



PRESS RELEASE

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**MARY BASSETT LOWER SCHOOL, LEIGHTON BUZZARD
AWARDED PRESTIGIOUS GRANTS TO FUND 8.6 kW SOLAR ARRAY**

The Mary Bassett School Lower School in Leighton Buzzard has been awarded 2 grants to enable the school to install the regions first community solar electric installation.

To secure the grants the School chose to work in partnership with local company Ardenham Energy.

In the autumn the School will install the system on the main flat roof of the school and will comprise 48 solar panels. These will generate about 8000 units of electricity each year and will save 3.5 tonnes of CO2 emissions.

Headteacher Deborah Pargeter said "it was brilliant news"

The electricity produced can either be consumed by the school, or exported to the local electivity network

Notes

Mary Basset Lower School, part of Bedfordshire County Council LEA , was founded in 1813, The School is for children from four to nine years old of both sexes and all abilities.

Ardenham Energy is locally based renewable energy engineering contractor specialising in solar wind, heat pump and other micro generation technologies. The company is certified to install domestic and public sector government grant assisted renewable energy projects.

The Low Carbon Buildings Programme (LCBP Phase 2)is part of the UK Environmental Transformation Fund (ETF), a joint BERR/Defra fund to bring forward the demonstration and deployment of low carbon energy and energy efficiency technologies.

CSEP is an open grants programme and part of the [Big Lottery Fund](#) (BIG). The scheme will provide £8 million to community-based organisations for the installation of microgeneration technologies, such as solar panels or wind turbines and energy efficiency measures including loft and cavity wall insulation.



LOTTERY FUNDED