



History of St. Martins Church of England (VA) Junior School

The school was founded in 1811 in association with the National Society. It started with 107 boys and 78 girls. The criteria to attend school was children had to be over 5, bring a 1d a week and be clean and tidy. It grew over the years and by the 1840's it had at times up to 400 children.

The school hours were 8.45 to 1.15 on weekdays and 9-2 on Sundays.

1859: The boys and girls were separated; boys were educated upstairs and the girls downstairs.

1890: 2 new classrooms were built providing accommodation for 617 children.

1913: There were 2 departments with a headmaster for the boys and a headmistress for the girls and the infants.

1920: There was a partial amalgamation with another school, the older girls going to George Herbert and the older boys remaining at St Martin's. Then the infants moved into the girl's part of the school.

1926: The senior boys moved to St Thomas's and St Martin's became a school for boys under 11 and infants..

1927: It was decided to build a new school for the boys and alter the existing accommodation for the infants. This was completed in 1930. A new girl's school was also created.

1944: The boys' and infant schools were granted voluntary status.

1950: The foundation stone of a new school was laid and in 1952 the junior boys and girls moved to a new building on Fowler Hill. The infants continued using the old school building.

2003: Both junior and infant school moved to where it stands now in Shady Bower. The school was then, renamed St Martin's CE(VA) Primary School as one whole school.