

Case Study

The Active Learning Trust

- **Customer:** The Active Learning Trust, which runs a family of 21 primary, secondary and special schools in England
- Technology: LED lighting
- Funding: SALIX SEEF Fund

Outcomes:

- Comprehensive turnkey LED lighting solutions
- Projected energy savings of £73K across eight schools
- Further savings expected from forthcoming projects at four more schools

Energys Group LED upgrade set to deliver huge annual savings across 12 schools



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PROJECT BACKGROUND

Energy efficient technologies specialist Energys Group has undertaken a multi-phase project to install cutting edge LED lighting technology at a total of 8 schools operated by The Active Learning Trust in the East of England, with four more to follow.

Situated primarily in the counties of Suffolk and Cambridgeshire, the schools have been equipped with energy-efficient lighting in two phases to date. But the overall project can actually be traced back to 2018, when Energys Group account director Raj Gunasekaran held an initial conversation with Active Learning Trust procurement and estates manager Joy Robinson.

"At that point they did not have LED lighting in their schools, and Joy was keen to explore the possibility of Salix funding for an upgrade scheme encompassing a number of their sites," recalls Raj Gunasekaran. "We undertook an audit at about 10 schools and made some recommendations about suitable LED lighting systems – drawn primarily from our IntelliDIM range – and the kind of savings the Trust could expect."

Ultimately, the Salix Energy Efficiency Fund (SEEF) – whose entire focus is



on the installation of energy efficient technologies to reduce energy consumption – financed upgrades at 8 schools across two phases. At the time of writing it is hoped that a further phase of four more schools might be funded by the Salix Decarbonisation Grant Scheme.

Working in close collaboration with the Energys team, Joy Robinson says it was clear that "the new LED lighting could deliver major improvements in energy consumption and carbon output, as well an increase in the quality of illumination."













THE SOLUTION

"Our approach to schools is generally that we offer a complete turnkey solution covering the entire site," observes Raj Gunasekaran. The Active Learning Trust was no exception, with the Energys Group installations encompassing all areas of the schools, ranging from classrooms and corridors to offices and outdoor spaces.

Recognising that it can be easy to leave lights on and waste energy, the project made extensive use of products from the Energy Group IntelliDim system. Providing plug & play luminaires with no



additional complicated wiring, IntelliDim is accompanied by a user-friendly app that allows the commissioning of precise light levels to maximise energy savings. It also enables the setting of parameters for occupancy 'time out' and daylight harvesting via a seamless and comfortable dimming process. In many cases, the use of IntelliDim can deliver a further 10-30% saving on top of the reductions achieved by switching to LED from traditional lamps.

Consequently, Energys IntelliDIM LED Panels and IntelliDIM LED Linear Fittings are now in use in various areas across the schools involved in the upgrade. But the project also called for numerous other current items from the Energys range, including LED Downlights and LED Decorative Suspended Lights. Multiple outdoor spaces are accommodated by Energys products such as IP65 LED Hi-Bay Lights, Self-Test Emergency Tridonic LED Lights, IP65 Outdoor LED Wall Lights, Inground LED Uplighters and Spotlights, as well as various flood and security lights.





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THE RESULTS

Assessing the impact of the nowcompleted phases 1 and 2, this project is projected to deliver significant energy & cost savings and collective reduction in CO₂ is calculated to be several tonnes per year across all 10 x schools.

Looking ahead, a further four schools are currently in the frame for comparable LED lighting upgrades, which will also herald siizeable reductions in CO2 output and energy expenditure.

Across all sites, the new lighting has been well-received by pupils, students and visitors. Joy Robinson highlights the non-disruptive nature of the installation, with "a great deal of the work being carried out overnight, which is always welcome as it minimises the impact on the normal workings of the school. The new lighting is also much brighter and more consistent than the previous systems, and it's good to know that we are reducing our energy consumption significantly as well."



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