

Case Study - St James' Catholic High School

First school in Barnet to have solar installation

Pupils at St. James' Catholic High School are the first in the London Borough of Barnet to generate clean, green electricity from the Sun. A launch event was held at the school on the 24th of June to coincide with the school's 'Environmental Well Being Day' and was celebrated with the Mayor of Barnet, Councillor Andreas Tambourides.

St. James' Catholic High School received funding of £5,666 from Scottish Power, £4,200 from the Photovoltaic Major Demonstration Programme (PVMDP) and support from the Renewable Energy Action for London (REAL) initiative to install the system. The school also raised £1,000 through a recycled materials fashion show and by packing shopping bags at a local supermarket.

Reducing climate change

The 1.5kWp PV system mounted on the science block roof will generate 1200kWh of electricity per annum for use in the school, with any surplus electricity being sold to the National Grid. It is estimated that use of the photovoltaic panels will result in 516kg of carbon dioxide emission savings each year.

A display unit allows pupils, visitors and teachers to monitor energy production and carbon dioxide savings. This display unit has generated a great deal of interest amongst staff and pupils with a sweepstake taking place to see how much energy it can produce by the end of term!

Key Points

Technology 1.5kWp grid connected photovoltaics (PV) system

Funding Scottish Power PV MDP St James' Catholic High School

Collaborators
St James' Catholic High School
Renewable Energy Action
For London (REAL)
Solargen

Leading by example

Cabinet Member for Environment and Transport, Cllr Matthew Offord, says: "For the past two years, the council has given considerable support on a range of environmental projects to St James' School, which now has a solar panel, a recycling scheme and a vegetable garden, and

has started to support local primary schools with their environmental projects". The school is now looking to install a small wind turbine with support from the REAL team.

Want to know more?

Residents and community groups can seek support for installing renewable energy in homes or public buildings by contacting the REAL project team on 020 8683 6683.

PV Installation
St James' Catholic High School
June 2005

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