

# Schools and Community Energy Report 2019



# Schools powered by community energy

Since 2012 community energy groups have been working with schools at an increasing rate to install community energy, educate the next generation in climate emergency and encourage young people to participate in the transition to a people-powered future.

This report illustrates the number of community energy groups who have installed community energy or energy saving measures in schools. It also talks about educational outreach which has reached thousands of young people.

## How does it work?

Schools lend their roofs to community energy groups. In return the groups provide renewable energy to the schools at a lower price than the schools are buying their energy.

## How is it funded?

Community energy groups fund the scheme through community share offers offering local people the chance to invest. A community energy scheme normally works for up to 25 years.

## Could this work for community buildings?

Absolutely. The same principles could be applied to buildings which are used on a regular basis such as libraries, leisure centres, community centres, community shops and places of worship.

Number of  
community  
energy schools

84

Total kW of  
solar PV\*

4142

Estimated tonnes  
carbon saved/yr\*

1265

Number of  
pupils reached\*

60,363

Equivalent  
electricity for

1119

homes/yr\*\*

Carbon  
saved offsets

9961

flights Lon-Paris\*\*\*

\*through solar schools only

\*\*Source: Ovo Energy

\*\*\*Source: My Climate (strategic partner with Gold Standard)

**“The Community Energy Solar Project has enabled us to use live energy data for teaching across the curriculum. We’re currently piloting a project for a whole year group on sustainability and our PV panels have played a central role in our teaching. We also link up with our local community energy group OVESCO to run work experience programmes for students.”**

**Steve Green, Environmental coordinator,  
Ringmer Academy College**

# About community energy and educational outreach

Community energy groups work with other organisations such as Ashden and Sussex Green Living to provide educational outreach programmes to support schools. In doing so this maximises the environmental, educational and community benefit of community energy projects, as well as engaging with pupils in a truly motivational way.

Some community energy groups support STEM learning and organise school visits to solar projects. Others work with Ashden's free LESS CO2 energy efficiency programme and Sussex Green Living's inspirational assemblies, lessons and workshops in schools.

**“We bring to life climate change education and solutions with our ‘Future we want – LESS CO2’ programme in schools. It educates, it inspires and it motivates action. We talk about the problems, the solutions and how small actions repeated by many people can change society.**

**As well as understanding climate change, our children need to understand how to find positive solutions for a better future. And that's what we do.”**

**Carrie Cort, Founder of Sussex Green Living,  
Climate Reality Leader and Eco School Assessor**



# Schools community energy projects and educational outreach



- Key**
- Community energy groups
  - Schools and community energy projects
  - Educational outreach



