Minchinhampton School Gloucestershire, South West England

Technology: Solar panels System size: 51.59kWp Number of solar panels: 154 Annual output: 49,130 kWh Annual CO2 savings: 29,463 kg

Minchinhampton Church of England Primary Academy is based in Gloucestershire. The school has undertaken an innovative solar panel project to contribute to its net-zero initiative and to help plug the gap between its finances and eco-friendly aspirations.

The Diocese of Gloucester Academies Trust, which owns Minchinhampton school, has agreed to lease roof space for solar panels to Gloucestershire Community Energy Co-operative (GCEC). This energy cooperative is offering the local community the chance to buy shares in the solar installation, helping to cut the school's carbon emissions and energy bills.

The school will pay the cooperative for the clean electricity generated by the solar panels that it can use. Any extra electricity, not needed by the school, will be sold to the local grid at a wholesale market price. It's expected that the school will be charged much less for the energy it generates from the solar panels than it would have been charged for the power from an electricity company.

