

Salix Programme

Newsletter



Leicester
City Council

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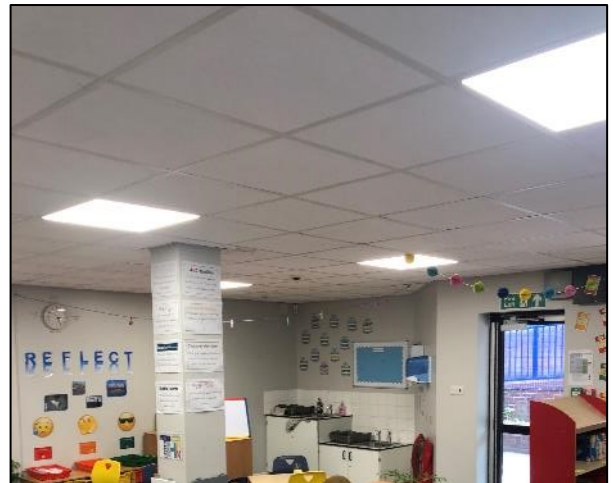
Welcome to the latest edition of the Salix Programme newsletter. This time, learn about all things LED as we put LED lighting into the spotlight. Read on for more information about our contractors and to find out about recent progress at Salix project sites in Leicester.

In the Spotlight: LED Lighting

LED stands for Light Emitting Diode and is the relatively new and cost effective way to illuminate the world around us. Light Emitting Diodes have been around for decades, but it is only in recent years that they have been developed to give out enough illumination whilst also being cost worthy.

How do they work?

To understand how LED lighting works, you must first understand what the acronym stands for – Light Emitting Diode. This, is any semi-conducting material (usually a metal), that when an electric current is passed through it, lights up. There are a number of uses for LED lights, for example in digital watches, flat screen TVs, remote controls, and even in traffic lights. As LED lighting has become much more energy efficient than older types of lighting such as CFL (compact fluorescent lamp) and halogen bulbs, there is huge potential to save carbon and cut down on energy bills in homes, schools and buildings worldwide.



Benefits of LED lighting

- **Eco friendly** – LED lighting uses less energy, so your building would be reducing carbon emissions generated by lighting your building by switching to LED. They do not contain any harmful metals such as lead or mercury, and the manufacturing process is a lot cleaner than other types of bulbs.
- **LED bulbs last much longer** - some LED bulbs can last up to 50,000 hours before they need to be replaced, compared with 1000-2000 hours for incandescent and halogen bulbs.
- **Changing to LED is relatively simple** - most LED bulbs are designed to work with existing light fittings. Areas where fixings may need to be changed is where tube LED lights are replacing fluorescents.
- **Better brightness** - LED bulbs provide full light immediately, compared with other bulbs that take time to warm up to full brightness.

Potential drawbacks

- **High initial cost** – LED bulbs are generally more expensive to buy and replace than traditional halogen bulbs. However, this cost is largely offset by the long term benefits mentioned above.
- **The colour** – The illumination from LED bulbs can sometimes become of lower quality over time, resulting in unbalanced lighting and reduced brightness.

Works Carried Out

Works have recently been taken place at Caldecote Primary School to replace existing windows and doors. Lowe Electrical are continuing works at Imperial Avenue School to replace existing lighting with more energy efficient LED lighting, as are ESL working to complete installation of LED lighting at Fullhurst Community College, New College, and Beaumont Leys School.



New windows and doors being installed at Caldecote Primary School

Work has begun at Herrick Primary School (**right**) to remove Asbestos Containing Materials, before the installation of decarbonisation technologies such as new windows and LED lighting can take place. It is important to remove these materials without disturbing asbestos fibres within it, in order to eliminate the risk of microscopic asbestos fibres being released into the air and being breathed in. Therefore, before any installation work can take place at any Salix project site, it is crucial that materials containing asbestos that surround the installation area are safely sealed or removed.



Appointment of Contractors

We are pleased to report that the legal appointment of contractors for the Salix programme will take place imminently. Once this is complete, the project team will be issuing contracts for the works taking place by site (including schools). Orders for materials will be placed with six key contractors who will carry out the majority of the works in our programme; Ashe Construction, CBES Ltd, J Tomlinson, NMCN, Oliveti Construction, and Seddon Construction. Over the next few weeks, these contractors will begin contacting their allocated project sites in order to plan works and schedule their visits to your site. Salix Project Managers Alan Evans and John Squires will be kept fully informed by the appointed contractors at all stages; should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch with them directly.

Contact Us

Each site has a dedicated project manager (Alan Evans or John Squires), however if you have a general question or need to get in touch with the Salix Project Team email us at

Salix.Project.Team@leicester.gov.uk