# Schools with community energy projects in the south

School	Community Energy Group/Org	PV kW	Carbon saved/yr*	Year Commissioned
Alderwood Primary School	SELCE	49.7	15	2016
Ashley Junior School	West Solent Solar Co op	50	15	2019
Ashmead Primary School	SELCE	49	15	2015
Baird Primary Academy	Energise Sussex Coast	59.92	18	2019
Balcombe Primary	Repower Balcombe	9.75	3	2015
Bannockburn Primary School	SELCE	29.7	9	2016
Basingstoke College of Technology	Basingstoke Energy services Co op	97	30	2013
Boxgrove Primary School	Wey Valley Solar Schools	43.68	13	2016
Bridport Primary School	Dorset Community Energy	15	5	2016
Broadwater School	Wey Valley Solar Schools	47	14	2012
Budmouth College	Dorset Community Energy	30	9	2016
Burgess Hill academy	OVESCo	29.9	9	2019
Chailey School	OVESCo	29.5	9	2013
Charlton Park Academy	SELCE	49	15	2016
Christ Church C of E primary	Energise Sussex Coast and Wey Valley Solar	30	9	2019
Churchwood Primary Academy	Energise Sussex Coast and Energy 4 all	18.9	6	2019
Coldean Primary School	Brighton energy Co op	60	18	2019
Courthouse Junior School	Solar Schools Co op	47.84	15	2015
Crawley Down School	Repower Balcombe	50	15	2016
Deansfield Primary School	SELCE	49.7	15	2016
Downlands Community School	HKD Energy Ltd	80	25	2015
Dudley Infant Academy	Energise Sussex Coast and Energy 4 all	18	6	2019
Dulwich College	SE24	120	37	2018
Elm Academy	Solar Schools Co op	49.95	15	2017
Fullbrook school	Solar Schools Co op	42.9	13	2016
George Abbot School	Wey Valley Solar Schools	198	61	2012
Glenleigh park Academy	Energise Sussex Coast as Schools Energy Co op	150	46	2014
Godalming College	Wey Valley Solar Schools	49	15	2015
Greenacre Academy	Solar Schools Co op	48.88	15	2016
Greenford Church of England Primary School	Dorset Community Energy	21	6	2016
Guildford County School	Wey Valley Solar Schools	17.5	5	2012
Heron Park Primary Academy	Solar Schools Co op	29.64	9	2015
Highdown School & Sixth Form Centre	Reading Community Energy Society	50	15	2019
Holy Trinity C Of E Primary School & Nursery	Dorset Community Energy	50	15	2016
Holy Trinity Cuckfield	Repower Balcombe	20.52	6	2018
Horniman Primary School	SELCE	49	15	2015
Imberhorne upper School	Repower Balcombe	50	15	2016
Jubilee High School	Wey Valley Solar Schools	27.04	8	2012
King's Park Academy	Solar Schools Co op	49.95	15	2017
Kings Academy Ringmer 1	OVESCo	29.64	9	2016

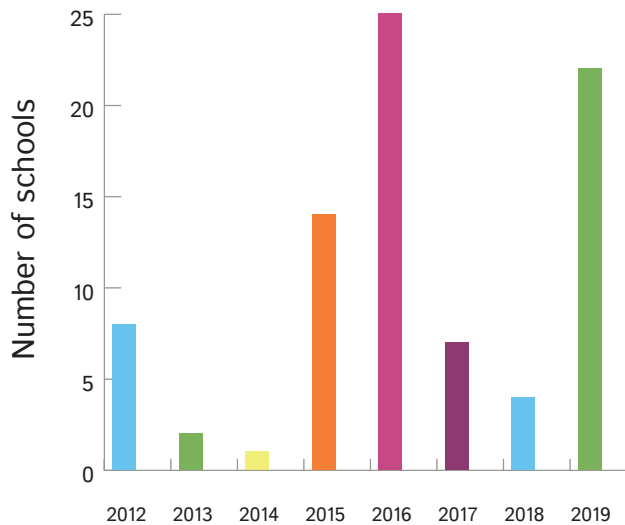
\*Estimated in tonnes using industry recognised formulae agreed by the Advertising Standards Agency. Actual results may vary.

