



**BREIFNE COLLEGE**  
Case Study

## BREIFNE COLLEGE - THE CHALLENGE

Breifne College is a co-educational post primary school in Cavan town that comprises 30 classrooms, two science laboratories and dedicated practical rooms for home economics, construction and engineering. The school also has a PE hall, football and all-weather pitch as well as a canteen. The school was using oil boilers for heating purposes but they were nearing the end of their useful life and becoming more inefficient and thereby more expensive to run.

A mechanical and electrical engineering consulting practice was in charge of a 4,800 sq metre extension project at the school. The practice was also responsible for a boiler house upgrade along with a brief to review current and projected energy consumption once the extension was completed.

The senior building services engineer commented "The major extension at Breifne College would have resulted in a very significant increase in energy costs for the school. As the existing oil boilers were at the end of their life, we were able to consider an overall site solution."

Flogas has the contract for the supply of LPG to the public service sector from the Office of Government Procurement (OGP). The contract also includes a reduced Flogas LPG rate for schools throughout the country. The OGP is charged with achieving greater efficiencies and value for money in the procurement of all goods and services for the Irish public service sector.

## THE FLOGAS SOLUTION

Tom Wall, Flogas sales executive and Joe Beggan, technical sales engineer with the Flogas Energy Solutions Team, met with the senior mechanical engineer to discuss a move from oil to LPG. The school's projected annual energy consumption was 390MWh once the extension was finished. A survey carried out by the practice in association with Flogas concluded that moving to LPG would yield savings of over €8,000 per annum as the school would also benefit from the reduced LPG rate.

The senior mechanical engineer said, "With the reduced cost of LPG available to the school, our calculations showed a clear benefit to convert to gas in terms of reduced energy and maintenance costs, increased boiler efficiencies and a reduction in carbon output. We calculated that the payback on the costs to convert the system from oil to LPG would be less than two years."

## CHANGEOVER PROCESS

There were two existing oil boilers, one of which had already been decommissioned. This put immense pressure on the other boiler as it was carrying the entire load and left Breifne College exposed to the threat of a prolonged breakdown. In addition, the system's boiler efficiency level was estimated at a maximum of 55-60%. The engineering practice, along with Flogas, proposed a new system of five 100kW LPG boilers along with two four tonne LPG tanks. It would provide suitable backup in the event of a breakdown and a boiler efficiency level of 95%. Once approval was granted by the OGP, Flogas ensured that the changeover from oil to LPG was a seamless process and the school's daily activities were uninterrupted.



Breifne College

## Results

- Significant projected savings in excess of €8,000
- Reduced energy and maintenance costs
- Fuel source that is secure and safe from theft

Another important factor influencing the changeover is that oil theft from schools in rural areas is a growing problem at present. As a fuel source, LPG is virtually theft-proof.

Tom Wall, sales executive, Flogas Ireland, said, "The school, has expressed their delight with both the potential savings that a switch from oil to LPG will yield and having a fuel source that is now secure and safe from theft."

If your current system is not providing you with the level of service you require and contributing to high bills, call Flogas for your free on-site survey and quotation for a new tailored system. We will analyse your existing energy costs and outline the savings and benefits you'll enjoy by converting to Flogas LPG.



## CONTACT FLOGAS FOR FREE SITE VISIT

- To quote the savings that will be made (Energy Survey)
- To carry out tank location assessment
- To draw up a proposal and pricing

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