

Starehe Girls' Centre

The Girls' Centre is in a relatively isolated rural location on a site spread across a hill with a lake. The site was a gift to Starehe but its physical geography presents considerable challenges. Much work is needed to build up the infrastructure to an acceptable level to accommodate up to 400 girls.

1. Water

Starehe Girls' Centres must invest in infrastructure to build their self-sufficiency and secure their future water and power supplies. Failure to invest will impact on Starehe's capacity to offer a life-changing opportunity to poor and gifted Kenyan girls.

Water presents a major challenge for Starehe Girls' Centre. The elevated site of the girls' centre means that water pressure from pipes is virtually non-existent. **Water has to be brought by tanker, which is expensive, insufficient and unsustainable.** In addition, a neighbour is gradually draining the lake on the Centre's site to irrigate his land. Legal advice is being sought but, in the interim, Starehe Girls' Centre cannot irrigate their on-site vegetable plots, an important source of food.

Securing Water Supply	Cost KShs	Cost £
Drill bore hole	2,500,000	21,654
Installation cost	500,000	4,331
High level water storage	3,000,000	25,985
Effluence disposal and treatment works	2,250,000	19,489
Site water reticulation (piping around site)	1,500,000	12,993
Sub-total	9,750,000	84,450
<i>Contingency at 5%</i>	<i>487,500</i>	<i>4,222.50</i>
Grand Total	10,237,500	88,675

Note: Prices based on exchange rate as of January 14th 2009 (£1 = KShs 115.45)

2. Power

For both Centres power supply is erratic and unreliable. Frequent, prolonged and unannounced power cuts interrupt the children's' education and, in the evenings, reading or study are impossible. Worse still, **the cost of electricity on the national grid rose by more than 50% from July 2008.**

Inevitably money previously spent on educational essentials is diverted to electricity. The Girls' Centre needs to purchase a generator and undertake work to carry electricity efficiently to all corners of the site.

Securing Power Supply	Unit Cost	Cost KShs	Cost £
Purchase generator	1,000,000	1,000,000	8,662
Installation cost		90,000	780
Power reticulation (wiring around site)		1,500,000	12,993
Sub-total	1,000,000	2,590,000	22,435
<i>Contingency at 5%</i>		129,500	1,121
Grand Total		2,719,500	23,556

Note: Prices based on exchange rate as of January 14th 2009 (£1 = KShs 115.45)

3. Dining Hall, Kitchen and Laundry

Starehe Girls' Centre successfully secured their site as a generous gift in kind but, as numbers grow, the shortcomings of the existing buildings and services grow more and more evident, impacting on SGC's capacity to provide an uninterrupted education. **Urgent work is needed to develop an infrastructure which is adequate to house, feed and educate 400 teenage girls.**

A new dining hall/kitchen/laundry is a priority. The current dining-hall and kitchen are extremely cramped. A temporary canvass structure, open to the elements, serves as an over-flow. There is a single sink and cooking is on wood fires. Food hygiene is a major problem and sickness a constant risk.

Dining Hall, Kitchen and Laundry	Cost KShs	Cost £
Preliminaries and substructure	5,250,000	46,358
Reinforced concrete frame	8,300,000	73,290
External and internal walling	4,617,000	40,769
Roof construction and finishes	1,800,000	15,894
Balustrading, doors and windows	970,500	8,570
Internal wall finishes and external finishes	1,535,000	13,554
Floor and ceiling finishes	2,100,000	18,543
Joinery fittings	650,000	5,740
Builders work in connection with services	125,000	1,104
External works	780,000	6,887
Services (electrical & mechanical)	2,800,000	24,724
Sub-total	28,927,500	255,433

Kitchen equipment (note 1)	3,000,000	26,490
Laundry equipment (note 2)	675,000	5,960
Sub-total	32,602,500	287,883

Contingency at 5%	1,630,125	14,394
Grand Total	34,232,625	302,277

- Notes:**
1. Kitchen equipment includes gas cooker, 3 freezers, fridge, dish washing machine, oven, and food-warmers, Tea urns, kitchen utensils and trolleys
 2. Laundry equipment includes washing machines, drying machines, ironing machines
 3. A fully costed breakdown and architect's plans are available
 4. Exchange rates are based on rates in early February 2009

4. Provision of Staff Housing

There are around 30 members of staff at Starehe Girls Centre and of these, only 10 are able to stay on site due to a shortage of staff housing.

