

Understanding your energy usage

If you know how much energy you use and what influences it, you can plan to target and prioritise the best ways to reduce energy consumption, and evaluate effectiveness. The Department for Education have provided guidance [here](#) that sets out how schools can reduce their:

- energy demand and consumption
- energy costs
- carbon emissions

It focuses on how to reduce energy use for:

- heating, hot water & lighting

Display Energy Certificate (DEC) & Recommendation Report (RR)

Public Sector organisations are obliged to display a valid DEC and have an up to date RR. The RR gives pointers to improve the buildings energy efficiency, the recommendations are grouped according to the length of the pay back period plus, each point is also ranked for the potential impact it will have low, medium or high. Your schools latest DEC & RR can be found [here](#).

Other

- Detailed consumption data from gas and electricity suppliers is a good tool to spot anomalies in consumption.
- The Council is providing support to help achieve climate action goals, schools may be eligible for assistance from the Carbon Access Fund in the form of 50% matched funding. More details can be found [here](#).

Additional School Capital Funding

Eligible schools will receive an allocation from an additional £447m of capital funding to improve energy efficiency in 2022 to 2023. Further information including the conditions of the grant and individual school allocations can be found [here](#).

December 2022



Example Energy Projects

- A building management system to control and monitor your building's electrical equipment such as ventilation, lighting, energy, fire systems, and security systems
- Solar panels that capture the sun's energy and convert it into electricity. You can then use the electricity in your building, store it or send it to the grid. With the rising cost of energy the pay back period on these is reducing.
- LED lighting with motion sensors and dimming options – Laser have a framework contract through Kent County Council for this.