

Salix Programme

Newsletter



Leicester
City Council

Late October 2021

Welcome to the latest edition of the Salix Programme newsletter. This time we introduce Leicester City Council's 'Green Your Routine' campaign and we invite you to showcase our new Salix promotional banners. Also find out about recently progress at sites in Leicester.

Green Your Routine

Green Your Routine is a set of behavioural change campaigns that will help *you* play your part in reducing the carbon footprint of your school, the wider council and you as an individual. This will include looking at topics such as energy saving, waste, diet and transport.



The first campaign – the 'Winter Season Campaign' – is now underway and will inform you of ways to save money and energy both at work *and* at home! We aim to provide you with some information on what you can do to help the environment in your building.

Building use

One of the most important things your school or building can do to reduce energy use is to identify old technologies, have them replaced with newer and efficient versions (e.g. through Salix funding) and understand how they can be used to minimise energy use, and ultimately, energy bills. In a school setting, getting the pupils involved in this process will offer educational benefits, but also promote the uptake of energy reduction measures as part of the everyday running of the school. Here are three things you could do to reduce energy consumption across your school or building:

1. Use natural light

Using natural light in classrooms not only reduces electricity use, but it also increases the productivity of students. Reducing the use of artificial lighting when it isn't needed can reduce your lighting bills by over 15%.

2. Turn computers off

Turning a computer off at the end of the day, or on standby between uses, is a small way of saving large amounts of energy! A monitor accounts for around two-thirds of the energy used to power a computer, so why not create a rule to put monitors into standby if you aren't using it for 5 minutes or more?

3. Temperature checks

The recommended temperature for a classroom is around 18°C depending on the time of year – so why risk spending excessive amounts of energy and money on running your heating system inefficiently? Check temperatures in rooms frequently and adjust the building's heating controls accordingly.

Individual action

Here are 5 things you as an individual can do this winter to save energy and minimise the impact of the increasing gas and electricity prices:

1. Turn off at the mains

Unplugging your laptop/phone/tablets when 100% charged and switching off appliances at the wall can save you on average £30 a year! This is a quick and easy way to reduce your spending and carbon foot-print.

2. Fit energy saving LED bulbs

An average house needs a £100 investment to fit LED light bulbs, which can last for around 15 years. This will save you around £40 a year in electricity bills and improve the overall quality of light in your home. This means you will make your money back in less than 3 years.



3. Turn your heating down by 1 degree

This simple trick can save you around £80 a year in heating bills and you won't even notice the change in temperature!



4. Make yourself a green tea

Using your kitchen utensils more efficiently is an easy way to make a quick saving in energy. For 1 cup of tea/coffee, only fill the kettle with enough water for 1 drink. Overfilling your kettle wastes up to 500 litres of water over the working year!



5. Standby, not screensaver

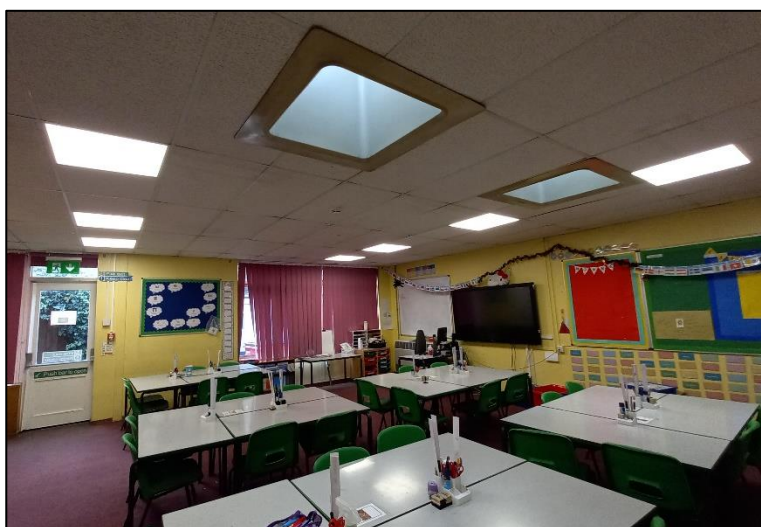
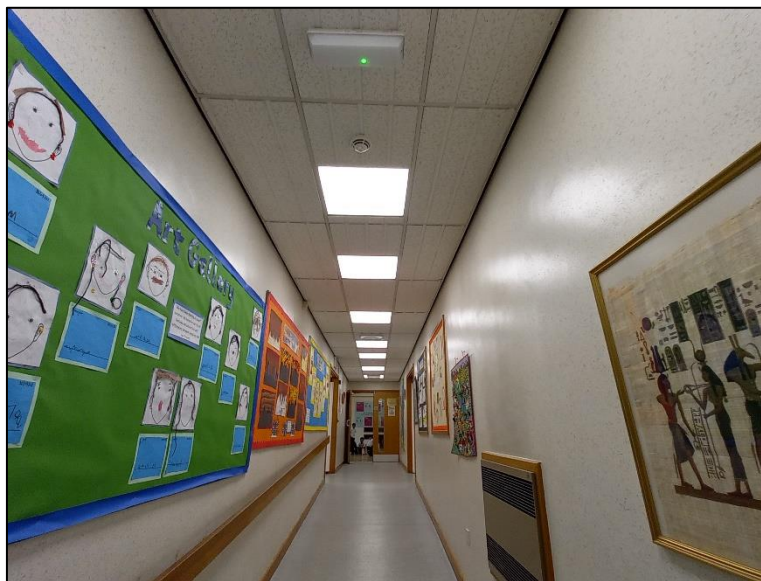
Setting a timer on your desktop/laptop to standby will save you electricity compared with a screensaver.

Feedback survey

We would love to get your feedback! Our fortnightly Salix Programme newsletters bring you a variety of information, and so we would love to hear about your experiences with the newsletter so far, and what you would like to see more of. All responses are anonymised and your feedback will help to shape the future of Salix newsletters and communications. [Fill out our short survey here.](#)

Completed works

LED lighting - ESL (Energy Saving Lighting) have recently completed the installation of LED lighting installation at Shenton Primary School. This new lighting is much more energy efficient than their existing lighting, and will both save the school money on their energy bill, and reduce their carbon footprint. The school reported that this new lighting instantly brightened up their building! See below for photos of Shenton Primary School's new LED lighting.



Completed works

Solar PV panels

Last week saw the first completed installation of solar photovoltaic (PV) panels at Barley Croft Primary School. The contractor, Feed It Green, successfully installed solar PVs on the roof of the school building.



Salix promotional banners

We have recently designed and produced Salix promotional banners and are pleased to reveal the designs. There are two types of banners; the first is designed to be hung on railings outside of your building – these are 3 x 1 m (see image below), and the second is in the form of a pull-up banner (right), for use indoors. If you would like to showcase one of these banners at your school or in your building, please get in touch and we would be happy to deliver one to you.



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