

<u>Date</u>	<u>Information</u>	<u>Source material</u>
1616	John Thompson was a licensed teacher in Leek in 1616 and probably taught at Meerbrook.	Lichfield Joint Record Office B/V/1/33
1623	He was described as not “conformable to the religion now established” when he taught a school at Meerbrook. His licence was withdrawn.	Lichfield Joint Record Office B/V/1/ 45
1621	John Comylach of Meerbrook subscribed as a teacher in 1621.	Lichfield Joint Record Office B/A/4/18/1, 7Nov.1621
1662	Ralph Poulson was licensed to teach at Foker in 1662. He was probably the man of the same name who was a schoolmaster of Mill Street, Leek until his death in 1691.	Lichfield Joint Record Office B/A/4/5, 26 Sept. 1662 Staffordshire Record Office, D. 1040/5/14,
1675	John Stoddard of Thorneyleigh Green Farm gave a rent charge of £10 for a master to teach 20 poor children.	Lichfield Joint Record Office Reg. of Wills A, pp 488-489
1702	Roger Morrice (d. 1702) left half the interest on £100 to teach 8 poor children by the master at Meerbrook, provided he was able to teach Latin.	Public Record Office, London. Prob 11/463 ff 64v-65; 13 th Rep. com. Char. 394
1722 - 1769	Henry Royle became the master at Meerbrook in 1722 and until his death in 1769.	Lichfield Joint Record Office B/A/4/29 Staffordshire Record Office, 1040/5/15 burial of 23 Feb 1769
Prior to 1778 1778	The school was apparently held in a room in the tower in the church. A schoolroom was built in Meerbrook village.	The Victoria History of the County of Stafford The Victoria History of the County of Stafford
1795	Indenture of Lease and release	Document of

	between George Earl of Macclesfield and landowners and proprietors of Estates within Leekfrith. School house (which was erected by several landowners and inhabitants of Leekfrith) and for transacting their parochial business and the ground and soil on which it stood for the payment of 5 shillings. Held in trust and with the payment of one peppercorn, if requested.	Indenture
1818	There were two Dame schools at Meerbrook with a combined attendance of 16 pupils. They existed until 1830s.	Educ. Of Poor Digest 862; Educ. Enq. Abstract, 879
1818	Meerbrook school had 28 free children and 12 fee paying children.	Educ. Of Poor Digest, 862
1825	A C of E <u>Sunday</u> school was established with an average of 50 pupils in the earlier 1830s, but an average of only 30 in 1851.	Educ. Enq. Abstract, 879; Staffordshire Record Society 4 th ser. X. 94; Public Record Office HO 129/372/3/1
18/6/1839	New trustees appointed	Indenture document
1839	A house for the master was added.	The Victoria History of the County of Stafford
1860	Samuel Beresford, master of Free School	Kelly's directory
1861	Samuel Beresford, head, schoolmaster Harriet Beresford wife Schoolmistress William Beresford son, 16, Pupil Teacher Charles Beresford son, 13, Scholar Walter Beresford, son, 11, Scholar	Census – Meerbrook school
1863	Charles Beresford left England for Australia aged 16, after teaching.	"Beresfords of Brookdale"
30/11/1868	New trustees appointed	Indenture document
1868	Samuel Beresford, master of Free School	Post Office Directory
1871	Samuel Beresford, Schoolmaster & owner occupier 12 ½ acres Harriet Beresford, School mistress	Census
1871	The schoolroom was enlarged.	The Victoria History of the County of Stafford

1874	There were 30 children on the books.	Reliquary, iii, 59; Public Record Office, London. ED 7/109/207
1880	Parish clerk, Samuel Beresford Free School, Meerbrook, endowed with bequests, producing 12 pounds 5 shillings William Thomas Joynes(?), schoolmaster	Kelly's directory
1881	Schoolhouse William Thos. Gines, head, schoolmaster Emily Gines, wife, schoolmistress	Census
1896	The Free school has 63 children on average attending. The endowment produces £12 5s yearly. George Neaves is the school master and clerk to the parish council.	Kelly's directory
24/12/1898	New trustees appointed	Indenture document
April 1902	Rev W. Nichols requests that the children attend morning prayer before school	Meerbrook parish magazine
May 1902	35 children attend morning prayer. A request for help with the school fund as the debt needs to be settled by May 31 st .	Meerbrook parish magazine
June 1902	A dance in the schoolroom raised £3- 14-6 for the fund.	Meerbrook parish magazine
July 1902	Report of the Inspector of Schools in Religious Knowledge. Every standard was marked as Good or Very Good. Mr and Mrs Machin were the head teacher and assistant teacher at the time.	Meerbrook parish magazine
August 1902	Money given to the Treasurer for the school from the surplus of the Coronation festivities. It was proposed that a moveable platform be provided in the schoolroom for parish entertainments.	Meerbrook parish magazine
October 1902	The Schoolroom was used for the annual tea party. Tickets 9d	Meerbrook parish magazine
November 1902	Adults from the village produced the Annual concert in the school room.	Meerbrook parish magazine
December 1902	Prizes given for best Attendance at morning prayer. Bishop's certificate for Religious Knowledge awarded in church.	Meerbrook parish magazine
January	Day school opened on January 5 th .	Meerbrook parish

