

Schools News

Updated - July 2023



Welcome to the July 2023 Leicester Sustainable Schools newsletter. We hope you are all having a smooth end to the school year!

We have been delighted to hear that some of you have already submitted your Green Flag applications. A gentle reminder that the **deadline for this academic year is July 31st**.

This term has been very busy with several celebration events, which marked the end of the Saving Saffron Brook project and our urban nature project, as well as our annual Eco-School celebration last week. Along with lots of outdoor activities including Tiny Forest training and supporting schools in making their school grounds more nature friendly.

We hope you all have a well-deserved break over the summer holidays and we are looking forward to working with you again in September.

As always, get in touch if you need any support - Marc, Molly & Laura.

What is Sustainable Schools Leicester?

Leicester City Council has a dedicated Sustainable Schools team based in the Energy & Sustainability team who provide *free* support to schools to help them become more sustainable in all that they do.

As well as one-to-one support and environmentally linked projects, schools can engage through termly #EcoTeachMeets, staff training, resource planning & workshops, assemblies, Eco-Schools conferences & celebration events and can keep up to date through dedicated social media, monthly eBulletins and termly newsletters. The Eco-Schools programme provides exciting opportunities for students in curriculum time as well as outside the classroom. Learning outside the classroom (LOTC) has been identified as 'memorable activities leading to memorable learning and positively contributing to pupil safety'. LOTC provides positive benefits to all groups of young people and supports a rich, relevant, broad and balanced curriculum.



How to find out more Sustainable Schools Team

City Hall, 115 Charles Street, Leicester LE1 1FZ

✉ SustainableSchools@leicester.gov.uk

🌐 schools.leicester.gov.uk/eco-schools

🐦 [EcoSchoolsLCC](https://twitter.com/EcoSchoolsLCC)

📷 [EcoSchoolsLCC](https://www.instagram.com/EcoSchoolsLCC)

📘 [EnvEducationLeicester](https://www.facebook.com/EnvEducationLeicester)

☎ 0116 454 6746



Pictures from the WWF celebration event at Highfields Adventure Playground

Finished reading? Pass on to a colleague

Eco-School Awards

Schools can register for Eco-Schools for free at www.eco-schools.org.uk/register

Green Flags are renewed on an **annual basis with an application window open from 1 May until 31 July every year.**

Applications are now **completely online** to showcase your environmental efforts. There are more questions than previous years and an opportunity to achieve Eco-Schools Green Flag with Merit or Distinction.

The Eco-Schools application online has a **progress bar** which you can see as you complete the application over the year with the students.

The cost is £200+VAT on an annual basis. Leicester City Council has been able to subsidise Eco-Schools Green Flags for several years. For the academic year 2022/23 we are able to cover £150, so schools need to cover £50. More information available online at www.eco-schools.org.uk/the-eco-schools-programme-is-changing

Newsletter

Our newsletters are published 4 times per year. If you would like to submit an article for the next newsletter, the deadline is **Wednesday 30 August 2023**. We ask for around 200 words, at least 1 photo and contact details e.g. name and email address to: SustainableSchools@leicester.gov.uk



Staff changes

As you all probably know by now, Lee Jowett has left the council and has started his new role at Sheffield Hallam University as a Climate Change and Sustainability Fellow.

Our former Education Officer, Marc Tench, has since been appointed as Sustainable Schools Manager.

We are also pleased to announce that Laura Barke has now secured the Education Officer position and will be taking over the role shortly. Molly Laycock is still working in the team as a Project Officer.

There will be some changes to roles and responsibilities next academic year. If you are used to dealing with a particular member of the Sustainable Schools team, feel free to contact them. We are a close-knit bunch and will happily respond and pass you on to the most relevant person!

Please feel free to contact any of us with questions or requests for support.

Eco-Schools Celebration



Last week we held our annual Eco-Schools celebration at City Hall. 7 schools attended, who were: Lancaster Academy, Scraftoft Valley Primary School, Hazel Community Primary School, Sacred Heart Catholic Voluntary Academy, Knighton Mead Primary Academy, Uplands Infant School and Wolsey House Primary School. All of the schools created wonderful displays to showcase their work from this last year, and judges were blown away by Eco-action happening across the city.

