



Energy Sparks

Helping schools fight climate change

Energy Sparks is a charity that offers a unique school-specific energy management tool and education programme.

Energy Sparks will help you:

- Save up to 40% off school energy bills
- Cut school carbon footprints
- Give pupils the knowledge and skills to cut energy waste at school



Overview of introduction slides

- Why are we using Energy Sparks at our school?
- Expectations of using Energy Sparks
 - Engagement expectations
 - School sustainability team
- Familiarising yourself with Energy Sparks
- Getting started using Energy Sparks
 - For office and estate staff
 - For teaching staff

Key messages

- Anyone can create meaningful change
- Simple energy saving activities can have a big impact
- We can work together to make a huge difference to our school and our planet

Why are we using Energy Sparks at our school?

For the school	For staff	For pupils
<ul style="list-style-type: none">● To save money (average primary saves £3,000, average secondary saves £12,000 per year)● To reduce carbon emissions● To meet sustainability targets● To support school community in understanding and reducing energy consumption	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Identify quick wins for energy saving● Spot unknown issues with heating systems and electrical appliances, particularly outside of school opening hours● Prioritise energy saving action● Prioritise capital investment● Plan decarbonisation activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Build skills in:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Analysing data○ Monitoring, reporting and asking questions○ Taking action, problem solving○ Team working, communications● Alleviate climate anxiety<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Real measurable impact on climate change

Engagement expectations for schools

- Appoint at least three staff as Energy Sparks users
 - Member of SLT, site team, teacher
- Staff should receive weekly alerts and newsletters and are encouraged to attend [training sessions](#)
- Use Energy Sparks with pupils across the school year
- Complete at least one [Energy Sparks programme](#) over the year
- Carry out and record at least one [adult action](#) per long school term
- Nominate at least one named staff member to carry out a [holiday switch off](#) before each holiday



Energy Sparks

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Sustainability works best as a team effort:

- School leadership:
 - Business manager / head teacher
- Teaching staff:
 - Sustainability lead / eco team lead
- Estates staff:
 - Facilities manager / caretaker
- Pupils:
 - School council / eco team / classroom representatives
- Energy Sparks team:
 - support@energysparks.uk

Familiarise yourself with Energy Sparks

- Free online training: [Training | Energy Sparks](#)
- User guide videos: <https://www.youtube.com/@energysparksuk>
- Case studies: <https://energysparks.uk/case-studies>
- Adult dashboard for your school
- Pupil dashboard for your school

Familiarise yourself: Adult dashboard

Check and edit school details

The Farnley Academy 80 points ↑ W 3rd Visible Public Process data Data visible ⚙ Pupil dashboard Manage School Out

Schools > The GORSE Academies Trust > The Farnley Academy > Adult dashboard

Welcome

Explore the latest energy data, review recent energy use alerts and see the latest activity on your scoreboard

The Farnley Academy

Chapel Lane, Farnley LS12 5EU
Secondary

Recent energy usage

		Use (kWh)	CO2 (kg)	Cost (£)	Potential savings	% Change
⚡ Electricity	Last week	13,200	1,190	£6,620	n/a	+4.5% ⬇
	Last year	725,000	96,200	£304,000	£94,300	-22% ⬆
🔥 Gas	Last week	13,700	2,490	£410	n/a	+147% ⬇
	Last year	971,000	177,000	£88,900	£33,300	-28% ⬆

Electricity data: 1 Sep 2018 - 14 Sep 2024. Gas data: 31 Aug 2018 - 15 Sep 2024. [How did we calculate these figures?](#)

Learn more about your energy use

View charts, get insights into reducing energy usage and compare performance against other schools

[Explore energy data](#) [Energy saving opportunities](#)

Reminders and alerts

Reminders

It's time to choose a new programme of activities. What challenge will you take on next?
[Start a new programme](#)

Recent alerts

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

[View more alerts](#)

