

# Schools News

Updated - July 2023



## 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.

Welcome to the September 2023 Leicester Sustainable Schools newsletter.

We hope you all had a well-deserved break over the summer holidays, and we are looking forward to working with you again this year. The team has continued to work behind the scenes over the summer.

Now that schools are getting back into full swing, we are preparing for the next year of sustainable workshops, training sessions, virtual assemblies, and events!

Take a look at our updated calendar for the 2023/24 school year for an overview of things happening.

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



## How to find out more Sustainable Schools Team

City Hall, 115 Charles Street, Leicester LE1 1FZ

✉ [SustainableSchools@leicester.gov.uk](mailto:SustainableSchools@leicester.gov.uk)

🌐 [schools.leicester.gov.uk/eco-schools](https://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 our Eco-Schools celebration in July

Finished reading? Pass on to a colleague

# Dates for your diary – Eco events this year



We now have an annual calendar with all the date for the academic year on.

Event Details	Date	Month
Eco-Schools Training	Wednesday 20	September
World Car Free Day	Friday 22	September
Cycle to School Week	25 - 29	September
World Vegetarian Day	Sunday 1	October
World Animal Day	Wednesday 4	October
EcoTeachMeet	Thursday 5	October
Energy Saving Week	23-30	October
Sunflower competition deadline	Tuesday 31	October
Road Safety Week	19-25	November
National Tree Week virtual assembly	Tuesday 28	November
World Soil Day	Tuesday 5	December
Carbon Literacy training	TBC	January
Big Garden Birdwatch	Friday 26	January
Eco-Schools Training	Friday 2	February
World Wetlands Day	Friday 2	February
World Wildlife day virtual assembly	Friday 1	March
Earth Hour	Saturday 23	March
Earth Day virtual assembly	Monday 22	April
Eco-Schools training	Monday 29	April
World Environment Day	Wednesday 5	June
Great Big Green Week	8-16	June
Eco-Schools Celebration	Thursday 27	June

- Leicester - staff training/information
- Leicester - student activities/events
- National events

# Eco school awards and news



## Eco-School Awards

Schools can register for Eco-Schools for free at [www.eco-schools.org.uk/register](http://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 and plans to do the same this year (full details to be announced later in the year)

## Newsletter

Our newsletters are published 4 times per year. If you would like to submit an article for the next newsletter, the deadline is **Friday 5 January 2024**. We ask for around 200 words, at least 1 photo, and contact details e.g. name and email address to: [SustainableSchools@leicester.gov.uk](mailto: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 secured the Education Officer position and has now taken over the role. 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 Achievements 2023



## Green Flags

- Avenue Primary School
- Babington Academy
- Bridge Junior School
- Buswells Lodge Primary School
- Caldecote Community Primary School
- Catherine Infant School
- Charnwood Primary School
- English Martyrs' Catholic School
- Evington Valley Primary School
- Folville Junior School
- Glebelands Primary School
- Hope Hamilton CE Primary School
- Madani Schools Federation
- Marriot Primary School
- Mellor Community Primary School
- Moat Community College
- Rowlatts Mead Primary Academy
- Rushey Mead Academy
- Sandfield Close Primary School
- Scraptoft Valley Primary School
- Sir Jonathon North Community College
- Sparkenhoe Community Primary School
- St Mary's Fields Primary School
- St Patrick's Catholic Voluntary Academy
- Stokes Wood Primary School
- Tudor Grange Samworth Academy
- Uplands Infant School
- Uplands Junior School

## Green Flag with Merit

- Barley Croft Primary School
- Castle Mead Academy
- Fosse Mead Primary School
- Fullhurst Community College
- Gateway Sixth Form College
- Inglehurst Junior School
- Knighton Mead Primary Academy
- Montrose School
- Mowmacre Hill Primary School
- Whitehall Primary School
- Willowbrook Mead Primary Academy
- Wolsey House Primary School

## Green Flag with Distinction

- Abbey Mead Primary Academy
- Braunstone Community Primary School
- Catherine Junior School
- Christ the King Catholic Primary School
- Dovelands Primary School
- Hazel Community Primary School
- Highfields Primary School
- Holy Cross Catholic Primary School
- Lancaster Academy
- Nether Hall School
- Oaklands School
- Queensmead Primary School
- Sacred Heart Catholic Voluntary Academy
- Soar Valley College
- St Joseph's Catholic Primary School
- Wyvern Primary Schools



