



Energy Saving Fact Sheet | **Schools**



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# Energy saving in school is educational and a money saver!

Did you know you could cut your school's energy costs by up to 20% by employing easy measures that may not cost anything? This practical fact sheet can help you identify the areas where you can save money and energy in your school. It's a win-win situation, because these changes will actually improve conditions for both pupils and staff.

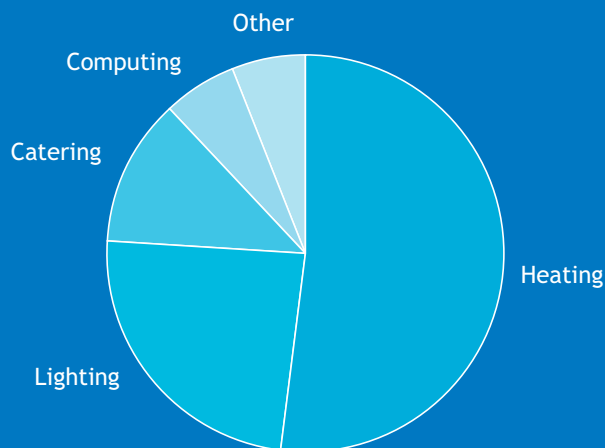
## Energy wasting hot spots

Want to know where you can start saving energy? This useful chart gives you a good idea of areas to watch out for. The main areas you should look at are: heating, lighting, catering, computing and swimming pools. For many more helpful hints simply call the Carbon Trust Energy Helpline.

## Fact!

30% of the energy consumed in the UK is wasted. This amounts to thousands of pounds that could be spent on school facilities. Keep it under control and stop contributing to global environmental problems such as climate change.

Breakdown of energy use in the average school



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### Heating

Heating accounts for at least half of a school's annual fuel use. Keep expenditure under control with these simple measures:

- **Keep it closed.** When the heating is on keep windows and doors closed. If it gets too hot, adjust the thermostat or individual radiator controls instead of opening windows and losing heat.
- **Keep in under control.** First find out how long it takes for your school to heat in the morning and cool in the evening. Then adjust your heating so it's not coming on too early or turning off too late.
- **Check the temperature.** Did you know children have higher metabolisms and require lower temperatures to keep warm? The DfES recommends classrooms are heated to 18°C. Reducing temperature by 1°C can save 8% on heating costings. By adhering to these guidelines you'll save money and improve productivity.

### Lighting

Lighting accounts for 20-25% of the total energy used in schools. So it makes sense to make the most of natural daylight:

- **Daylight is free.** Don't light empty rooms or areas where daylight is sufficient. Studies show pupils are more productive working in natural daylight. Encourage everyone to turn off lights when leaving a room; this could reduce lighting costs by up to 15%.
- **Fit energy saving lightbulbs.** Lighting costs can be reduced by up to 75% by replacing standard lightbulbs with energy saving compact fluorescent bulbs.
- **Get pupil's involved.** Appoint pupils as 'energy monitors' to inspect rooms and switch off lights at the end of lessons and break times.

# Take action!

## Start saving energy today

Allocate responsibility to a member of staff or small team in your school who can drive forward energy saving measures, like these:

1. **Find out how much you are spending on energy.** This will give you a base figure to monitor the success of energy saving measures.
2. **Check heating and cooling controls** to ensure they are set at the appropriate temperatures. The recommended temperature for classrooms is 18°C.
3. **Prepare a list of good housekeeping measures**, including simple actions such as turning off lights and equipment after hours. These can be put up to motivate pupils and staff.
4. **Compile an energy checklist.** Walk round your school, and complete a checklist at different times of day to identify where energy savings can be made. An example checklist is available in our **Better Business Guide**.
5. **Start raising awareness today.** We've got plenty of posters and stickers that will motivate pupils and staff to take simple energy saving measures.

Call our helpline today for your FREE Energy Awareness Pack.

Helpline 0800 58 57 94

[www.thecarbontrust.co.uk/energy](http://www.thecarbontrust.co.uk/energy)

### Electrical Equipment

*Did you know electricity often accounts for 20% of the energy used in schools, but 50% of your energy costs. To reduce these costs:*

- **Switch monitors off.** When computer monitors aren't in use, switch them off. PC monitors account for almost two-thirds of a computer's energy consumption. If left on 24 hours a day, a computer will cost £25 a year to run. Multiply that by the number of PCs in your school - it soon adds up!
- **Turn vending machines off.** Outside hours, turn off your vending machines for non-perishable items. Leaving them on 24 hours a day could cost around £120 a year. If they are only on during school hours you could save around £85, a 70% saving! A simple seven-day time switch can be used for this.

### Swimming Pools

*If your school has a swimming pool, fuel costs increase substantially. Follow these tips to reduce costs:*

- **Control temperatures.** Pool temperatures should be maintained at around 29°C, while air temperature should be kept at  $\pm 1^\circ\text{C}$  of pool temperature. This reduces evaporation and the need for ventilation.
- **Cover it up.** When not in use, covering your pool will substantially reduce evaporation and the need for ventilation. If you haven't got a pool cover, this small investment will have big paybacks.



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**The Carbon Trust helps businesses and public sector organisations cut their energy costs to combat climate change through the provision of free, professional advice and assistance.**

### **Want to find out more?**

The Carbon Trust produces a schools' resource pack with tips on how to get the whole school involved. These include how to conduct an energy walk-round and specific information on energy saving measures.

These useful packs for the education sector are available at [www.carbontrust.co.uk/energy](http://www.carbontrust.co.uk/energy) or by contacting our helpline.

**ADH017 Schools' Resource Pack**

**GPG367 Better Business Guide to Energy Saving**

**PAC011 Energy Awareness Pack**

**We've got many more tips that apply specifically to your school, and will help you save energy and money. So give our helpline a call today.**

**Helpline 0800 58 57 94 [www.thecarbontrust.co.uk/energy](http://www.thecarbontrust.co.uk/energy)**

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