

Frequent Asked Questions (FAQs) for Green School 2.0- Energy Smart

Q: Is it necessary to apply for replacement of inverter air-conditioner, Light Emitting Diode (LED) lighting and installation of real-time energy monitoring system at the same time when applying for the "Energy Smart" scheme?

A: The school can choose one or two of the applications they are interested in as needed.

Q: Does the application of replacement of inverter air-conditioner, LED lighting or installation of real-time energy monitoring system cover all the school area? Or for only designated place(s)?

A: The school may decide the areas to apply for replacement on a case-by-case basis, such as service period of existing air-conditioner and LED lighting. It is generally not recommended to replace equipment which operates less than five years. The area(s) of equipment applied for replacement must be covered by the schedule of accommodation for school premises by the Education Bureau. The scheme will provide the installation of real-time energy equipment on the entire power distribution system to the school applied for installation of real-time energy monitoring system, which can help the school to monitor the energy usage of the whole school.

Q: Can the real-time energy monitoring system installed in the "Energy Smart" scheme monitor the energy consumption of each classroom, or is it based on the energy consumption of the entire school?

A: The energy monitoring system can monitor the energy consumption of the entire school, and generally can monitor the energy consumption of each classroom. The individual energy usage (such as air conditioners, lights, electrical, fans, etc.) in each classroom depends on the routing of the school's distribution boxes.

Q: What are the criteria for prioritization of schools applying for the "Energy Smart" scheme?

A: After receiving applications from schools, we will arrange an engineering consultant to conduct preliminary assessment at school so as to prioritize the applications based on the following factors, including:

- i. Costs and energy efficiency, such as installation/ replacement costs, and projected annual electricity savings after the project.
- ii. Site safety and accessibility issues
- iii. Condition of the premises
- iv. Whether the school can provide all required documents and supplementary information
- v. Conditions of the existing AC and lightings (e.g. quantity, type, service year etc.)
- vi. The timeframe allowed for the installation work to be taken place by the school, such as replacement and installation works after school and on weekends
- vii. Whether the school has the capability to operate and maintain the equipment that to be replaced or installed under the scheme
- viii. Subject to whether eligible schools have or will receive funding from other sources for the replacement of inverter air-conditioners, LED lights and the installation of real-time energy monitoring systems

Q: Does the scheme include removal and disposal of existing air-conditioner(s)? Will the original installation space be made good after the air-conditioner is replaced?

A: The scheme will entrust contractor(s) to remove and dispose all the existing air-conditioner, lighting has been replaced as well as relevant accessories. Contractors will also be responsible for making good the original installation space, such as window type air conditioner edge-sealing and retaining the false ceiling to match the installation of new air-conditioner.

Q: If the school has applied other energy saving funding scheme(s), is it still eligible to apply for this scheme?

A: The school which has applied for other replacement/ installation scheme(s) of variable-speed air-conditioners, LED lighting can still apply for this scheme. It is necessary state their applied schemes on the expression of interest and provide information of the applied schemes for prioritizing the application.

Q: Is the effect of using LED lightings in classroom the same as the effect of using fluorescent tubes?

A: The illuminance of LED lighting used at school is 500 lx generally, and the contractor will provide suitable LED lighting for replacement. The contractor will also measure the luminosity before and after replacement to ensure that the luminosity is within the proper range.

Q: The school has submitted an application of "Energy Smart" scheme in previous years, but has not yet received the commencement date of the works. When will there be a reply on the estimate works commencement date?

A: Schools whose applications are successfully approved will be notified with consent letter of works. Upon completion of tender process, the contractor will arrange first meeting with the responsible person of school to confirm the works schedule. Applications that are not selected will be processed to the next round of applications.

Q: How long does the "Energy Smart" scheme take to complete generally?

A: The works generally take around three to four months, depending on the time allowed by the school for installation.