



# *Pilling St. John's Church of England School*

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## Installation of the Wind Turbine at Pilling St John's C of E School

Our turbine journey began early in 2007 when, because of our successful environment work as a school, we decided it would be good to investigate alternative energy and work towards making our school more sustainable. We found Whoosh Energy (now Segen) who have worked with us ever since to make our dream come true. They visited the school and gave us advice and we decided to go ahead on 14<sup>th</sup> November 2007.



We are grateful to all those who have provided grants and worked with us to enable this project to be completed. As we looked for grants and sponsorship we did a lot of work in the school. We worked with a Scientist in Residence for the year. Dr Belton came from Manchester University and worked with all the children to help us develop our eco-shed. This shed exemplifies alternative energy and has enabled the children to understand wind power by helping to install a small wind turbine and solar energy by helping to install a small solar panel. We also looked at wind up torches and radios. We made wind powered vehicles and flew kites and also made parachutes for our Science Fair. We also used lessons in school to help children develop their understanding. We investigated materials in science and worked out the best material to insulate our shed with. We wrote reports and weather in geography and collected weather data in maths.

Our focus continued to be on the wind turbine. This turbine has enthused and galvanised the children so much throughout the year that we have been successful in achieving our Green Flag, a national environment award from the BSI and a regional award from the Young People's Trust for the Environment. So, as you can see, the effects of installing the wind turbine have been far reaching.



We finally raised enough money and work on the installation began in the summer of 2008. Finally we were able to have our Turbine Day on 16<sup>th</sup> September 2008!! We invited parents, old pupils, community members and neighbours to share this day for us and what a cheer there was as the turbine was lifted. It has now been in place for two and a half weeks.

We live in a very windy place and so far have generated nearly 300KW hours of Power!!



We are continuing to use this turbine for teaching and learning. Children are gathering data and we will use this in maths and science to see how much energy we are generating. We recently held an Eco Summit to which representatives from local schools came – the highlight of this was the Turbine tour!! We are not going to stop here. Our next project is to look at solar energy and investigate a more environmentally friendly heating system for the school. By involving the whole school and village community and by people such as you providing funding we feel that we are making a real difference to our environment and impacting

upon lives in a real way creating a better future for all.