Congratulations to Sacred Heart Catholic Voluntary Academy, who won the overall Eco-School of the Year and the Judges Special Award, and Lancaster Academy, who won the Eco-Factor Award (voted by the other schools).

We were very pleased to welcome Adam Flint, National Manager for Eco-Schools, who presented some of the awards, told us about the impact of Eco-Schools nationally and in Leicester, and their future plans. He also presented Wolsey House and Uplands Infants with their Green Flags.

A huge thank you to Central England Co-op for providing £100 worth of vouchers for the winners, Roots & Shoots for the signed copies of Dr Jane Goodall's book, and The3Engineers for signed copies of their Adventures of Scout books and seed packets.

We were very pleased to have local councillors, representatives from different areas of Leicester City Council, and lots of environmental organisations attend as judges and to find out about some of the wonderful work happening in schools across the city!



Grow Your Own Grub



Our annual Grow Your Own Grub Mealbarrow competition is coming to an end. We have had 20 schools joining in by designing a three-course menu, planting the items required for the menu in a wheelbarrow and maintaining the mealbarrow and extended growing areas in school. Most of the mealbarrows were then shared on Saturday 1 July at Abbey Pumping Station, where 200 visitors voted for their favourite.

We have had a fantastic time seeing all of the hard work that staff and children have put in over the past few months. A huge well done to you all and a big thank you from us all!

We can now announce the winners!

Overall, the top three schools were...

1st Place - Inglehurst Infant School

2nd Place - Inglehurst Junior School

3rd Place - St Patrick's Catholic Voluntary Academy

The competition is broken down into three parts: the menu, the growing report and the public vote.

The Menu – Top 3 schools (each achieve 100%!)

Inglehurst Junior School, St Patrick's Voluntary Academy and Stokes Wood Primary School

The Public Vote –

*1st Place – Braunstone Frith Primary Academy
2nd Place – St Patrick's Catholic Voluntary Academy
3rd Place – Inglehurst Infant School*

Growing Report Awards

	Award
Braunstone Frith Primary Academy	Gold
Inglehurst Infant School	Gold
Inglehurst Junior	Gold
Magpie Learning Centre,	Gold
Nurturing Roots Leicester	Gold
Uplands Infant School	Gold
Mellor Community Primary School	Silver
Oaklands School	Silver
Queensmead Primary Academy	Silver
Soar Valley College	Silver
St Martins Catholic Academy, Stoke Golding	Silver
Stokes Wood	Silver
Tudor Grange Samworth Academy	Silver
Avenue Primary School	Bronze
Catherine Junior School	Bronze
Fosse Mead Primary	Bronze
Highfields Primary School	Bronze
Knighton Mead Primary Academy	Bronze
Scraptoft Valley Primary School	Bronze
St Patrick's Catholic Voluntary Academy	Bronze



Leicester's Urban Nature Project

Sept 2023 - March 2024

Expressions of interest



Working together to help restore wildflower habitats globally



We are pleased to announce that we have secured funding from WWF and Airwick to support schools in developing their school grounds into wildlife friendly spaces.

We are now looking for expressions of interest from schools based in Leicester City who are interested in one or more of the following initiatives:

1. Hedgerows: creating or improving
2. Hedgehog champion schools
3. Brown roofs
4. Pond installations or maintenance
5. Swift boxes, bird boxes and bat boxes

We would like to talk to Premises Officers, Heads, Business Managers and Eco-Leads to create realistic, manageable plans for wildlife friendly school grounds.



To register your interest, please complete the [eform](#)

Key species: hedgehogs, swifts, redstarts and reptiles/amphibians.
Habitats: hedgerows, ponds, brown rooves, nesting boxes and swift boxes.



This current academic year, we have worked with 6 schools to plant trees, plants and wildflower patches, install nesting boxes and create bug hotels. Alongside this, students have been involved in a series of workshops looking at the importance of nature and have helped to develop their school grounds by deciding on, and installing, the interventions that they wanted to see.



What can we offer?