Starehe Girls' Centre is situated roughly 2 miles from the main road and therefore any public transport. This presents a major challenge for teachers not living on site to reach the school. Most teachers' salaries do not stretch to car ownership, which in Kenya is extremely expensive due to a lack of domestic car industry. This unfortunately leads to many occasions when classes are left without teachers due to transport issues, which greatly impacts on the girls' education.

A breakdown of figures for the staff housing needs, which is planned in five stages over the next three years, is available on request.

Please contact Lisa Robinson on 020 7934 7023 or email lisa.robinson@starehe.org for further information if you are interested in funding this project in part or in full.

5. Other - Security Wall and Gatehouse

Starehe Girls' Centre is a home away from home for the girls, many of whom are orphaned or live far from the centre and therefore live at the centre throughout the year. The school is located on a large, isolated and unsecured site outside Nairobi. A local benefactor generously donated the site and, whilst not an ideal site, it was the only way (after many previous attempts) that Starehe Girls' Centre could open.

The size of the site and its location creates serious security problems, which are impossible to address through manpower alone. **On several occasions armed bandits have forced entry in search of money and valuables.** In order to provide a more safe and secure environment for the 350 girls and 10 staff that now live on site, the school plans to build a robust wall around the whole site and an internal perimeter wall around the girls' dormitories.

Perimeter Wall	Cost KShs	Cost £
Foundations	19,500,000	168,904
Foundation Walling	6,500,000	56,301
Reinforced Concrete Superstructure	10,400,000	90,082
Superstructure Walling	16,900,000	146,384
Electric Fence & Street Lighting	11,700,000	101,343
Sub-total	65,000,000	563,014
<i>Contingency at 5%</i>	<i>3,250,000</i>	<i>28,151</i>
Grand Total	68,250,000	591,165

Note: Prices based on exchange rate as of January 14th 2009 (£1 = KShs 115.45)

Cost breakdown for Boundary Wall, Gate and Gatehouse continued...

5. **Other** - Security Wall and Gatehouse continued...

Boundary Wall	Cost KShs	Cost £
Foundations	10,856,630	94,038
Foundation Walling	3,743,780	32,428
Reinforced Concrete Superstructure	5,807,060	50,299
Superstructure Walling	9,667,530	83,738
Electric Fence & Street Lighting	6,675,000	57,817
Sub-total	36,750,000	318,320
<i>Contingency at 5%</i>	<i>1,837,500</i>	<i>15,916</i>
Grand Total	38,587,500	334,236

Note: Prices based on exchange rate as of January 14th 2009 (£1 = KShs 115.45)

Cost breakdown for Boundary Wall, Gate and Gatehouse continued...

5. **Other** - Security Wall and Gatehouse continued...

Gatehouse	Cost KShs	Cost £
Substructure	67,500	585
Reinforced Concrete	94,500	819
Walling	13,500	117
Roof Structure	22,500	195
Roof Covering	13,500	117
Floor Finish	22,500	195
Wall Finish	9,000	78
Ceiling	22,500	195
Doors	22,500	195
Windows	36,000	312
PC & Provisional sums	45,000	390
Preliminaries	22,500	195
External Works	13,500	117
Plumbing & Drainage	22,500	195
Contingencies	22,500	195
Gate	50,000	433
Sub-total	500,000	4,333
<i>Contingency at 5%</i>	<i>25,000</i>	<i>217</i>
Grand Total	525,000	4,550

Note: Prices based on exchange rate as of January 14th 2009 (£1 = KShs 115.45)