# Eco-Schools Achievements 2023



We have been supporting schools that are part of the Lionheart Educational Trust and St Thomas Aquinas CMAT in Leicestershire. Last year, we also supported schools in the Saffron Brook catchment. The following achieved their Green Flag Award this year:

## CMAT

- Saint Francis Catholic Primary
- Saint Martin's Catholic Academy
- Saint Mary's Catholic Primary
- St Charles Catholic Primary
- St John Fisher Primary School
- St Peter's Catholic Primary School
- St Winfried's Catholic Voluntary Academy
- English Martyrs Catholic Voluntary Academy

## Lionheart Educational trust

- Beauchamp College
- Brocks Hill Primary School
- Hallam Fields Primary School
- Highcliffe Primary School
- Martin High School
- Riverside Community Primary

## Saving Saffron Brook

- Brookside Primary School

Well done to all school staff and pupils involved in Eco-Schools last academic year! This a fantastic achievement that shows the high levels of dedication and environmental awareness of schools in Leicester and Leicestershire!

Thank you to Civic Engineers, CPW, Pulse Consult, Gleeds (Global property and construction consultants), Saving Saffron Brook, and our Flood Risk team for sponsoring some of the Green Flags this year.



Where  
buildings  
come alive





# Eco-Schools Training Session 1

## What is Eco-Schools and how do we gain or renew our Green Flag Award?

**FREE Online Training course:**

Wednesday 20 September 2023, 4-5.30 pm

**Sign up using the [eForm](#)**

*There will be optional in-person follow-up sessions on 2 February and 29 April 2023*

- Are you wanting to find out about Eco-Schools and how your school can gain their Green Flag Award?
- Do you want to learn how to use the online portal for applications which was introduced last year?
- Are you wanting to connect with other school staff in Leicester schools and support each other to gain your Eco-Schools Green Flag Award?

**If the answer to any of these questions is “Yes”, then come along and find out more!**

This training, delivered by the Sustainable Schools team at Leicester City Council, will explain the Green Flag Award process including the 7 steps, provide top tips for working on Eco-Schools, ideas for new projects, and a chance to pair up with colleagues.



**In Leicester there are now 56 schools with the prestigious Green Flag Award putting us at number one in England for the fifth year in a row!**

**Who would benefit from this course?**

This training is aimed at staff who are new to Eco-Schools or those who would like a refresher on the process. This could be Eco-leads and all school staff with an interest in environmental education - heads, deputy heads, assistant heads, classroom teachers, TAs, support staff, premises officers, business managers and governors/trustees.

**For more information please contact:**

**Laura Barke on**  
[laura.Barke@leicester.gov.uk](mailto:laura.Barke@leicester.gov.uk)

**Sustainable Schools Team**

✉ [SustainableSchools@leicester.gov.uk](mailto:SustainableSchools@leicester.gov.uk)

🌐 [schools.leicester.gov.uk/eco-schools](http://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 2271





# Sunflower competition!



The Sunflower competition is coming to an end next month! This year 47 schools received sunflower seeds as part of the competition. These seeds were then planted by student with the hope of growing big and tall sunflowers!



As a reminder, the sunflower heads will need to be weighed in October. The deadline for sending the weights is 31 October 2023.

Please email the weights to [growyourowngrub@leicester.gov.uk](mailto:growyourowngrub@leicester.gov.uk)

Prizes for 1st 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place will be announced at the beginning of November!



If you have any other queries about the competition, please contact Project Officer Molly Laycock at [molly.laycock@leicester.gov.uk](mailto:molly.laycock@leicester.gov.uk)

# Sustainable Schools Virtual Assemblies

The Sustainable Schools team will be holding another series of virtual assemblies to coincide with environmental events throughout the school year!

Our virtual assemblies will all be held at **1:30pm via Microsoft Teams** on the following dates:

- [National Tree Week - Tuesday 28 November](#)
- [World Wildlife Day – Friday 1 March](#)
- [Earth Day – Monday 22 April](#)



The assemblies will last approximately 20 minutes and there will be time for questions at the end  
There is no need to sign up – just use the links above to join at the time!



# 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.



# Leicester's Urban Nature Project

## 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:

Intervention	Description
Hedgerows: maintenance or creating new	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. Maintenance: annual hedge cut in the autumn.
Ponds: maintenance or creating new	Ponds can add a whole new world of aquatic wildlife, as well as providing water to drink and bathe for other species. Maintenance: removing excess vegetation approx. every 2-3 years.
Brown Roofs	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. Maintenance: minimal – talk to us!
Hedgehog Champion schools	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.