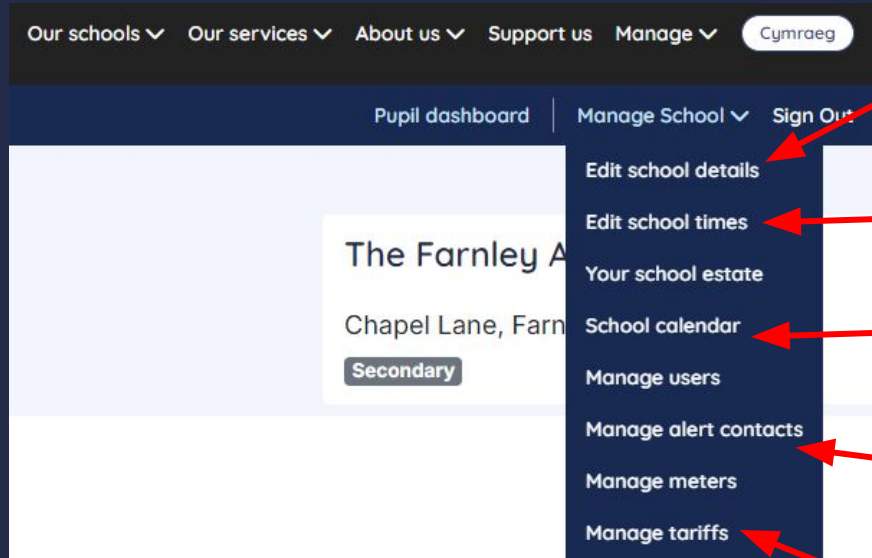
Summary of Annual usage

Find your energy use charts and detailed analysis

Biggest energy saving opportunities

Alerts

Familiarise yourself: Check school details



See and edit school details (contact us if school size has changed over time)

Edit school times and add community use times

Edit term dates and inset days

Add new users and change who is receiving alerts

Check and edit tariffs (these can also be managed at the group level)

Familiarise yourself: Pupil dashboard

Schools > The GORSE Academies Trust > The Farnley Academy > Pupil dashboard

Welcome


Explore the latest energy data, review recent energy use alerts and see the latest activity on your scoreboard

The Farnley Academy
Chapel Lane, Farnley LS12 5EU
Secondary

Electricity

Last year your school used 730,000 kWh of electricity.

That's the electricity used by 270 average homes in a year.

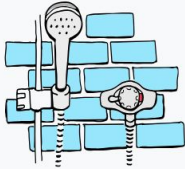


Explore the electricity data for your school

Gas

Last week your school used 15,000 kWh of gas.

That's enough energy to heat the hot water for 7,100 showers.