We have 4 fully funded, low- or no-maintenance improvements for school grounds. We will work with you to decide what could work at your school. Contact us to discuss one or more of:

1	Hedgerows: maintenance or creating new
<p>Hedgerows are fantastic for wildlife! Birds and other animals use them for shelter and food. Perhaps an edge of your school grounds could have a hedge planted, or maybe you have a hedge with gaps to fill.</p> <p>Maintenance: annual hedge cut in the autumn.</p>	
2	Ponds: maintenance or creating new
<p>Ponds can add a whole new world of aquatic wildlife, as well as providing water to drink and bathe for other species.</p> <p>Maintenance: removing excess vegetation approx. every 2-3 years.</p>	
3	Brown Roofs
<p>Like a green roof but more natural! A brown roof is simply a waterproofed layer of substrate, properly fitted and then allowed to populate with wildflower seed. More lightweight than traditional green roofs.</p> <p>Maintenance: minimal – talk to us!</p>	
4	Hedgehog Champion schools
<p>Could your school be one of our Hedgehog Champions? Resources to make space for hedgehogs and link with the wider neighbourhood to create 'hedgehog streets'. Workshops for pupils and a parents/community event.</p>	
Workshops and training	
<p>A programme of workshops and training to support Premises Officers and other maintenance staff to plan, maintain and troubleshoot their wildlife-friendly school grounds.</p>	
<p>A series of 4 workshops with pupils based on the interventions at your school. (approximately 2 hours each, 1 per half term)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Why is nature important?2. What does your school already have?3. How can we make your school more friendly for wildlife?4. What impact have we had?	

If you think your school could be suitable for any or all of the above please complete this expression of interest [eform](#). The Sustainable Schools or Biodiversity teams from Leicester City Council will then be in touch!

RETHINK FOOD FUTURES

Rethink Food Futures presents the opportunity to make a difference to the health of people and the planet.



By Rethinking Food Futures we can:

- **Empower children to deliver change that will benefit humanity, improve health and re-nourish the planet**
- **Encourage children to eat more fresh food, improving health and well-being**
- **Provide immersive learning opportunities for children**

[View the YouTube video to find out more!](#)

Food tower prices (include materials, set up, training, dismantling, and 1 workshop per term delivered by our sustainable schools team):

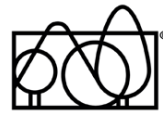
- **£250 per term**
- **£600 per year (3 terms)**

We have availability for Spring and Summer 2024 so please get in touch if you are interested!

For further information please email Molly.Laycock@leicester.gov.uk



Tiny Forests in Leicester



tinyforest
earthwatch
EUROPE

We now have 20 Tiny Forests in schools across Leicester. These forests, including 600 trees in a space the size of a tennis court, provided multiple benefits for the sites including carbon storage, flood management, thermal comfort and biodiversity. Tiny Forests provide a fantastic educational resource for the schools with an outdoor classroom space built in.

For those of you who do not have a forest on site, there are still lots of different ways for you to get involved!

Tiny Forest Sites in Leicester

Alderman Richard Hallam Primary School
Barley Croft Primary School
Beaumont Leys Specialist Science School
Braunstone Frith Primary School
Buswells Lodge Primary School
Ellesmere College
English Martyrs' Catholic School
Fullhurst Community College
Hope Hamilton CE Primary School
Linden Primary School
Merrydale Junior School
Mowmacre Hill Primary School
Nether Hall School
New College Leicester
Queensmead Primary School
Rolleston Primary School
Scraptoft Valley Primary School
St Mary's Fields Primary School
West Gate School
Whitehall Primary School

Recent Updates

Laura and Marc recently went back to visit the Green Parrot forest at St Marys Fields Primary School. Despite only being planted last year, some of the trees were already taller than Marc! You can see from the pictures below how much the forest has changed in the first year. There were also signs of different wildlife including red and black ants, woodlice and spiders, showing the forest is really healthy!



Planting in April 2022



Trees in June 2023!



Supports the Eco-Schools School grounds and biodiversity topics



A Tiny Forest is a dense, fast-growing, native woodland about the size of a tennis court. They are nature-rich places for wildlife, they improve people's wellbeing by reconnecting them with nature, and also help to mitigate the impacts of climate change.

