

# Trusted Experts to Help Schools Cut Energy Spend

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## UK Schools Urged to Slash £227 Million in Energy Costs with Flexible Contracts via Trusted Procurement Experts in Autumn 2025

As autumn 2025 nears, UK schools have a critical opportunity to save £227 million on energy costs by partnering with trusted energy procurement specialists, who relieve administrative burdens and secure flexible contracts on schools' behalf. With high-cost contracts from the 2022 energy crisis expiring, schools face financial pressures and winter price spikes. The Department for Education's (DfE) 2025 Energy for Schools pilot proved that flexible contracts—enabling schools to purchase energy at optimal market times—delivered 36% savings, freeing up funds for classrooms, staff, and students.

The 2022 energy crisis doubled school energy bills, with per-pupil costs soaring by nearly 60% in some cases. As these contracts expire this autumn, schools face challenges: securing short-term and flexible contracts to avoid high winter rates, understanding volatile market conditions, managing with limited internal capacity, and ensuring compliance. The School Supply Store & Network connects schools with trusted procurement specialists who guide and support schools, handling complex market analysis and negotiations to remove administrative

burdens—one less thing for busy school leaders to worry about.

The DfE's 2025 Energy for Schools pilot showcased the power of flexible contracts, with participating schools leveraging market dips to achieve significant savings. Scaled across England's £630 million annual school energy spend, this approach could unlock £227 million in savings.

*"Autumn 2025 is a pivotal moment," said **Brian Regan**, energy procurement expert at the School Supply Network. "Our trusted procurement specialists work on your behalf, securing flexible, cost-effective deals, so you can focus on education."*

The Procurement Act 2023, effective February 2025, streamlines the process, enabling schools to work with procurement specialists who negotiate competitive rates and explore green energy options. These experts pair savings with efficiency upgrades like LED lighting or solar panels, backed by £630 million in government funding for 2025. By outsourcing procurement, schools benefit from a specialized team that manages market analysis and compliance, eliminating administrative stress. One academy trust saved £50,000 annually by adopting a flexible contract, while others cut costs through efficiency measures. Schools that fail to act risk inflated costs, with energy inflation projected at 6.2% for 2024-25.

*"These savings could fund teaching assistants or critical repairs," said **Michael Brown**, headteacher at Oakwood Academy. "With trusted procurement specialists, it's one less burden and more focus on our students."*

## **What Schools Should Do Now**

To seize this opportunity, schools should act immediately, leveraging trusted procurement specialists:

- **Contact the School Supply Store & Network** for a clear route to trusted procurement specialists who can review expiring contracts and secure flexible, short-term options to avoid high winter rates. If you need support, we'd be happy to refer you to companies that can help—visit [www.schoolsupplystore.co.uk](http://www.schoolsupplystore.co.uk) to connect.
- **Schedule consultations** with specialists to gain market insights and optimal renewal timing, with experts handling the process to save time.

- **Request tailored proposals** for cost-effective, compliant solutions that align with school budgets and sustainability goals, managed entirely by specialists.
- **Assess energy usage** with procurement partners to pair flexible contracts with efficiency upgrades, maximizing savings and supporting net-zero ambitions.
- **Act early** to avoid last-minute renewals that could lock in higher rates, trusting specialists to streamline the process on your behalf.

If you need support finding trusted procurement specialists, The School Network is ready to refer you to experts who will handle the complexities of energy procurement, removing administrative burdens and ensuring cost savings. Let these specialists do what they do best, so schools can focus on education.

### **About The School Supply Store & Network**

The School Network is the UK's marketplace and media hub for education procurement. We connect schools with reliable suppliers and provide a clear route to trusted procurement specialists who offer expert guidance and support. From industry news and product reviews to expert interviews and sector insights, we empower schools with the information they need and suppliers with the visibility they deserve. If you need support finding trusted procurement specialists, feel free to contact us directly.

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