Explore the gas data for your school

Explore the energy data for your school

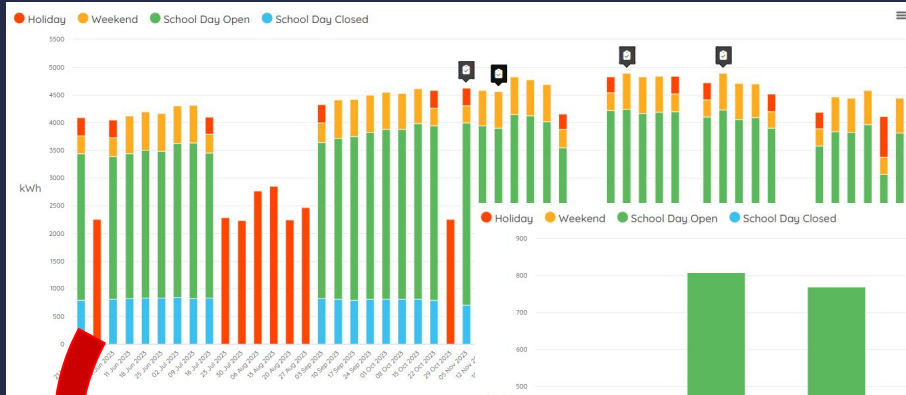
Electricity

Gas

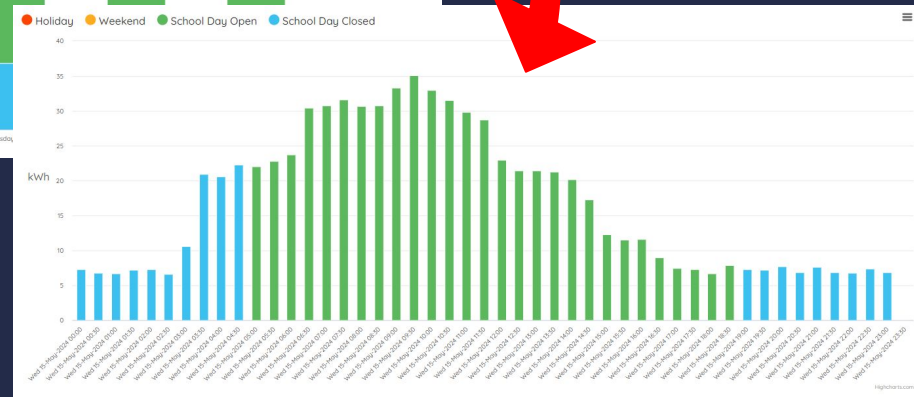
Energy equivalences: putting energy and climate data into context

Links to energy charts

Familiarise yourself: Charts



Click on charts to drill down and explore:
What does a normal day look like?



Familiarise yourself: Charts

Change units for different audiences

Toggle datasets on and off using legend

Explore different time periods



Getting started: Office and estates staff

Prioritised energy saving opportunities

Schools > The GORSE Academies Trust > The Farnley Academy > Advice > Energy saving opportunities

Energy saving opportunities

Overview

Prioritised opportunities

We've identified the following opportunities to reduce your costs and carbon dioxide emissions.

Use the table headings to sort the recommendations. Potential cost savings for the same fuel type are not additive.

	Fuel	Savings			
		Energy (kWh)	Cost (£)	CO2 (kg)	
Baseload	⚡	Reduce your electricity baseload	290,000	£120,000	38,000
Intraday	⚡	Reduce your annual electricity use	220,000	£94,000	30,000
Long term changes	⚡				
Out of school hours					
Recent changes	🔥	Insulate your hot water pipes	950,000	£87,000	170,000
Tariffs and costs					
Gas	⚡	Install solar panels	100,000	£46,000	14,000
Heating control	🔥	Reduce your annual gas use	390,000	£36,000	72,000
Hot water					
Long term changes	⚡	Reduce your peak electricity consumption	33,000	£12,000	5,400
Out of school hours					
Recent changes	🔥	Switch off the heating in warmer weather	35,000	£3,900	6,500
Tariffs and costs	🔥	Turn the heating down by 1°C	18,000	£1,700	3,400
Thermostatic control					

Sort by cost or carbon



Follow “Energy saving opportunities” link on the adult dashboard

Getting started: Office and estates staff

Reduce baseload

Electricity baseload is the electricity needed to provide power to appliances that keep running at all times.

[Create and maintain holiday switch off list](#)

Reduce number of things that are left running, test and improve efficiency of things that must be left running

End of term switch off	
Turn off/down all...	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Lighting
	<input type="checkbox"/> Air purifiers introduced as Covid mitigation
	<input type="checkbox"/> Gas heating
Heating	<input type="checkbox"/> Electric heaters and storage heaters.
	<input type="checkbox"/> Hot water heating <small>This could be a central heating system, electric immersion heaters in tanks, radiators and radiators, and pipes of use electric hot water heaters. To mitigate any Legionella concerns make sure any tanks or pipes are flushed and heated to 60C before pupils return after a long break.</small>
	<input type="checkbox"/> Photocopiers and printers
	<input type="checkbox"/> Computers and device chargers

Reduce out of hours gas use

Review your out of hours gas consumption - it's very common for boilers to be on at unexpected times

[Switch off heating at weekends](#)

[Change heating operating times](#)

[Change heating set temperatures](#)

