

# Energy Sparks for... Your School

Energy Sparks is an online energy analysis tool and energy education programme specifically designed to help primary and secondary schools reduce their electricity and gas usage through the analysis of smart meter data. Energy Sparks helps schools reduce their carbon emissions, and make a real contribution to addressing the 'climate emergency'.



Energy Sparks is a registered charity working for the public benefit to develop and promote tools, services and programmes to reduce energy and resource consumption and carbon emissions in schools across the UK.



**Freshford Church School pupils** used Energy Sparks to **reduce annual electricity costs by £740.**

**Energy Sparks is amazing.** It is great to find out how much electricity and gas our school uses and how much we can save. It has made me more confident at understanding graphs. The activities encourage us to work as a team and have more of an impact.

**KS2 pupils, Freshford Church School**

The Energy Sparks resources are inspirational, powerful and transformational tools for all schools that will enable them to reduce their CO2 footprint, save money and help children to develop a powerful can-do attitude towards the challenges of global warming.'

**Andrew Wishart**  
Head teacher

Freshford Church School, Bath and North East Somerset



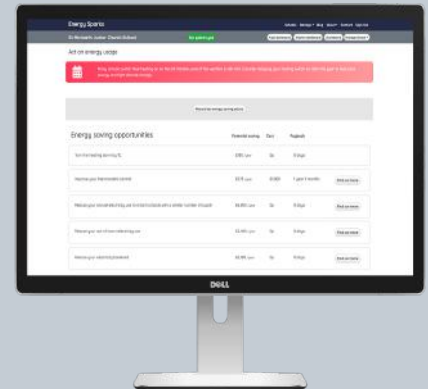
## How Energy Sparks can help your school

Using smart meter data, Energy Sparks will show you how much energy your school is using each day. Pupils, staff and community volunteers can use this information to help your school to save energy, and help protect the environment.

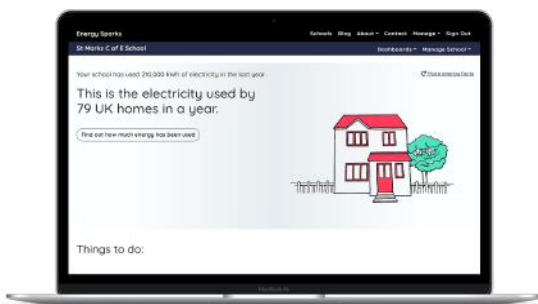
Energy Sparks has over 70 energy related activities which pupils can participate in through eco-teams or class based learning. Schools gain points for completing activities and these contribute to a scoreboard where pupils can compete with other schools providing extra motivation to save more energy.

## Notification of changes in energy consumption

Energy Sparks provides online, email and text notification of changes in energy consumption with recommended energy saving actions tailored just for your school. Suggested energy saving interventions and capital investments are prioritised for each school to maximise cost and energy savings.



## Automatic charting, analysis and advice



Energy Sparks analysis focuses on low cost measures which can help schools save energy and fight climate change. On average 50% of gas and electricity is consumed at schools when they are closed and the buildings are unoccupied. Energy Sparks highlights opportunities for energy saving at at your own school through behaviour change, reducing out of hours use, better boiler controls, and purchasing more energy efficient equipment.

If you have any questions about Energy Sparks then please email us at [hello@energysparks.uk](mailto:hello@energysparks.uk)  
You can also contact us via social media:  @energysparks  @EnergySparksUK

# Energy Sparks for... Teachers

Energy Sparks provides extensive support to teachers and eco-teams in learning about energy and climate change within the context of your own school.

- ✓ Eco-team and curriculum linked energy saving activities.
- ✓ Energy related lesson plans and downloadable resources.
- ✓ Support for pupils in designing and carrying out experiments to monitor energy related data and behaviour patterns at school.



"The Energy Sparks website is very easy to use, and the children have found it interesting to measure how energy is used differently in different parts of the school... The children are motivated by the competitive element as well as the desire to save money and energy..."