Are you interested in weeding, litter-picking and maintaining a Tiny Forest?

Volunteer as a Tiny Forest Tree Keeper!



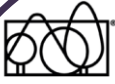
Would you like to help us measure trees, count bugs and butterflies?



Or are you a people's person, wanting to engage your local school and community in the Tiny Forest?

This is a very independent volunteering opportunity. You can choose the activities you want to do and how often you want to offer them, either on your own or along with your fellow Tree Keepers.

If you want to become a Tree Keeper, then email us at tinyforest@earthwatch.org.uk



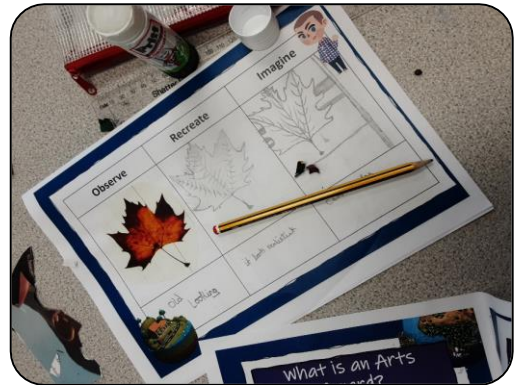
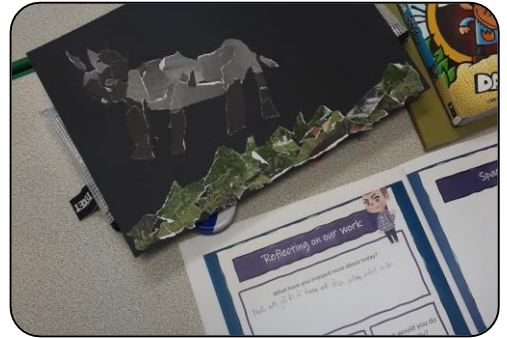
tinyforest
earthwatch
EUROPE

Sustainable
Schools
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Becoming a Tree Keeper!

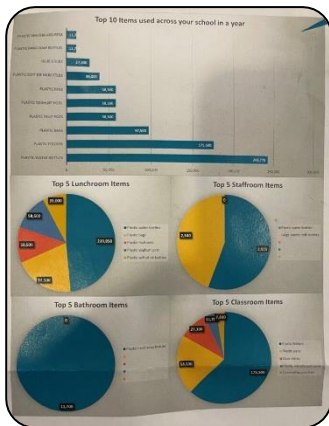
The best way to get involved in the Tiny Forest project is to sign up as a Tree Keeper for one of the forests within Leicester. This way, you can be involved in looking after the site and gain access to a wealth of knowledge from Earthwach! There are educational resources available on the portal and updates are shared around the Tiny Forests and other environmental work which is always worth a read!

If you would like to find out more about the role of a Tree Keeper, or would like to sign up as a Tree Keeper for one of our sites, please contact Laura.Barke@leicester.gov.uk.



Supports the Eco-Schools School grounds and biodiversity topics

Plastic Clever Schools Prize Draw!



Over the past year, we have had 47 schools register on the Plastic Clever Schools website from Leicester and are traded service schools. During the summer term we have been running a prize draw for schools signed up for the award to win £150 to help their school in reducing single waste plastic.

Crown Hills Community College were revealed as the winner through a random name draw live during our virtual Ocean Day assembly. Crown Hills community College have already taken lots of steps to reduce waste in school. We cant wait to see what they do with the prize money!



Supports the Eco-Schools water, litter, waste and marine topics

Plastic Clever Schools



Plastic Clever Schools is a movement designed to inspire students to take control of the single use plastic waste in their schools. Schools work through the three stages – inspire, investigate, act – to support them in making a difference in their school. We now have a fantastic 47 schools signed up on the Plastic Clever Schools website, showing that they all want to make a difference in reducing problem plastics in their schools!

We want to say a particularly big well done to the following schools who have all made a start on their Plastic Clever Schools journey by completing at least one of the stages of the award!

