

Oberstown

Oberstown is a national service operating on a 24/7, 365 days basis, on an enclosed, secure rural site in North County Dublin. The campus covers 24.5 hectares and has 21,000m² of floor space in 20 buildings, including residential units, a school, workshops, a catering facility, a medical suite, a training centre and administration offices. In recent years older legacy buildings have been repurposed or decommissioned in favour of more energy-efficient facilities dating back to 2016.

Oberstown's commitment to sustainability is one of five goals in its 2022 – 2026 Strategy, developed after consultation with staff, young people and stakeholders. An employee-led Environmental Team, representing departments and staff grades across the campus, supports the aim of Oberstown becoming a recognised leader in sustainable workplace practices in Ireland. The Environmental Team assists in embedding new environmentally-sustainable behaviours among all employees. Oberstown recognises the contribution it can make by reducing its organisational carbon footprint and supporting its employees in adopting a low-carbon lifestyle.



25% Electrical savings

27.6% Natural gas savings

19% Heating oil savings

[Oct. '22 - Mar. '23 Vs same period 2018-19]



20 buildings



Rialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland



OPW

Optimising Power @ Work



Heating and lighting measures



The following measures were implemented in most buildings:

- Turned off heating and utilities outside of operating hours.
- Set internal space heating temperature to 19 deg. C.
- Shut down heat in most office buildings at least 1-2 hours before building close.
- Optimised water heating to save energy in most buildings.



- Reduced unnecessary use of lighting in most buildings.
- Turned off display lighting/window/feature display lighting between 5 and 7 pm every day in most buildings.

Control, scheduling and behavioural measures



- Minimised the space occupied and heated in accordance with a reduction in occupancy.
- Ensured that operational control is appropriate to hours of work and services delivered.
- Challenged the core and extended hours of building use.
- Continuing Reduce Your Use campaigns - focusing on additional areas such as water consumption, waste and recycling.



School corridor area displaying Young People's artworks



Facilities assessments & monitoring measures

Implemented the following measures in most buildings:

- Carried out energy efficiency assessment/audits.
- Operations and Maintenance Audit carried out.
- Operational control and measurement process developed.

Out-of-Hours Walk-throughs were carried out in all buildings