



LESS CO₂

Saving your school, energy, money and carbon emissions

At a time when budgets are being slashed and energy prices are spiralling upwards reducing the amount of energy your school is using makes sense. But we know that can be a daunting task. That's where LESS CO₂ comes in.

LESS CO₂ is a programme of workshops supported by mentoring that will equip you with the know-how, confidence and enthusiasm to help your school cut energy bills, reduce carbon emissions and become more sustainable.

Each year-long programme covers three core areas:

- Changing behaviour to instill energy awareness.
- Professional audit of school buildings to see where energy can be saved.
- Integrating sustainability across the curriculum.

Each school attends four workshops designed to equip them with the practical skills needed to save energy - from meter readings to monitoring energy use. But the real difference with LESS CO₂ is the support given between workshops - schools are assigned a mentor who understands the challenges faced and who will be on hand to advise and guide.

Schools that complete the programme can expect to see:

- A reduction in energy use.
- Changes in behaviour and understanding of how to use energy wisely.
- A plan to tackle energy use in the school in the future, integrated into school-wide policies.
- Groups for energy management and planning established and strengthened.
- Increased capacity in the whole school community to lead energy work in the future.

Where's the proof that it works?

Already around 40 primary and secondary schools in Devon, Cornwall and East Sussex have benefitted from LESS CO₂ and are reaping the rewards:

- Schools in the South West saved an average of £5,000 on their energy bills in the first year alone.
- Savings for secondary schools are even more impressive: Queen Elizabeth School in Devon saved £16,000 - 20% of their electricity bill - by switching off computers.
- Pupils and staff have been inspired to change their behaviour, starting to integrate sustainability across the curriculum.

What will it cost me?

Participating schools are asked to make a commitment to attend the workshops and to keep in contact with their mentor.

Who is behind LESS CO₂?

National green energy charity Ashden developed the programme working with its school award winners who really understand the challenges of working in a school environment. See over for more information about Ashden.

"Our school's involvement in the Ashden LESS CO₂ programme over the past twelve months has been an interesting and eye opening journey. We were honoured to be invited to be part of such a prestigious project and the school is now more aware of how much energy we consume and how it can easily this can be reduced."

Tim Holtam, Patcham High School, East Sussex

"I thought the whole experience was fantastic - very inspiring and engaging!"

Mark Baptist, Queen Elizabeth II School

Since starting the LESS CO₂ programme, Queen Elizabeth's secondary school in Devon:

- Saved £16,000 over eight months.
- Installed a computer switch off programme in one section of the school.
- Installed energy saving lighting.
- Put thermostats on some radiators, installed insulation across the school and replaced two gas boilers.
- Set up a green group of teachers.



Ashden

Ashden is a charity promoting sustainable energy in the UK and the developing world. We champion and promote practical, local energy solutions that cut carbon, protect the environment, reduce poverty and improve people's lives. At the heart of our work is our annual awards scheme which rewards and raises the profile of the very best sustainable energy trailblazers.

To date Ashden has rewarded 150 projects in the UK and the developing world. We have also awarded £2.7 million in prize money and have leveraged £8.5 million of business support and finance for winning projects. Collectively, Ashden Award winners are benefitting 37 million people and reducing CO₂ emissions by more than five million tonnes a year.

Ashden and schools

Since 2005 we have had xx award winning schools, both primary and secondary, from around the UK. These winners are at the forefront of energy saving in schools and we have worked with them to develop the LESS CO₂ programme to share their learning and expertise.

Find out more online

Our webpage: www.ashden.org/less-co2

Ashden school award winners: www.ashden.org/case_studies

Recent blogs:

www.ashden.org/blog/how-drastically-reduce-your-school-s-fuel-bills-and-tackle-climate-change

www.ashden.org/blog/schools-take-action-energy-devon-and-cornwall

“The major value of these awards is that they demonstrate what is possible, not only for small scale projects, but what is achievable for the whole world.”

His Royal Highness, The Prince of Wales,
Patron, The Ashden Awards



HRH, The Prince of Wales speaking at the Ashden Awards ceremony in 2009