Kings Academy Ringmer 2	OVESCo	30	9	2017
Longspee Academy	Solar Schools Co op	29.97	9	2017
Lytchett Matravers Primary School	Dorset Community Energy	12	4	2015
Lytchett Minster School	Dorset Community Energy	25	8	2015
Magna Carta School	Maid Energy	59.4	18	2016
Manorside Academy	Solar Schools Co op	29.97	9	2017
Milldown C Of E Primary School	Dorset Community Energy	50	15	2016
Montessori Place, Uckfield	BHESCo	27	8	2016
Mulgrave Primary School	SELCE	49	15	2015
Oakwood Primary Academy	Solar Schools Co op	47.34	15	2016
Ore Valley East Sussex College	Energise Sussex Coast and Brighton Energy Co op	250	77	2019
Our Lady of Lourdes RC school	OVESCo	28.6	9	2019
Patcham Junior school	BHESCo	30	9	2019
Peter Symonds College	Basingstoke Energy services Co op	60	18	2015
Peter Symonds College	Basingstoke Energy services Co op	21	6	2015
Portslade Aldridge Academy	Brighton energy Co op	100	31	2016
Pound Hill Academy	OVESCo	29.5	9	2019
Prince Avenue Primary School	Solar Schools Co op	45.76	15	2016
Priory School	OVESCo	35	11	2012
Queen's Park Academy	Solar Schools Co op	29.16	9	2017
Rodborough School	Wey Valley Solar Schools	49	15	2012
Saltdean primary school	BHESCo	50	15	2019
Sandown Primary School	Energise Sussex Coast	40	12	2019
Shenfield High School	Solar Schools Co op	79	24	2015
St John The Baptist School	OVESCo	24.38	7	2019
St Johns Brighton	OVESCo	29.78	9	2018
St Leonards Academy	Energise Sussex Coast and Energy 4 all	220	68	2019
St Mary's C Of E First School	Dorset Community Energy	12	4	2016
The Beacon School	Wey Valley Solar Schools	94	29	2012
The Blandford School	Dorset Community Energy	50	15	2016
The Dorchester Middle School	Dorset Community Energy	30	9	2015
The Hastings Academy	Energise Sussex Coast and Energy 4 all	44.2	14	2019
The Hastings Academy (2)	Energise Sussex Coast and Energy 4 all	42	13	2019
The Swanage School	Dorset Community Energy	50	15	2016
The Thomas Hardy School	Dorset Community Energy	30	9	2015
Throop Learning Centre	Solar Schools Co op	11.07	3	2018
Tregonwell Academy	Solar Schools Co op	28.62	9	2017
Turners Hill School	Repower Balcombe	16	5	2015
University of reading	Reading Community Energy Society	26.4	8	2019
University of Reading 2	Reading Community Energy Society	22.6	7	2019
Varndean College	BHESCo	49	15	2019
Wallands School	OVESCo	29.9	9	2016
Warren Wood Primary Academy	Solar Schools Co op	35.08	11	2016
Woodingdean Primary school	Brighton energy Co op	60	18	2019
Woolmer Hill School	Wey Valley Solar Schools	33.5	10	2012

**4142**      **1265**

Since 2012 there has been a phenomenal growth in the number of schools and community energy groups working together to commission community energy projects.

In the south this has grown from 7 to 84 schools in just 7 years. What's exciting is that there are more and more schools getting in touch to make this happen for the benefit of the schools, their pupils, the local community and most importantly, future generations.



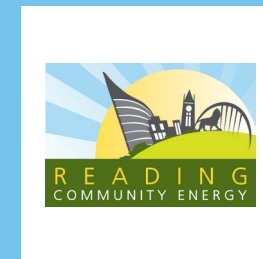
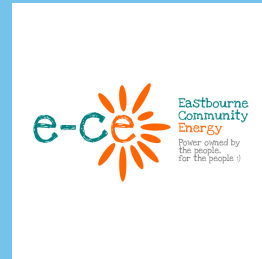
**“We installed our community solar project at Downlands School, Hassocks in 2015. We have a total of 80 kW of solar panels, with 49 shareholders, almost all living within a few miles of the school. We’re saving the school money, enabling them to invest in more energy efficiency for their older buildings. We save carbon, the school gets cheaper energy, our shareholders receive annual 4% return and we provide a community benefit fund to the school that they can use on environmental projects.”**

**Juliet Merrifield, Director of HKD Energy**

# Our Community Energy Group Membership

There are over 30 Community Energy groups that have set up in the South East since 2007. These groups are Co-Operatives or Community Benefit Societies run by volunteer boards of directors recruited from their local community.

Visit [www.communityenergysouth.org](http://www.communityenergysouth.org) and find out more about community energy and the work of your local groups.



Community Energy is a movement to help give our communities the right to own and operate their own clean energy.

It's about local people coming together, using local skills, investing locally and inspiring their neighbours about the benefits of low carbon renewable energy and making sustainable change happen.

Ollie Pendered, Chief Executive Officer,  
Community Energy South

**Community Energy South**

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