



Nottinghamshire  
County Council

# Beacon Council Scheme: Sustainable Energy

## Case Study: Bowbridge Primary School - Learning and Sustainable Energy, E Teams

Bowbridge Primary School serves one of the most deprived Nottinghamshire Wards: population of 5,012, Child Poverty Index 247, Multiple Deprivation Index 470. It is an extended school working towards a Full Service School - one-stop-shop school where parent and children can have easy access to knowledge, local support, local information and local news.

For many years they have been working with the Newark and Sherwood Energy Agency, a strategic partnership between the District and County Council, to develop a whole school approach towards Sustainable Energy. They now act as a role model so that other schools in Nottinghamshire and Europe can follow our example.

The school instigated the original e-team concept which was further developed with the County Council and subsequently rolled out to many other schools in Nottinghamshire. In 1998 we commenced the first of three Energy Agency European partnership projects. Local Sixth form pupils trained as 'energy consultants' to the Bowbridge School and Pupil E-Team's saved 10% of the schools energy usage which has now resulted in nearly 60% CO<sub>2</sub> emission savings. They are now working towards an energy-twinning project with other European Schools.

**Following the District Councils**  
energy investment plan to eradicate fuel poverty, local dwellings are now largely "capable" of achieving affordable energy for all households. A Survey by the Energy Agency however found that 20% of householder's grasp of energy

housekeeping was so bad that it had a serious impact on their fuel bill, and 60% did not understand their central heating controls. The school children helped to educate adults and a local teacher champion was established to support local energy project work for 10 year olds. Their after school child care in support of adult learners and our local College now delivers adult education from the school.

The School has supported several dissemination workshops and study tours including the European Energy Agency Network 'Energy & Schools/Education conference' held in 2004 in Nottingham. During 2005 they will also be involved in a further EU SAVE II Promoting Energy project within Kindergartens.

With European Social Fund support for adult learning it has been possible to second an officer from the Energy Agency to ensure that sustainability was a key theme within this project providing a vehicle for sustainability dialogue with the community.

They have also secured funding for a computer suite for adult and pupil learning. 'Anytime Anywhere Learning' initiative, & now with 80 laptops for families funded by charity 'E-Learning Foundation' we are able to provide low- cost community wireless web-access. They have also initiated Family Eco-Teams adult learning outcomes combined with school E-Teams. Household focused food, water, waste & energy agenda. "Good housekeeping to save money" and "CO<sub>2</sub> emissions" are promotions through school paper e-letters.



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Sustainable Energy

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