Crown Hills Community College, Inglehurst Junior School, Overdale Junior School, Spinney Hill Primary School, St Mary's Fields Primary School and Stokes Wood Primary School.

A particularly big well done to the three school who have achieved Plastic Clever Schools status – St Paul's Catholic School, Highfields Primary School and Montrose Primary School!



Inspire Investigate Act

Plastic Clever Schools Conference

In celebration of Earth Day this year, which was on Saturday 22 April, we hosted the first ever Plastic Clever Schools conference here at City Hall. Eight schools came together to learn about plastic pollution, discuss the problems they had spotted in their schools and create a plan for tackling problem plastics.

The day was a great success with students working hard throughout the day to understand more about the problems plastic can bring, and thinking about solutions that would work for their schools. They worked through elements of the three stages of the award – inspire, investigate and act.

Pupils from the following schools took part in the day: Braunstone Frith Primary Academy, Crown Hills Community College, Inglehurst Junior School, Spinney Hill Primary School, St Martins Catholic Academy, St Marys Fields Primary School and Stokes Wood Primary School.



Supports the Eco-Schools water, litter, waste and marine topics



Highfields Celebration event



Working together to help restore wildflower habitats globally

We had an amazing time at our celebration last month for our Leicester's Urban Nature Project. We had over one thousand people attending from the local community who took part in many different environmental based activities. It was great to see so many people out supporting environmental work in Leicester! The event was hosted at the Highfields Adventure Playground, and without the support of their team, the event could not have gone ahead. A particularly big thank you to Kevin and his team for helping to set up and manage the day.

A huge thank you also goes to the stall holders who came along on the day and helped make the event such a huge success! This included the City Wardens, Waste Management and Libraries team from Leicester City Council who were there to raise awareness about the work they do. We also had Save Soil, WWF, Nextdoor Nature and Climate Action Leicester and Leicestershire sharing environmental work taking place in Leicester, and the Home Energy team from EON handing out freebies while discussing how to improve energy efficiency in homes. Friends of the Earth helped people to make seed bombs and Buzzing Roots did lots of bee-related artwork. Miles of Smiles and Butterfly Effects face painting both worked tirelessly to get lots of faces painted throughout the day as well.

Leicester's Urban Nature Project is funded by WWF and Airwick – working together to restore UK wildflower habitats.



Sustainable
Schools
LEICESTER



Leicester's Urban Nature Project Updates



Working together to help restore wildflower habitats globally

We have come to the end of our work on the first phase of Leicester's Urban Nature Project. We have made lots of improvements to the school grounds that we have been working with, including adding bug hotels, plants, wildflower planters, and different animal homes! The students have worked hard during their sessions and have made some fabulous posters to promote their working with other students in their schools. We have picked out a selection of photos from the project to show some of our highlights!

We will be running a similar project next year so have a look at the flyer in this newsletter for more information, or contact Laura.Barke@leicester.gov.uk.



Supports the Eco-Schools biodiversity topic



Sponsorship for Eco-School Green Flag accreditation



Leicester is leading the way when it comes to environmental education and wider support for schools that contributes to the city's net zero carbon ambition. In total, 65 schools in the city, including primary, secondary and special schools, now have an Eco-Schools Green Flag – the highest number in any local authority area in England. **This academic year we have a target of 70 schools** achieving this prestigious award.

Green Flag accreditation is now an annual process, with schools needing to renew each academic year. The cost for accreditation is usually £200+VAT (this applies to both renewals and schools achieving their first Green Flag Award)

However, we are pleased to confirm that we can subsidise (via sponsorship) all Eco-Schools Green Flags in Leicester City this academic year. We have been able to cover £150+VAT, therefore leaving a cost of £50 per school. We hope that this will help you to achieve the award.

If we think you are likely to achieve or renew your Green Flag Award this academic year, you should have been contacted already. However, if you have not, please let us know.

