

Top tips for saving energy

Try one of these energy-saving tips to cut carbon emissions and reduce energy bills at your university or college.

The FHE sector could save 25% on carbon emissions with some energy-efficiency measures.*

Heating and hot water

Heating can account for as much as 65% of your university or college's energy bill*, but there are some easy ways to save energy.

- ▶ Just 1°C of overheating can increase fuel costs by 8%** , so make sure you don't turn up the heating unnecessarily in areas where it's not needed.
- ▶ Tell your energy manager or facilities team if any areas are too hot, cold or draughty. This could indicate a maintenance problem.
- ▶ Avoid using your own heaters or fans; talk to your energy manager instead about reprogramming the heating or air conditioning.
- ▶ Check taps aren't left running – and report any dripping taps and overflowing cisterns to the facilities or energy manager.

DID YOU KNOW? Turning the thermostat up to its maximum setting doesn't warm up the space any faster; it just leads to overheating. The same is true of air conditioning thermostats if you turn them to their lowest setting.

Lighting

Lighting can make up 25% of your establishment's electricity bill*, so look for savings here too.

- ▶ Switch off lights in rooms that aren't in use – and tell students to do so too.
- ▶ Report any faulty or inadequate lighting to the facilities manager.

DID YOU KNOW? Even if you turn off a light for just a few seconds, it'll save more energy than it takes for the light to start up again.

Appliances

Office and specialist equipment (in science labs, for example) and electrical items – like kettles – can waste a significant amount of energy, but there are ways to minimise this.

- ▶ Don't leave appliances in standby mode: it's still using power, even if it looks like it's been turned off!
- ▶ Only fill the kettle with the amount of water that you need – boiling more wastes water *and* electricity.
- ▶ Make sure you use any power-saving settings on computers and office equipment (e.g. photocopiers).
- ▶ Remember to turn off any electrical equipment when not in use. This will help prolong its life, but also save energy and money. A computer left on 24/7 will cost around £53 a year.†
- ▶ Use the sustainability angle to engage students to save energy on campus too.

DID YOU KNOW? Switching off your computer at night and weekends reduces its cost to around £11 a year and saves the equivalent amount of energy required to make more than 30,000 cups of coffee!†

Talk to us! Report any lighting or heating problems to: