

# CASE STUDY EDUCATION ST STEPHEN'S SCHOOL ALGESTER



**Right from the drawing board, the design of St Stephen's Algester incorporated eco-efficiency features. However, having sustainable power, water and waste by design is far from the end of the school's eco efforts.**

## TOP MARKS

Built in 2003, and opened in 2004, in Brisbane's south-east, St Stephen's 500 students and staff are spread across a large facility.

With ongoing programs, the school has already explored a lot of eco-innovations – all while teaching the next generation about sustainability in action.

Because of its advanced design, St Stephen's eco push is less about what it needs and more about managing what it has.

The buildings already exploit the site's natural light and breeze. The hall and new library were designed with flexible lighting options to suit different purposes. The school also encourages recycling and composts food waste as well as feeding to the campus chickens.

## A CLASS OF IT OWN

Through ecoBiz, the school wanted to find low- and no-cost methods to cut power use. Like many such methods, the answers come from procedures and user training. The school first conducted an energy audit to identify areas for savings.

For example, the tuckshops fridges and freezers are near empty during holidays and weekends. The answer: consolidate the remaining stock to one fridge and turn off the others.

Still in the tuckshop, the need for airconditioning was reduced through keeping doors and windows open as much as possible.

The audit also found power could be saved in the school hall and other buildings by developing start-up and shut-down procedures for light and sound equipment to make sure it only draws power when needed.

Going further, there are areas where greater planning and even some capital expenditure might yield results, including installing additional skylights, planting more shade trees and turning off car park lights earlier.

## ST STEPHEN'S ALGESTER

Incorporating eco-efficiency principles in all aspects of its recent construction, the sustainability journey of St Stephen's Algester is continuing as it started.

### ECOBIZ OBJECTIVE

Minimise costs and improve the school's working and learning environment.

### ACTION PLAN HIGHLIGHTS

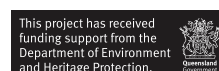
- Consolidating refrigerator stock so most units can be deactivated at low times
- Reducing air-conditioning through natural ventilation
- Developing start-up and shut-down procedures for light and sound equipment
- Building Sheep Station Gully Environmental Learning Centre as a centrepiece to the school's eco-education goals.

### SAVINGS

- High lighting costs prevented
- Cooling and ventilation costs minimised
- Animal feed costs offset through recycling.

**THE ECOBIZ TEAM IS ALWAYS  
AVAILABLE TO HELP YOU.**

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