1903		magazine
February 1903	A piano is to be bought for the Schoolroom for parish functions. Fundraising needed.	Meerbrook parish magazine
March 1903	Contributors are named for the piano fund. Mr Machin trained the children for the Easter concert.	Meerbrook parish magazine
April 1903	Mr Machin continued with the concert despite the death of Margaret Machin (61)	Meerbrook parish magazine
May 1903	School concert raised £2-19s for piano fund	Meerbrook parish magazine
June 1903	The date was set for the examination of the children in Religious Knowledge.	Meerbrook parish magazine
July 1903	Report of the inspector of R.K. Infants good with N. T. and Apostle's creed. Upper division did well on O.T. and Order of Morning Prayer. HT commended. Order of school very good.	Meerbrook parish magazine
August 1903	School re-opened on Aug 10 th and Vicar hoped that the hay is all in so that attendance is good and the Annual Grant from the Education dept is not lost.	Meerbrook parish magazine
September 1903	Dance arranged for October 9 th . Proceeds to pay off the debt for the piano.	Meerbrook parish magazine
October 1903	William Pimlott appointed by parish council to be the representative on the Board of School Managers. W H Lomas was appointed by the County Council. Daily morning service ceased until the spring.	Meerbrook parish magazine
November 1903	The piano, which cost £14-14s was paid for and was the property of the parish and not the County Educational Authority.	Meerbrook parish magazine
December 1903	The vicar donated 10 prizes for attendance at the weekday services. Record of 2 baptisms for November for the Machin family (headteacher). One baby died a month later	Meerbrook parish magazine
31/10/1928	Miss MJ Hanmer retired as head teacher	
5/1/1929	Minute paper – Appointment of Head teacher. Director and deputy of Staffs Education Committee attended – all managers were present. After 2 hours	Meerbrook CE Headship File CEQ/2/148/3 Stafford record office

	of discussion 5 managers (vicar dissenting) persisted in appealing to Board of Education in Whitehall.	
5/1/1929	Letter to Board of Education at Whitehall. "To avoid a school strike I have agreed to refrain from sending an emergency teacher to take charge" FA Hughes, Staffs education committee	Meerbrook CE Headship File CEQ/2/148/3 Stafford record office
8/1/1929	The Meerbrook appeal was sent to PHB Inglis	Meerbrook CE Headship File CEQ/2/148/3 Stafford record office
19/1/1929	Whitehall agree that the authority were entitled to withhold consent to the earlier appointment by the managers.	Meerbrook CE Headship File CEQ/2/148/3 Stafford record office
22/1/1929	Authority disagree with appointment of Miss Kinneson on "educational grounds"	Meerbrook CE Headship File CEQ/2/148/3 Stafford record office
11/2/1929	Letter to Rev Hatfield. Two meetings were called to appoint a head teacher for the older children but there was no quorum. Another meeting must be held or the Authority will appoint.	Meerbrook CE Headship File CEQ/2/148/3 Stafford record office
22/2/1929	Letter from Director of Education disagreeing with the choice of head teacher by the managers.	Meerbrook CE Headship File CEQ/2/148/3 Stafford record office
25/2/1929	Managers decision overridden by the education committee. Miss Ethel May King of Biddulph (43) to be appointed and Miss Kinnison to revert to original position.	Meerbrook CE Headship File CEQ/2/148/3 Stafford record office
25/2/1929	Letter to Mr Hatfield at the vicarage to give notice to Miss Mason on 28 th Feb.	Meerbrook CE Headship File CEQ/2/148/3 Stafford record office
25/2/1929	Reply from Mr Mellor of Green Lane, "The managers will not be responsible for any friction which may arise as a consequence of such appointment.	Meerbrook CE Headship File CEQ/2/148/3 Stafford record office
25/2/1929	Letter to Mr Whitehouse at Leekfrith. Miss King knows all the circumstances and is quite prepared to "face the music".	Meerbrook CE Headship File CEQ/2/148/3 Stafford record office
28/2/1929	From Correspondent of Meerbrook school.	Meerbrook CE Headship

	He called a meeting to appoint a head teacher but they(managers) had already appointed Miss Kinneson	File CEQ/2/148/3 Stafford record office
4/3/1929	Education committee request that Bradley school release Miss King as a candidate for headship there, because of the needs of Meerbrook “ where the conditions are particularly difficult and for which Miss King – and no other person – is the most suitable candidate”.	Meerbrook CE Headship File CEQ/2/148/3 Stafford record office
6/3/1929	Miss King is appointed as an emergency teacher.	Meerbrook CE Headship File CEQ/2/148/3 Stafford record office
1930	The Meerbrook C of E school had 63 pupils and the decision was taken that this all age school was obviously over crowded.	Staffs C.C. Record for 1930, 861, 867
1940	It was converted to a junior school only, the seniors being sent to schools in Leek.	Staffordshire Record Office, D 4849/6/1 p 12.
8/4/1953	New trustees appointed	Conveyance to be read as an annex to earlier documents
1957	The school took controlled C of E status as St Matthew’s Church of England (Controlled) Primary school.	Staffordshire Record Office, D 4849/6/1 pp 59-60
1969	Meerbrook School was closed and the children moved to a newly built school in Blackshaw Moor.	Staffordshire Record Office, CEH/100/1
2/9/1970	Trustees apply for an official search on school house and land at Meerbrook.	Form L.C 11
18/10/1971	Trustees apply for an official search on school house and land at Meerbrook.	From L.C. 11
26/10/1971	Sale by the trustees. Conveyance of 0.130acre of land with the schoolhouse and other buildings to Staffordshire Potteries Water Board for£2410	Conveyance document
19/11/1971	Sale by Rev Warmesley and Church	Conveyance document

	Commissioners. Conveyance of 0.230 acre of land behind the schoolhouse to Staffordshire Potteries Water Board for £115.	later used as an exhibit in 2006.
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