

**Completion Report Tauhidea Teachers' Quarters repairs.
Fondation Eagle File no. 376**

We received the news that we had been awarded £10,777 from Fondation Eagle to renovate the accommodation block for six women teachers at Tauhidea Primary on 15th March 2016.

The work was completed, on budget, by 10th May.

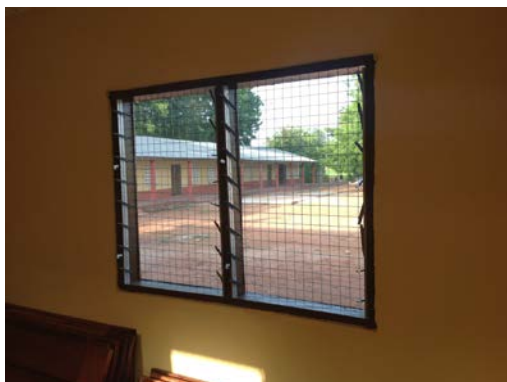
The building has been in full and constant use since we built it in 2004. It is a major factor in recruiting and retaining good quality female teachers. Without this facility, they were unlikely to stay in post due to the very primitive and poor rooms available nearby. The proximity of the teacher block to the school means that teachers attend regularly, do not turn up late, and are more available to their pupils. This is an important part of encouraging families to send all their girls to school.

The repaired building should need little attention for at least the next twelve years. It will greatly enhance conditions for teachers.

All cracks in the building were carefully repaired.. The ceiling was replaced. An electrical system was installed . Wooden doors (damaged by termites) were replaced by rust-resistant metal ones. All window frames were replaced. In order to delay future weather-caused erosion, we built 'aprons' around the structure . The teachers are very pleased with this, it gives a much-needed boost to morale. This helps them to have increased contact time with pupils, give extra help and also encourages them as they engage with illiterate women, teaching them basic literacy and numeracy in the evenings.



Steel doors keep the rooms secure and glass brings light and a view.





The gated yard increases security, is easier to keep clean and keeps the goats out.

Conditions for women teachers and their families will be further improved by the new toilet block for women teachers and girls that we are in the process of building, thanks to The Kitchen Table Trust. When we built our early schools, none had toilets.

Building repairs began in early April and were completed by 10th May. While in Ghana early June we were strongly advised not to attempt to visit the school or others in that direction as there have been a number of murders carried out by bandits on the road recently. It is easy to forget that we are working with a very impoverished society where the dangers and problems can seem difficult for us to understand.

We were one of the first to build teacher accommodation in this region. It is worth noting that communities are recognising more and more the importance of this in terms of ensuring that there is good quality education and that regular teacher attendance is vital. Wherever we travelled, teacher housing was the thing that people wanted most for their children.

Although it may seem to be a problem, it is another element in the general improvement in determination, hope and input from locals. After many years, we are really seeing a significant difference, particularly concerning the lives of girls and women.

Budget attached.