



AWARENESS IN MICRO SMES

CHILDCARE CENTRES RECOMMENDATIONS



The purpose of this communication is to outline the **recommendations** arising from various walk-through energy and water awareness visits conducted at Childcare Centres. These visits were undertaken to assess the **energy consumption** trends and patterns of the centres and identify opportunities for **improving energy efficiency**. The ultimate goal of these recommendations is to educate in reducing energy consumption, lower operational costs and contribute to a more environmentally sustainable childcare facility.

Energy efficiency is not only important for **cost savings** but also for fostering an **awareness** of responsible resource management among staff, children, and parents. By implementing these recommendations, Childcare Centres can serve as a model for **energy-conscious practices** within the community while providing a comfortable and nurturing environment for the children in its care.

It is essential to recognise that these recommendations are not meant to be prescriptive but rather **flexible guidelines** that can be adapted to the unique context and priorities of your Childcare Centre. By embracing these energy-saving measures, the centre can enhance its operational efficiency, reduce its **environmental footprint**, and inspire a culture of sustainability among its stakeholders.

It is our hope that these suggestions will empower the center to create a brighter, greener future for its children and the community at large.



Switching To LED Lighting

While the majority of Childcare Centres employ LED lighting, a subset continues to utilise outdated lighting technology. It is recommended to replace conventional incandescent or fluorescent lighting fixtures with **energy-efficient LED bulbs**. LED lights exhibit reduced electricity consumption and boast an extended operational lifespan.

02

01

Unplug Electronics When Not In Use

Encourage staff to unplug chargers, computers, and other electronics when they're **not being used** to prevent "phantom" energy consumption.

03

Size Water Heaters Cautiously And Set Thermostats Mindfully

Electric water heating is the predominant water heating technology. Oversized water heaters and incorrect thermostat setting lead to energy wastage. Understand your **water consumption needs** and ensure that the selected water heater is in line with this. Temperatures should be set as low as possible but no less than 60°C to prevent growth of **harmful bacteria** like legionella.



Regular HVAC Maintenance

Schedule routine maintenance for heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) systems to ensure they **run efficiently**. Blocked filters and incorrectly maintained systems consume more energy.

05

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Implement **Energy-Efficient** Appliances And **Switch Off** When Not Needed

When upgrading appliances like refrigerators, microwaves, or washing machines, choose models with **high energy efficiency** ratings. Appliances like water dispensers should be switched off during non-operation hours.

06

Set **AC Temperatures** Correctly

Set the air conditioning temperature ≥24°C for cooling and ≤21°C for heating.

07

Enhancements In Amenities For Leased Premises

In situations where the property is rented out, a circumstance that commonly arises, it is prudent to suggest to the property owner the **importance** of placing emphasis on selecting **energy-efficient** appliances and solutions, rather than opting for cheaper and less effective alternatives.

68 Educate And InvolveEveryone

Educate staff, children, and parents about the **importance** of energy efficiency and involve them in **energy-saving** initiatives.

09

Enhance Your Proficiency In Interpreting Your Utility Invoice

It has been observed that on occasions, property owners encounter challenges when reviewing utility bills. Proficient comprehension of a utility bill is paramount for effective energy cost management.

Essential components encompass:

- Billing Period: timeframe of the bill.
- Meter Readings: start and end energy measurements.
- Tariffs/Rates: costs per unit of energy and bracketing.
- Usage Comparison: compare with past usage.

10

Reduce The Water Tap Flow

This can be done by **adjusting** the controlling water value or by **installing aerators**. Aerators spread the stream of water into tiny droplets preventing splashing, saving water and increasing water pressure. Check for leaking taps, and **report/repair** accordingly.







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Our trained officers come on site to give tailor made advice based on the company's needs and consumption patterns.



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