans again; discussions of the access from the kitchen to the dining room, whether to have a servery or use the room that was previously a dorm.
37. Copy of letter 26/2/55 to Shaw from Darbison, architect for RHS, enclosing revised sketch plans for MoE approval. Wants clarification of the servery. Considers the classrooms too large.
38. Memos about Shaw's proposed changes to the plans. Rejected by MoE but conceded on the servery. MoE will not agree to 6 basins in the dormitory [New Dorm] since 2 will suffice; remainder to be in the room containing WCs and showers.
39. Letter from Shaw to Young 12/3/1955. Agrees to her clothing suggestions. BBC appeal has so far raised £1080. Young has circulated the letter, and written on it "You may be interested to see the last para. [*reference to the BBC appeal*] Not too bad, I think, since Mals. haven't much emotional appeal."
40. Shaw writes 1-/5/1955 for advice on Special Responsibility Allowance – Holland and P-D get £30 p.a. each, he would like to pay Gayton the same.
Internal MoE memos – RHS is not covered by Burnham scale. Extra payments are up to the Managers and the LEAs.
41. Cutting from News Chronicle, 8/6/55
"LAST NIGHT'S TV
A Boy Brings tears
It is astonishing to think that juvenile delinquency should have made so many good programmes for television. Last night's feature "The Unloved" was a worthy example of this.
It described, with a strong emotional pull, the work of the only grammar school for maladjusted children.
Colin Morris' script, which was full of good lines, centred on the case of one neglected boy, and wisely showed no improvement in his behaviour. Only a very artificial climax marred what was a fine example of feature writing.
A boy actor, Melvyn Haynes, gave a truly remarkable performance as the unwanted child. He managed to look like a waif in a Victorian print, and I was not ashamed to weep with him. As the head-master who mixed bluntness with common-sense, Rupert Davies was excellent."
- A note underneath in Miss Young's handwriting says "I understand from Miss Kewill that the gram. School was stated in the T.V. prog, to be near Maidstone. Maybe we won't need to pay any

A.G. [accommodation grant] if this publicity continues. I have written to Mr. Shaw to ask if he is likely to have enough money to make the improvements this year.”

42. Plan Analysis by Darbison of the proposed building work. Various memos. 1/9/55 MoE write to Shaw giving approval for the work at a cost of £19,580.
 43. Shaw writes again about special allowances 2/7/55. Referred by F C Clayton 17/8/55 to previous reply of 26 May.
 44. Shaw writes 24/9/1955 re a new cottage for Holland – cost about £3000. Will there be a grant for 50%?
 45. MoE does not consider this necessary and will not pay a grant but has no objections to the work if funded in the normal way.
-

Record ED 50/773

Titled “Special Schools cost analysis – maladjusted. 1962 – 1963”

1. A list of authorities maintaining residential schools for the maladjusted. All LEAs. Does not include Kent.
2. Various memos re LEA-maintained schools.
3. Special mention of Caldecott. “... has a unique set-up, with dual recognition as an independent school and a non-maintained special school. Pupils include children in care of Children’s Authorities and private pupils as well as maladjusted pupils sent by LEAs.”
4. List of schools – brief mention (name only) of RHS

No further mention of RHS

Record HO 361/103

Maladjusted and handicapped children

5/10/1954 Comment by Kent Children’s Committee on Home Office Memorandum on handicapped children: “I do not think it necessary to comment on the views expressed by Mr. Otto Shaw. These are obviously coloured by a specialist approach.”

No further mention of RHS.