### Workshops and Training

Alongside the interventions, training to support Premises Officers and other maintenance staff will be available to help plan, maintain and troubleshoot your wildlife-friendly school grounds.

There will also be a series of 4 workshops with pupils based on the interventions at your school. (approximately 2 hours each, 1 per half term)

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?



Working together to help restore wildflower habitats globally

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.**



- 🍏 Encourage children to eat more fruit and veg!
- 🍏 Teach children how to grow their own food!
- 🍏 Empower children with sustainable knowledge!

**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](mailto:Molly.Laycock@leicester.gov.uk)**

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





# Cycle to School Week is back for 2023

25<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> September 2023.

Cycle to School Week is a week-long event, organised by the Bikeability Trust and supported by Sustrans, where families are encouraged to try cycling and scooting to school.

The event is a great way to celebrate the vast benefits an active school run brings, including its positive impact on children's health and wellbeing, local air quality and carbon emissions. The Sustrans team would love to support your school with activities to plan, promote, or celebrate this event.

Can't commit to activities that week? Don't worry, we can support you in planning a Cycle to School week for a week that suits you!



Please get in touch via [leicesterschools@sustrans.org.uk](mailto:leicesterschools@sustrans.org.uk).

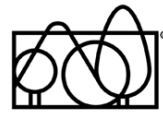
We also have a great selection of teaching resources and materials on our website [Sustrans website](#)

Sustrans is a charity making it easier for people to walk and cycle. We connect people and places, create liveable neighbourhoods, transform the school run and deliver a happier, healthier commute. Join us on our journey. <http://www.sustrans.org.uk/>





# Tiny Forests in Leicester



We are really pleased to announce that we have received funding from the Local Authority Treescapes Funding, meaning we are able to add a further 6 Tiny Forests to schools in Leicester. We have already shortlisted the sites for the 2023-2024 planting season so look out for updates on them! In the meantime, if you are interested in your school receiving a Tiny Forest, please get in touch as we are always looking for more sites to support!



## What is a Tiny Forest?

A Tiny Forest is a dense, fast growing nature woodland roughly the size of a tennis court. Each forest consists of 600 trees specifically selected for the site meaning each Tiny Forest is unique. Benefits to the Tiny Forest programme include reconnecting people with nature, enhancing wellbeing, helping to mitigate the impacts of climate change and providing nature-rich habitat patches to support urban wildlife.

## Becoming a Tree Keeper!

### How can you get involved?

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 along with a wealth of knowledge. This way, even if your site does not have space for a forest, you can be involved in this important project! To find out more visit the [Earthwach website](https://www.earthwach.org).



For more information about Tiny Forests, or to sign up as a Tree Keeper, please contact Laura on [Laura.Barke@leicester.gov.uk](mailto:Laura.Barke@leicester.gov.uk)



Supports the Eco-Schools School grounds and biodiversity topics



# Jane Goodall's Roots & Shoots

Jane Goodall's Roots & Shoots programme is a global education programme for schools. The aim is to make positive change happen – for our communities, for animals, and for the environment. With tens of thousands of young people in over 60 countries, the Roots & Shoots network branches out across the globe, connecting youth of all ages who share a common desire to help make our world a better place.

There are no rigid requirements and no limit to your imagination with the projects! You can use **eco schools projects** for this too!

**All you need to do is sign up and provide evidence (e.g. pictures) of your school's eco projects!**

**Please see the website for more information on this [rootsnshoots.org.uk](https://rootsnshoots.org.uk)**

**There are three overall awards categories for the best school projects to commend your hard work!**

**Bronze Award:**

All schools that submit a project post will automatically be eligible for a Bronze Award certificate personalised with the details of your school.

**Silver Award:**

Projects that show special merit and initiative will be awarded a personalised Silver Award certificate. Both Bronze and Silver award winners will be considered for Jane Goodall's Roots & Shoots Annual Award and you may be invited to attend the Awards Ceremony.

**Gold Award:**

Projects that incorporate work on all three aspects of Roots & Shoots (people, animals, and the environment) will be awarded a personalised Gold Award certificate. The schools who have submitted these projects will be automatically invited to the Roots & Shoots Annual Award Ceremony where students will have the opportunity to present their projects and meet Dr Jane Goodall in person.



