

# Case study

Southwold Primary School



Save today. Save tomorrow.



# Southwold Primary School goes green to save money

Like many public sector organisations, Southwold Primary School in Hackney, London, is under increasing pressure to cut costs and carbon emissions.

Saving energy is helping the school kill two birds with one stone.

Head teacher, Gary Boyd, was initially concerned that the age of his school would be a problem. It was constructed in 1863 and is a grade II listed building, which means that restrictions apply to any alterations that are made.

## How EDF Energy helped

Our Energy Services team assured him that improvements can be achieved in any building and guaranteed energy and cost savings. Through doing a detailed energy audit, they found that Southwold's main problems included inefficient heating, lighting and machine control. Our Energy Efficiency Engineers recommended a Building Management System (BMS) to help monitor and reduce consumption.

This means that Southwold can now automatically ensure that equipment such as boilers, lighting and kitchen appliances are turned off when they are not required and running optimally when they are.

Keen to engage the pupils, our Energy Services team developed an energy consumption dashboard for the schools computers. This shows the children how much energy they use each day and brings carbon savings to life.

## Top marks

Southwold reduced its energy bills by an astounding 35% in less than a year and improved its Display Energy Certificate (DEC) rating from an F to a C. (The current national average is D). The cost savings have already funded two extra full-time teaching staff, making a demonstrable difference to the children's education.

// **Halving our energy bills in two years is an amazing outcome which will help our school cope with the funding cuts.**

In 2011, two years on from installation, savings have reached 48% of the energy budget over that period, showing the ongoing performance of the BMS.

Gary Boyd comments: "We've been delighted with the progress made at the school. Despite the age of Southwold, real improvements have been made. Halving our energy bills in two years is an amazing outcome which will help our school cope with the funding cuts.

Financing is available for installing energy efficiency measures, so we would urge all schools to follow our lead; energy efficiency schemes are a win-win way to cut costs and help the environment at the same time."



An energy consumption computer dashboard that helps to engage children with sustainability.



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