Don't forget, the window for applications opens on 1 May, and you have until 31 July to submit your application and evidence. If you have any questions or need support please contact Marc, at Marc.Tench@Leicester.gov.uk



Supports all the Eco-Schools topics

Students from Avenue Primary School celebrate their Green Flag



Gateway Art Exhibition



Marc and Laura were thrilled to be invited to Gateway's end of year Art Exhibition, showcasing the students work in art, design and media. The standard of work was incredible and we were pleased to see so many students using ideas of sustainability as inspiration for their work. It was a fantastic way for students to share their art with others while also promoting sustainable fashion, raising awareness of climate change and lots more. Well done to all of the students involved, and a huge thank you to Gateway College for inviting us along!



Saving the Saffron Brook update

After 18 months the project has come to an end. We have achieved everything we set out to do and more so we have had lots of things to celebrate!



Project highlights:

- 3.1 km of river restoration
- 2807 trees planted
- 2.7km of footpaths restored
- Almost 2000 children engaged in environmental education
- 4,704 people engaged across the project
- 30 bird boxes, 20 bat boxes, 6 kingfisher tubes, 2 bug hotels and 1 otter holt installed!



At the end of May we celebrated with schools at Saffron Acres. Students took part in activities including pond dipping, beekeeping and bug hunting!



To find out more please see our page:
[Saving the Saffron Brook - river restoration scheme](#)

Better Buildings

Last term a group of pupils from years 5 and 6 at Overdale Juniors took part in the Better Buildings programme, created by SGP. Over the course of 5 double lessons the children were introduced to the importance of sustainability in the way that we design buildings. Staff from SGP came along to lesson 1 where the children helped to discover just how many buildings there are in the world. They spent the next few weeks learning all about the sustainability of traditional building materials like brick and concrete. At the end they designed their own low carbon buildings.



"Thank you so much for having us as part of your project! The children have really enjoyed it." - Natalie Green, Science Lea

The [Better Buildings](#) website is free to use and aims to get children at Key Stage 2 thinking about sustainability and designing low carbon buildings. There is a lot of support for teachers too, including [lesson plans!](#)

For more information visit [Stephen Gorge and Partners - Better Buildings](#)

School's Out - Summer Strolls

Leicester City Council will be leading family-friendly strolls during July and August. These walks will be short and led at a steady pace, with fun themes or activities along the way for kids and parents. The walks are aimed at families with younger children and those of primary school age, although older children are welcome to attend. All children must be accompanied by an adult. Walks are free to attend, booking is essential.

For full details of the School's Out Summer Strolls and booking information, please visit the Choose How You Move website:

<https://www.choosehowyoumove.co.uk/events/schools-out-summer-strolls/>



*School's Out -
Summer Strolls*

Family-friendly
walks in Leicester



BESS Energy Core 2023-24

12 Month Subscription

(Available for 2 years with fixed price for second year)



Worried about increasing energy costs? Wanting to save money and improve your environmental credentials?

Energy makes up one of the biggest spends for schools after staffing. Leicester City Council has worked closely to develop an offer as part of BESS schools to **develop tools and reports to empower staff and students to take control** of their energy use.

This offer is open to all schools in Leicester City at cost price as part of our Climate Emergency Declaration commitment

What is included in the service:

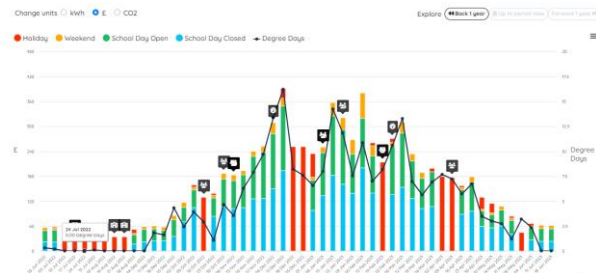
- **Online monitoring of gas and electricity via Energy Sparks.**
- **Wrap around support** by the Sustainable Schools' team for onboarding, general advice, educational and energy specific support
- **Regular updates** via email
- **Provision of data** for school's preferred DEC provider

About Energy Sparks

- An online energy analysis tool and energy education programme specifically designed to help schools **reduce their electricity and gas usage through the analysis of smart meter data.**
- Using a school's electricity, gas and solar data, shows staff (and pupils) how much energy the school is using. The online tool presents bespoke analysis of the energy data **with suggestions of actions the school could take to save energy and reduce carbon emissions.**
- **Provides adult and pupil dashboards** tailored to meet the specific needs of the students and staff at a school.
- **Automated alerts** to let schools know when energy use changes

