

# Your School, Your Space

## Key Words and Concepts

- Imperial Measurements
  - Victorian schoolchildren would have used very different measurements to what you use today: they used imperial measurements. All the Victorian plans have length measured in this system which used feet and inches.
  - 1 foot is made up of 12 inches
  - 1 inch = 2.54 cm
  - 1 foot = 30.5 cm
  - If you look at a 30 cm ruler you will be able to see the inches opposite the centimetres
- Elementary school - the first school children would attend, sometimes between the age of 5 and when they left education, provided a basic standard of education for working class children. Schoolwork focussed on the 3 Rs reading, writing and arithmetic.
- Crinoline - a full, stiff petticoat which made skirts stick out.
- Standards - Introduced in 1862 as part of the Revised Code of school subjects standards were different levels of work children had to complete throughout school. Children were grouped in standards by ability rather than age. Pupils progressed to the next standard by passing an examination which included reading aloud, writing something read to them and sums.
- Babies - the youngest pupils, they were normally under the age of six, and in some schools were taught with the

girls. On the plans and in some log books they are called infants.

- Latrines - toilets, outside normally at one end of the playground or yard.
- National School - this was a school that was linked to the Church of England. They were called National Schools because the "Church of England National Society for Promoting the Education of the Poor in the Principles of the Established Church" helped to support them with money.
- British School - Schools that were run by the British and Foreign Schools Society, usually nonconformist organisations.