Ask the Expert

Pearson

How can schools work to reduce their carbon footprint?

> *We can stop wasting money heating the air around our schools; let's put that money back into educating our young people; teaching them all the wonderful things that they need to know to thrive in our zero carbon society.*

Alex Green

Schools lead at the climate solutions charity, Ashden, and Let's Go Zero shares her top tips.

1. Find out where your quick wins are

Get someone to regularly walk around the building switching off devices, lights and anything else that is adding to your energy bill that doesn't need to be on. Make a printing pledge to reduce printing by 10% – try printing double-sided or creating a password people need to use before printing.

2. Set the correct temperature

19 degrees Celsius is the best classroom temperature for teaching and learning in, and corridors and bathrooms can be a little less. Adjusting the timings of the heating systems within the school can quickly cut an hour off your heating bill every day.

3. Get everyone involved

Working in isolation is an uphill battle. Involve the students, parents, senior leadership team and governors – share ideas and motivation for making changes that last.

4. Don't reinvent the wheel

There is lots of information and support available online and there are many organisations providing advice in this area now - including **Lets Go Zero**. You can even ask other schools in your community what they're doing.

5. Celebrate success

No matter how big or small, tell your local community about it in your newsletter and on your website. Especially if it's a recommendation from one of your pupils! It's important to celebrate your efforts.

Get more tips
and advice here ➔

Get involved by sharing what you're doing to make a difference.
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