This service will start in September 2023
Priced at £795

Sign up to BESS Energy by 31 July 2023 by completing our [online form](#)



Adult Dashboard

[Compare schools](#) [Carbon emissions](#) [Explore your data](#) [Review your energy analysis](#)

Summary of recent energy usage

		Use (kWh)	CO2 (kg)	Cost (£)	Potential savings	% Change
Electricity	Last week	1,450	154	£218	n/a	+58%
	Last year	64,900	7,850	£9,750	£4,270	-43%
Gas	Last week	3,100	655	£95.60	n/a	-25%
	Last year	270,000	56,800	£8,970	£2,770	-46%

Electricity data: 19 Mar 2020 - 1 May 2022. Gas data: 23 Jun 2019 - 30 Apr 2022. [More information](#)

Act on your energy usage

Well done, you are making progress towards achieving your target to reduce your electricity and gas usage! [Review progress](#)

Oh No! Your school's weekly electricity use in the Easter holidays increased by 19% compared to the Spring half term holidays. This has cost an extra £30 which can be switched off to save energy in the next holiday! [Find out more](#)

For more information please contact:
The BESS Energy team

✉ BESS.Energy@leicester.gov.uk

☎ 0116 454 6746

🌐 schools.leicester.gov.uk/BESS-Energy



BESS Energy Enhanced 2022-3 12 Month Subscription

(Available for 2 years with fixed price for second year)



Worried about increasing energy costs? Wanting to save money and improve your environmental credentials?

Energy and water make up one of the biggest spends for schools after staffing. Leicester City Council has worked closely to develop an offer as part of BESS schools to **develop tools and reports to empower staff and students to take control** of their energy and water use.

This offer is open to all schools in Leicester City at cost price as part of our Climate Emergency Declaration commitment

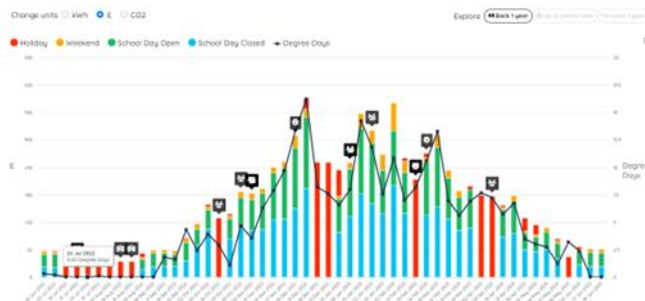
What is included in the service?

All the benefits of BESS Energy Core:

- **Online monitoring of gas and electricity via Energy Sparks.**
- **Wrap around support** by the Sustainable Schools' team for onboarding, general advice, educational and energy specific support
- **Regular updates** via email
- **Provision of data** for school's preferred DEC provider

About Energy Sparks

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- Using a school's electricity, gas and solar data, shows staff (and pupils) how much energy the school is using. The online tool presents bespoke analysis of the energy data **with suggestions of actions the school could take to save energy and reduce carbon emissions.**
- **Provides adult and pupil dashboards** tailored to meet the specific needs of the students and staff at a school.
- **Automated alerts** to let schools know when energy use changes



Plus BESS Energy Enhanced:

- **Identification and reporting** of excessive use/wastage (including visits)
- **Provision of your annual DEC certificate** (or subsidised 7 year DEC certificate)
- Online or face to face training **termly**
- **10 hours of bespoke support** per school (including technical, analysis and education support for staff and pupils) – **see our separate flyer on next page**

"Through monitoring our electricity we discovered our thermal heater timers had a fault, meaning that they were being left on at the weekend - once resolved, this saved hundreds of pounds over the school holidays" **Business Manager, Leicester**

**For more information please contact:
The BESS Energy team**

✉ BESS.Energy@leicester.gov.uk

☎ **0116 454 6746**

🌐 schools.leicester.gov.uk/BESS-Energy

Priced at £1195

This service will start in September 2023

Sign up to BESS Energy by 31 July 2023 by completing our [online form](#)



To provide Leicester with a high quality, efficient, effective and sustainable built environment

Individual support in BESS Energy Enhanced

Schools and academies that sign up for BESS Energy Enhanced will receive up to 10 hours of bespoke support. This time is allocated and agreed on an individual basis depending on the needs of your school.