*Photos credit: Andover Trees United (ATU). Harrow Way Community School and Portway Junior School are Roots & Shoots members through partnership with ATU.*

**To get involved please contact either Jasmina Georgovska at [jasmina@janegoodall.org.uk](mailto:jasmina@janegoodall.org.uk) or Molly Laycock at [molly.Laycock@leicester.gov.uk](mailto:molly.Laycock@leicester.gov.uk)**

# Emerald Forest

Catherine Ward's debut picture book *The Emerald Forest* is a narrative nonfiction book, blending storytelling with fact. It is set on the island of Sumatra, a place that has lost more than half of its rainforests in little over 30 years. The story follows a mother orangutan and her two young as they face the consequences of deforestation, before being rescued by conservationists. It is a story of hope for the future.

With opportunities to link to the curriculum and with previous experience working in primary schools, Catherine is available to undertake school visits, run assemblies and workshops across all age groups. There are options to focus on reading and writing, workshops linked to rainforest or orangutan topic work, or wider themes of sustainability / endangered species.



Fees for school visits:

- 2 hours - £150
- Half day - £200
- Full day - £350 - £400

Bespoke sessions are also available



*'What a treat it was to have an author talking about their work and inspiring our children to love writing and nature! Thank you... the children loved it.'*

Feedback from Sacred Heart Primary School

If you are interested in arranging a visit to your school, please contact via email:

[mrscatherineward0@gmail.com](mailto:mrscatherineward0@gmail.com)

# Clean Air Day

**Clean air day is on June 15, 2024, so save the date!**

Last year:

- More than 4,000 pupils and teachers in Leicester engaged in Clean Air Day. 4 Schools held road closures, 7 schools promoted a car-free/active travel day
- LCC and Sustrans delivered assemblies about Clean Air Day and/or air pollution to 5 schools
- 5 schools self-delivered clean air-themed assemblies.
- Schools took part in activities such as a walking bus, seed planting, litter picking and chalk art
- 100% of schools agree that the road closure made a positive impact to the school run.
- 80% of schools agree that their school run felt safer.





# Plastic Clever Schools



As we start the new academic year, we are really pleased to say that there are over 40 schools in Leicester currently registered on the Plastic Clever Schools website. This means we have a huge opportunity to reduce problem plastics in Leicester!

## What does Plastic Clever Schools involve?

There are three stages to the programme:

1. Inspire – hold a litter pick and share why YOU want to be a Plastic Clever School
2. Investigate – look at the use of plastic in your school and create an action plan
3. Act – Take steps to reduce 2 problem plastics in your school and celebrate YOUR success!

There are brand new resources available on the online platform, including workbooks for students, resources for teachers and a display board showing success stories from schools across the countries.

## How can you join?

Simply sign up online through the Plastic Clever Schools [website](#). Work through the stages and start reducing your schools plastic waste now!

All of the work you do for Plastic Clever Schools can be used to support your Green Flag application!

For more information about the award, please contact Laura on [Laura.Barke@leicester.gov.uk](mailto:Laura.Barke@leicester.gov.uk).



Inspire



Investigate



Act



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





# WILE



## We are the Wombles in Litter Education

A volunteer group formed in 2020 with a mission to stop litter! We recognise that education is the key to change and want to get children involved in caring for our planet.

We are offering **free** school assemblies with a presentation of approximately 35 minutes. We are also happy to offer advice on litter picking or help out at a school litter picking event with equipment.

To date over 31,000 children have seen our presentation so book yours today!

*'The litter presentation delivered by Geoff from the South Leicestershire Litter Wombles was an environmental delight! It was educational, interactive, engaging, and fun and left our children enthused to make a difference in their community, wildlife, and world. Highly Recommend.'*  
Trudie Colotto, Headteacher, St John the Baptist Primary School

*'All feedback was positive from both staff and children. They said you were very professional and the children were engaged throughout. It's definitely made an impact as we have so many children go out and litter pick with their parents in their spare time.'*  
Amy Jane Parr, Teacher, Little Hill Primary

To arrange the assembly please contact  
[Wile.education@gmail](mailto:Wile.education@gmail)  
For more information please see the webpage - [W.I.L.E Wombles In Litter Education](#)

## Road Safety Week 2023

### Let's talk about SPEED

**November 19 - 25 2023** is the UK's Road Safety Week with millions of people and hundreds of schools, nurseries, and youth groups taking part. We are delighted to announce that this year's theme is Let's talk about SPEED.

Every day 6 children are killed or seriously hurt on UK roads, with speed a huge cause of crashes. Help children learn more about why we need to take care on our roads and raise awareness with parents, carers, and the local community of the importance of safe speeds around your school, nursery, or youth group and in local neighbourhoods.