**Warrick Barton**

Headteacher

Pensford Primary Schools, Bath and NE Somerset

## Built-in activities

Energy Sparks has an extensive list of built-in energy related activities and lesson plans from which you can choose. These are categorised by:

- **Education** level (Key stages)
- **Subject** (English, Maths, Science, Design & Technology, etc.)
- **Topic** (Climate change, Earth and atmosphere, Energy, etc.)
- **Timescale**

The majority of the activities and lesson plans are within the context of your school and make use of the extensive charting and analysis of your school's smart meter data provided on the website.

Completed activities or lessons can be recorded on the website for which your school will gain points. These points contribute to a scoreboard where you can compare your progress against other schools locally and nationally.



## Teacher's dashboards

The starting point for teachers using Energy Sparks is the 'Teacher's Dashboard' which is specific to your school.

This provides a focal point for your energy related teaching, including:

- **Charts:** showing your school's recent gas and electricity use.
- **Alerts:** highlighting recent significant changes in your energy use, and hints and tips on how to reduce your energy consumption.
- **Suggested lessons and activities:** to make choosing a lesson plan or eco-team project easy, the dashboard provides a list of suggested activities. These are contextual to the time of year or a recent change that Energy Sparks has noticed in your energy usage.
- A **timeline** of completed activities and actions.



"The website is a great resource for adults and children with activities and data which allow children to apply their mathematical and scientific skills and knowledge.

I would highly recommend to any other school."

**Jennie Nixon**  
Head of School  
Whiteways Primary School, Sheffield

## Pupil's dashboard

Energy Sparks has a separate dashboard designed for school pupils, which presents energy information in a more pupil friendly manner.

The content is focused on encouraging pupils to actively engage in promoting energy saving in the school and take part in energy saving activities. The dashboard aims to provide them with a greater understanding of energy and climate change.

Energy facts are introduced to help pupils understand the energy, monetary or climate impact of energy use within their school.


Support for pupils is provided in designing and carrying out experiments to monitor energy related data and behaviour patterns at school.



**Freshford Church School** used energy information provided by Energy Sparks to **reduce annual electricity costs by £740.**

**Whiteways Primary School** used energy information provided by Energy Sparks to **save 35% in annual gas use.**

**Stanton Drew Primary School** used Energy Sparks to **reduce storage heater costs by 28%.**

If you have any questions about Energy Sparks then please email us at [hello@energysparks.uk](mailto:hello@energysparks.uk)  
You can also contact us via social media:  @energysparks  @EnergySparksUK



## What do I need to do to make my school's involvement in Energy Sparks a success?

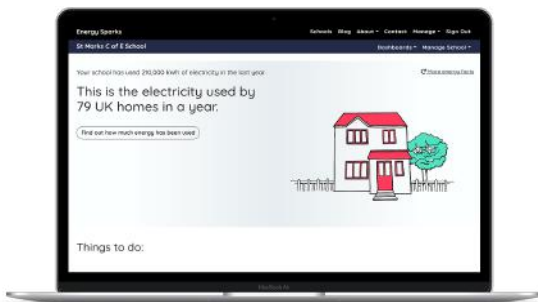
### Nominate an Energy Sparks champion for your school.

This is a lead adult who will act as the Energy Sparks account administrator for your school, support pupil energy saving activities, receive Energy Sparks alerts telling you about changes in energy use and recommended energy saving actions, and commit to checking your school's Energy Sparks online account regularly.

## Set up an Energy Sparks pupil club or eco-team

Some schools use parents or other volunteers to run their Energy Sparks or eco team. Aim to meet regularly - ideally at least once a fortnight.

Regularly check your school's energy data on Energy Sparks so that pupils, staff and volunteers can see how much difference they are making to your school's energy use, and what they need to do next.



## Involve the whole school.

Whether through a notice board, regular assemblies or inter-class competitions, make sure the rest of the school knows why you are saving energy and what they can do to help.

If you have any questions about Energy Sparks then please email us at [hello@energysparks.uk](mailto:hello@energysparks.uk)  
You can also contact us via social media:  @energysparks  @EnergySparksUK