Below are examples of bespoke services which can be provided:



Technical Support

- Work with individual school or academy staff:
 - Premises team walk round to identify heat/energy wastage
 - ICT shutdown procedure and/or software shutdown
 - Advice on purchasing technical support on your Building Energy Management System (BEMS)

Analysis Support

- Working with the business manager, finance officer and/or premises officer to:
 - Evaluate utility bills for value for money, climate levy and VAT rating
 - Provide advice about changing and comparing tariffs
 - Provide advice and support around historical FIT tariffs
 - Detailed analysis of Energy Sparks data and graphs (daily, weekly) to identify excessive use (e.g. during the day), wastage (e.g. high baseloads overnight and weekends) or leaks (e.g. water).

Educational Support

- Working with whole school staff:
 - Deliver twilight, inset or staff meetings (typically 30-45 minutes) on energy savings
 - Energy Sparks training (data analysis with departments or teams)
 - Develop mechanisms for reporting problems with classroom heating/lighting
- Work with individual classes, your school council and/or Eco-Schools team:
 - Active labelling of lights and equipment that can be switched off/remain on
 - Active thermometers in classrooms and offices to report temperature extremes
 - Assemblies on saving energy
 - Designing of posters or 'corporate' posters displayed around schools
 - Developing whole school policy and shutdown procedure
 - Energy monitoring job descriptions
 - Curriculum activities and quizzes
 - Switch off hour/day campaign
 - Detailed analysis of Energy Sparks graphs (daily, weekly, monthly, annually)
 - Energy Sparks training
 - Campaign and/or national awareness day activities
 - Energy walk around using thermal imaging camera/s (iPad and Android tablet)
 - Audits and competitions (class or department focused)



To provide Leicester with a high quality, efficient, effective and sustainable built environment

Built Environment School Service (BESS) Energy Academies 2023-24 Annual Energy and Carbon Report



From 1 April 2020, academy trusts will need to report on environmental reporting regulations. Regulations require large companies that consume more than 40,000 kWh of energy in a reporting period to include certain information about energy efficiency measures. Large companies are defined by sections 465-466 of the Companies Act 2006 as companies which meet 2 out of the following 3 criteria:

- Gross income of £36 million or more;
- Balance sheet assets of £18 million or more; and
- 250 employees or more

The reporting period for academy trusts will be 1 September 2023 to 31 August 2024.

www.gov.uk/government/publications/environmental-reporting-guidelines-including-mandatory-greenhouse-gas-emissions-reporting-guidance

Academies in Leicester City that also subscribe to BESS Energy Core or BESS Energy Enhanced will receive a discounted rate of £160 (instead of £175) per academy.

What is included in the service?

Reports which covers:

- Annual carbon and energy usage reports
- Analysis of energy trends/patterns of usage
- Identifying the impact of energy efficiency improvements

- Data in a format required as part of Energy and Carbon Reporting regulation (from September 2020):
 - UK energy use (in kWh) including purchased electricity, gas and transport fuel
 - Associated greenhouse gas emissions (in tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent)
 - At least one 'intensity ratio' that expresses the academy trust's annual emissions in relation to a quantifiable factor associated with its activities
 - Information about energy efficiency action taken during the year
 - Methodologies used in the calculation of disclosures

- Provision of a collated MAT report provided

- Provision of data for school's preferred Display Energy Certificate (DEC) provider

This offer is open to all Multi-Academy Trusts in England

Priced at £175 per academy

£160 for Leicester BESS schools

For more information please contact:

The BESS Energy team

✉ BESS.Energy@leicester.gov.uk

☎ 0116 454 6746

🌐 schools.leicester.gov.uk/BESS-Energy

This service is available from September 2023

Sign up to BESS Energy by 31 July 2023 by
completing our [online form](#)