[Switch off heating for summer](#) - don't rely on the thermostat

[Switch off hot water at weekends](#)

Don't forget: students can play their part in this work

Getting started: Teaching staff

Introducing Energy Sparks to your students:

- [Video introducing Energy Sparks](#)
- Explore the pupil dashboard with them
- Focus on out of hours consumption: Is this a surprise? What could they do to help?
- Explore [recommended activities](#) for your school
- Use [programmes of activities](#) to get started
- [Extended project brief](#)

The screenshot shows the Energy Sparks website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with 'Energy Sparks' and 'Cymraeg' on the left, and 'Activities', 'Actions', 'Our services', 'About us', 'Support us', and 'Sign Out' on the right. The 'Activities' link is circled in red. Below the navigation bar is a large heading 'Explore energy saving activities' with a search box. Underneath, there is a list of three activity categories, each with a green checkmark icon: 'Eco-team and curriculum-linked energy saving activities..', 'Energy-related lesson plans and downloadable resources..', and 'Support for pupils in designing and carrying out experiments to monitor energy related data and behaviour patterns at school..'. At the bottom of the page, there is a link 'View our recommended activities and actions based on your school's programmes and our analysis of your energy data' and a 'View all suggestions' button, which is also circled in red.

The infographic is titled 'GET ENERGISED TO SAVE ELECTRICITY WITH ENERGY SPARKS'. It outlines an 8-step process for schools to reduce electricity consumption. Step 1, 'RECRUIT YOUR ENERGY TEAM', shows a group of pupils. Step 2, 'ANALYSE', involves thinking about school occupancy. Step 3, 'SET A TARGET', is about deciding on a reduction goal. Step 4, 'INVESTIGATE', involves a spot check at lunchtimes. Step 5, 'MAKE A CHANGE', is about labeling equipment. Step 6, 'COMMUNICATE', is about holding an assembly. Step 7, 'RECRUIT', is about assigning energy monitors. Step 8, 'REVIEW & REFLECT', is about analysing progress. The infographic includes icons for a group of people, a computer monitor, a magnifying glass, a lightbulb, a bar chart, a speech bubble, a person, and a downward arrow.

GET ENERGISED TO SAVE ELECTRICITY WITH ENERGY SPARKS

1 RECRUIT YOUR ENERGY TEAM
This is the brilliant group of pupils who will be taking the lead on energy activities at your school.

These activities will help you get to grips with basic data analysis and behavioural change and take the first steps to lowering your school's carbon footprint.
All activities are hyperlinked - click on the image or text to be taken to the activity page where you can find more details and record what you have done

Once you have the hang of analysing your data charts check these on a regular basis to see the impact you're having on your energy use.

2 ANALYSE
Think about who uses your school and when it is occupied. Learn how to spot strange patterns in the data.

3 SET A TARGET
Decide how much of a reduction you want to make in your electricity consumption.

4 INVESTIGATE
Where are you wasting energy? Carry out a spot check at lunchtimes and playtimes to see where lights and equipment are left on.

5 MAKE A CHANGE
Label lights and equipment to show which can be turned off by pupils and staff.

6 COMMUNICATE
Hold an assembly to tell the whole school about what you've learned and the changes you've made so far.

7 RECRUIT
Assign class/Form Energy Monitors to remind school users to turn items off.

8 REVIEW & REFLECT
Analyse your progress against your target reduction. Reflect on your actions. What's next?

Log into your school's dashboard at <https://energysparks.uk> to find these actions and user guides.
Don't forget to record your actions to inspire other schools and to earn points.
Share your successes with us: [@energysparks](https://twitter.com/energysparks) [@energysparksuk](https://www.instagram.com/energysparksuk)

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Get Energised is a really good programme to start on

Questions:

How can Energy Sparks help you further?

If you have any questions about Energy Sparks, need help?

- support@energysparks.uk

They also offer 1:1 online and on-site energy audits as well as educational workshops. Book here:

- <https://energysparks.uk/energy-audits>
- <https://energysparks.uk/education-workshops>