

# summerhill democratics

Questionnaire:

I Have A Building

## I Have a Building Questionnaire

*Please be as thorough as you can in filling out this questionnaire: this stage of the process is **free**. It will provide the basis for your future discussion with us. The more information you give us the better we will be able to start designing a consultation programme that will help you.*

*The aim of this questionnaire is for you to start thinking systematically about the building you have, or are thinking of using. If you complete the questionnaire thoroughly it will give you a good opportunity to think through the options available to you.*

**The online I Have A Building form can be filled in right away, or you can download Word or PDF versions for sharing. If you use the downloads to share you can email one final form to us or come back to the online version to fill in and send.**

Do you own the building, lease it, rent it or is it public property?

How much does it cost per year? (mortgage or rent)

Where is the building? If you give us an address or GPS co-ordinates we will look it up.

What kind of building is it? (detached, semi-detached, terraced, apartment)

Does the building have any exterior spaces? (playground, garden, front yard, parking space, playing fields)

Who is in charge of the maintenance of exterior spaces?

Is there a hedge, wall or boundary fence?

How many entrances does the property have?

What is the official designation of the property at the moment? (residential, business, education- this can affect planning permission)

How far is it from local facilities? (the local shop, the town centre, the post office, the bank)

If it is not in a town, what is the nearest population centre? And how far distant is it?

How many rooms are available?

bathrooms		Bedrooms	
Kitchens		Staffrooms	
Offices		Showers	
Dining room		Communal areas	

Possible Classroom areas (m2)	(m2)	4	
1		5	
2		6	
3		7	

### The state of the buildings

Has the building ever been used as a school before?

Does it have any typical school features, such as prepared classrooms with blackboards, etc?  
( This can be an advantage or a hindrance so please describe.)

Has the electrical system of the building been inspected recently?

Is there a certificate of inspection?

Does it follow required EU guidelines?

Is there a high-speed internet line?

What is the heating system of the building? (radiators, electric heaters, gas heaters, pellet stoves, wood-burning stoves, gas boiler, oil boiler, other)

Does the building have effective insulation?

Is there a school kitchen/dining room? XX Is it equipped to deal with the number of children you anticipate?

oven	hobs	dishwasher
freezer	fridge	Serving counter

Has the property been evaluated for school fire safety?

Are the entrances secure?

Is there a security system?

How do the windows open and close? Are they double glazed for heat insulation ?

Have you done a risk assessment of the buildings for safety using standard Health and Safety criteria?

How much work will be needed to turn the building into a school:

major structural work
reroofing
fitting new guttering
new electrical installation
installation of a telephone line
refitting of the plumbing
installation of new bathrooms
equipping a school kitchen
equipping a school dining room
installing boundary fences
building work to change the dimensions of interior spaces
building work to refit existing spaces
installation of a heating system
fitting of fire exits
fitting a security system
new furniture for classrooms
new furniture for office space
new furniture for living spaces
curriculum materials
equipping a school library

What is your idea for the school?

How many children do you anticipate taking?

What will the **start-up** age range be at your school?

5-7	7-9	9-13	14-17

We recommend starting a democratic school with children in the age range 9-13.

When your school is **at its ideal size**, what will be the numbers of children in each age range ?

5-7	7-9	9-13	14-17

We recommend starting a democratic school with children in the age range 9-13.

How many teachers do you expect to employ? At start-up? At full growth?

Will your teachers live on site or off-site? Is there accommodation for teachers?

Will the building be used for other purposes? For example, many schools start out in shared premises and, even when a school is established, it is a good idea to make maximum use of the facilities in the evenings, at weekends and over the holidays.

Will the children be boarders or day-kids? How much will you charge (receive) per pupil?

What is the initial capital investment in this project?

When is the start date?

Do you have a project time-line for preparing buildings, teachers and curriculum materials?

Do you have a business plan that covers the first five years?

Are there major building-related expenses in the first ten years of operation that you can anticipate now?

Additional Comments