



CASE STUDY

Leigh Primary School

Key Points

Technology

4.7 kWp solar PV panels

Funding

100% feasibility study funding through Big Lottery CSEP

Kent County Council

92% capital funding secured through Low Carbon Buildings Programme

Kent County Council

Collaborators

Leigh Primary School

Kent County Council

CO₂ saving

1.9 tonnes per annum



Grassroots generation

With a motto like "the Green School on the Green", it wasn't going to be long before Leigh Primary School wanted to create its own green energy! Shortly after being awarded the prestigious Eco-Schools Green Flag, the school's eco-committee of pupils and staff decided that the next step to reduce their carbon footprint should be to explore sustainable technologies. Funding from the Big Lottery and Kent County Council enabled the school to commission a study into the best opportunities for it to generate its own energy. CEN's study suggested solar photovoltaic panels since these would make excellent use of the site's southeast facing roofs, without infringing on teaching and play space at a site where space is already at a premium.

Power to the pupils

CEN helped the school identify a suitable contractor and provided support to lever in considerable capital funding. The 4.7 kWp solar PV array will generate 3,750 kWh annually, cutting the school's carbon emissions by 14% or 48 tonnes over the next 25 years.

The panels have proved tremendously popular with pupils, who have been monitoring the system's output and carbon savings three times a day since it was installed. "The cells have really awoken the pupils' interest and understanding of energy use" says Headteacher Ani Lawrence. "We have pupils who monitor our usage and generation daily, and who hold us to account, via the eco committee, for the energy we use - pupil voice at its best!"

Want to know more?

To find out more about Leigh Primary School's solar PV or to discuss your own project, contact CEN Technical Services on 020 8683 6681.

CEN

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