

Dixons Academies Trust

Overview

Founded by Dixons City Academy, DAT is a well-established school trust comprising 17 schools with over 14,000 students, serving the communities of Bradford, Leeds, Liverpool and Manchester, and has over 30 years' experience in transforming education through its network of high-performing, non-faith academies.

Why?

A number of factors led to the decision to replace all mercury lighting with LED. Whilst it was an important pillar of their Net Zero strategy, failures of fluorescent bulbs were becoming problematic with issues on light quality, maintenance and replacements. In reaction to significant increases in energy cost the estates team accelerated implementation timescales.

Why Energys?

DAT awarded the contract for 10 schools via a tender in April 2023 through YPO, originally to a specification for Standard LED lighting products. The 'put customer first' approach and demonstrable understanding of their needs impressed the Buildings Management team, and our environmental credentials underpinned the quality of solutions recommended for the project.

“Amongst the primary objectives, the DAT team was keen to minimise energy usage whilst achieving the highest possible RoI both in the short and long-term. In this instance their investment was fully recouped in 9 months due to c 80% reduction in energy costs.”

Gavin Skipsey, Business Development Director Energys Group

Challenges

A key challenge was that any project works did not distract students; the DAT implementation team specified the completion of works during holiday periods: Phase 1 Summer 2023, Phase 2 October 2023 – in total a programme of 10 Schools.

Solutions

Energys prepared an analysis of long-term savings in carbon and cost achievable through its intelligent lighting solutions, IntelliDim. The technology also ensures all buildings are future proofed, with zero maintenance requirements. In line with the company's promise, we were prepared to guarantee the savings identified in the financial analysis and as a result this was specified across the project.



Projected impact

Project quantum	10 Academies
Project Value	£631K
ROI	9 months
No of Lights Replaced	5684
Annual £ Savings	£761,703
Annual kWh Savings	810,903

elec rate is £0.45 per unit