

Schools Challenge

The 20th year of **Energy Saving Week** takes place in Northern Ireland from **Monday 1st to Friday 5th February 2021**. The Energy Saving Trust, alongside our partners, will be promoting Energy Saving Week and we are inviting your primary school to take part in an energy saving challenge!

Most of the energy we use creates carbon emissions which damage the environment. Reducing the amount of energy and water we use will limit the impact on the environment. Small changes can make a difference. Whether it's turning the tap off when you brush your teeth, turning the lights off when you don't need them, or turning TVs and games consoles off standby when not in use, everyone can make a difference and help protect the planet.

The Challenge

In line with Covid-19 guidance provided to schools, we have adapted this year's challenge so both staff and pupils can take part and remain safe.

We suggest that in advance of Monday 1st February, you inform pupils and parents/guardians of Energy Saving Week and share the attached challenge sheet via email or your school's online learning platform. Our aim is to encourage all children who can take part in the challenge to make some simple changes to help save energy at home.

At the end of the week, Friday 5th February, we ask that each teacher counts how many pupils have been able to complete each task on the challenge sheet during the week.

Please email your school's totals to ieuan-rhys.beal@est.org.uk. The Energy Saving Trust will then issue your school with a certificate stating how much CO₂ your pupils managed to save throughout Energy Saving Week.

Energy Saving Week is a great way to get pupils thinking about saving energy in the home and we hope you support our campaign. Displaying your certificate in your school is also a great way to show the pupils how the simple changes they have made can make such a big impact on the environment.

We are also using social media to promote Energy Saving Week, so if your school would like to tweet your total savings at the end of the week, use **#EnergySavingWeek2021**. We will re-tweet your post and would be pleased to receive a photo or video of your pupils undertaking some of the challenges or with their certificate once complete.

If you need any further information or want to speak to us about this campaign, please contact:

Angela Gracey-Roger,
Programme Manager, Northern Ireland

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Looking for more Energy Saving Advice for Schools?

NI Energy Advice service is managed by the Housing Executive (Home Energy Conservation Authority for NI) and funded by DfC. It offers independent and impartial energy advice to domestic householders in Northern Ireland, plus referrals to energy grants and other sources of help. The 'refreshed' service incorporates the management of NI's Schools Energy Efficiency Awareness Programme (SEEAP). The Programme will continue to deliver its energy message – encouraging awareness of energy use and the environment, addressing topics including 'What is energy?', 'Where does our energy come from' and 'Energy Conservation'.

The SEEAP role will now support the global Eco-schools Programme, with 100% of Northern Ireland's primary schools committed to achieving their **Green Flag**. This refreshed SEEAP program, in grant funding the Eco-schools Energy topic, has the potential to deliver education and awareness to all 1,143 NI schools, to 320,000+ pupils in both primary and secondary schools at Key stage 2 & 3. Eco-schools has full support from the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA), all 11 local councils, major corporate and charity sponsors, and the Housing Executive. If you would like more information on the schools' programme please contact Gemma Cowles Hespc@nihe.gov.uk