

# This school's boys are loo-sing out on toilets

SOME things are best done in private.

But matters are not so simple for the male students of Shin Kuang Junior High School in Taichung, Taiwan.

Their school building is sorely lacking in toilet cubicles in the boys' toilets.

There are only 25 toilet cubicles for the school's 1,300 male students. This means that each toilet cubicle has to be shared among 52 boys, reported Apple Daily.

There are sufficient urinals, however, with eight urinals and one toilet cubicle per male toilet.

When the toilet gets crowded during breaks, some boys have been unable to wait for their turn in the cubicle.

Out of desperation, the boys, aged 13 to 15, have used the urinals for a bodily function that the fixtures were not meant for.

The school's head of operations, Mr Wu Zheng Hong, confirmed that a couple of months ago, a student had been "unable to hold it in" and had used the urinal instead of waiting for the toilet cubicle.

Mr Wu admitted that as each male toilet only has one cubicle, "it's not too convenient if more than two students want to pass motion".

He said the school had wanted to build additional toilet facilities, but it did not have the estimated 2 million yuan (\$407,000) needed for the renovations.

One student, whose surname is Chen, said: "I usually try to control myself and wait till I go home."

Another student revealed: "Sometimes if someone is using the cubicle, I sneak into the girls' toilet to do my business.

"Luckily, I've not been spotted so far."

A spokesman for Taiwan's Ministry of Education said its rules call for one cubicle per 50 male students and one urinal for every 30 students.

"We will have to look into whether there is a need to increase the toilet facilities at older school campuses," he said.

A spokesman for The Humanistic Education Foundation urged schools to consider both the number of students enrolled as well as their timetables.

"If we use the ministry's guideline of 50 boys to one toilet cubicle, and there is only 10 minutes between classes, does that mean only two boys can pass motion during their break?"