We'll provide all the facts, statistics, and knowledge in teaching resources that will include lesson plans, assemblies, fact sheets, colouring pages, videos, animations, and more.

**Sign up now to access the free action pack of teaching resources!**

# COG

## School Recycling Update

Thank you to all the schools that have supported the COG recycling project for 2022/23  
There are now 79 educational establishments from across Leicester and Leicestershire signed up!

### Recycling Audit 2022/23

Due to a variety of issues not all of the items have been counted yet. However, we can reveal what we have counted so far:

- Colgate and Hello Oral Care Recycling Scheme saw us recycle over **3551** items this academic year (30x more than last year)
- KP Recycling Scheme has seen us recycle **13896** packets of crisps, nuts, popcorn, and pretzel packets.
- BIC Recycling Scheme has recycled over **24340** plastic writing instruments so far (with more still to count).
- Our first academic year of recycling ink cartridges has seen us process **125** cartridges from landfills.

**That means, together, in the 2022/23 academic year, we have saved approximately 93kg of extra carbon entering the atmosphere! Well done everyone.**



### Crisp Packet Collections

Unfortunately, Due to a series of unfortunate events, we are suspending the crisp packet recycling scheme. We do not know when or if this scheme will restart, so for now you will need to dispose of them with your general waste.

However, do not be dismayed. If you do not want to throw them in the bin, you can take them to your nearest large Tesco, which accepts them as part of their soft plastic recycling.

We apologise for any inconvenience caused by this change.



To register your school, simply sign up to our mailing list and tick that you are a Teacher: [COG mailing list](#)

For more information please visit the [COG webpage](#) or email: [info@cogyouthservices.co.uk](mailto:info@cogyouthservices.co.uk)

# 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

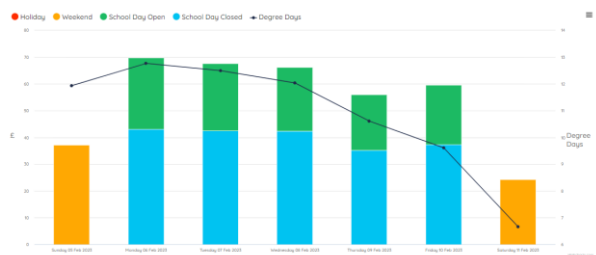
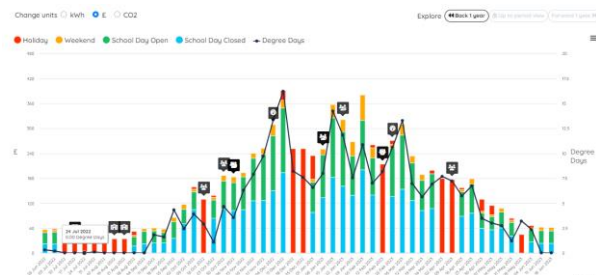
### About Energy Sparks

- 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 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](mailto:BESS.Energy@leicester.gov.uk)

☎ **0116 454 6746**

🌐 [schools.leicester.gov.uk/BESS-Energy](http://schools.leicester.gov.uk/BESS-Energy)



# BESS Energy Enhanced 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 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**

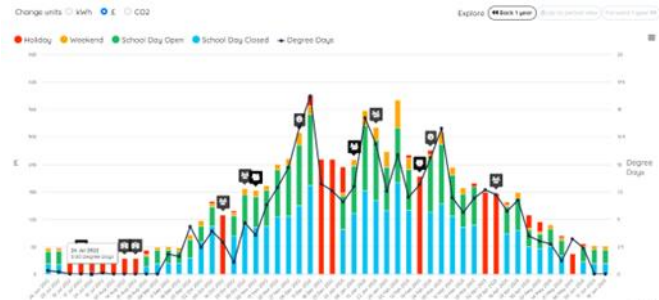
### What is included in the service?

*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

- 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



### 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](mailto:BESS.Energy@leicester.gov.uk)

☎ **0116 454 6746**

🌐 [schools.leicester.gov.uk/BESS-Energy](http://schools.leicester.gov.uk/BESS-Energy)

**Priced at £1195**

**This service will start in September 2023**

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





# 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 2022 to 31 August 2023.

[www.gov.uk/government/publications/environmental-reporting-guidelines-including-mandatory-greenhouse-gas-emissions-reporting-guidance](http://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](mailto:BESS.Energy@leicester.gov.uk)

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***This service is available from September 2023***

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[online form](#)

