

Barker Associate



Schools taking the lead on Climate Change

Reducing emissions is a significant challenge and education, as a large energy user has a key role to play in this. We can take action on climate change and make our buildings more efficient across four main areas. Consider each of these in turn and think about what your school or college could do to implement them; discuss with your tutor how to create an EPQ research project to make a difference to your school. This could be developed as an EPQ artefact, in the form of an action plan for your school, or an EPQ performance, in the form of an event designed to explore this challenge with a specific audience.

- **Buying energy:** how does your organisation buy its energy? Is it from renewable sources. Do you understand your consumption patterns and why is it important to know this?
- **Use less:** what can you do to use less energy in your school or college? Think about the building fabric itself but also the heating and electrical systems within.
- **Generate your own:** what are the opportunities for generating your own renewable energy on-site?
- **Behaviour change:** how can your behaviours affect energy consumption and sustainability? What can you do to become more efficient and reduce waste as building users?

Case study example:

Lighting is the largest single component of electricity use within an education site, making up over 20% of the total. Modern LED lighting is around 80% more efficient than incandescent and fluorescent bulbs.

<https://www.barker-associates.co.uk/sustainability/>
<https://www.barker-associates.co.uk/energy-sustainability/>