

Meters: HH, AMR, Smart or dumb?

You may hear several different terms used when talking about energy meters. This guide is intended to help you understand the differences in how they work.

HH meters are on higher consuming electricity supplies.

- These meters log the amount of energy used in 48 half-hourly periods through the day and night, and send the data to our suppliers (usually each night).
- You are entitled to this detailed data, which can be viewed graphically in SystemsLink.
- This data can be powerful in helping highlight consumption above expected levels, or at unexpected times, thus providing the opportunity to identify and correct problems on site and reduce consumption.

AMR meters are on smaller electricity supplies.

- The supplier can automatically pull readings from these meters, but they may not be set up to do this every month.
- These meters are not 100% reliable and so we ask for regular readings.
- For a small fee (£6.25 a month) you can purchase detailed data, like that available from half-hourly meters, and view it in SystemsLink.

Smart meters are the gas equivalent of AMR meters.

- The supplier can automatically pull readings from these meters, but they may not be set up to do this every month.
- These meters are not 100% reliable and so we ask for regular readings.
- For a small fee (approximately £11.13 a month) you can purchase detailed data, like that available from half-hourly meters, and view it in SystemsLink.

Older meters, sometimes referred to as Dumb meters, are all due to be upgraded very soon. At the moment, 20% of gas meters and 14% of electricity meters fall in this category.

- These meters must be read by a person standing in front of them; suppliers no longer send meter readers to all meters every month and so we must read these meters ourselves.
- If our supplier or their representative calls to arrange an appointment to upgrade or replace your meter, please co-operate by booking an appointment at a time convenient to you. You can request an appointment after 3pm, or during the holidays, to reduce disruption to the school day.
- If you have trouble reading your meter, contact us for a copy of one of our guides by emailing energy.team@northyorks.gov.uk.

Please let the energy team know if your meter is changed so that we can update our records, by sending a photo of the meter and of the change card to energy.team@northyorks.gov.uk.

From: Schools Commercial Team <schools.commercial.team@notifications.service.gov.uk>

Sent: 16 March 2022 10:35

To:

Subject: Convert to a electricity smart meter and get a £100 grant plus help with installation costs



Dear colleague

What you will get with this pilot

The Department for Education (DfE) is contacting all primary schools in England to offer them an electricity smart meter, that will be provided by your current energy supplier.

If you join the pilot, we will offer you:

- a £100 grant for each electricity analogue meter you convert
- up to £2,500 towards costs if building and electrical work is needed

You can disregard this email if your school has already converted to a smart meter.

About the smart meter pilot

This pilot, which is funded by DfE, will:

- give you insight into your data usage. Once you understand your energy use, the action you then take could help save as much as 20% on your energy bills
- provide automated meter readings with accurate billing – no more estimated readings
- be a simple step towards your net zero 2050 carbon targets.

Smart meters are replacing traditional analogue meters in Great Britain to make our energy system more efficient and flexible.

If your school has a mix of smart and analogue electricity meters, you can still take part in this pilot.

Register now – funding is limited

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScht74SbJPW8QwBhO6adGRBJusDGbnBz3jEfBHyLODA2fEVcw/viewform?usp=sf_link

Sign up is on a first come first served basis and will only take a minute.

You'll then be contacted by DfE and its partners about the next steps.

If you wish to take part, you may want to discuss this with your local authority or the organisation that buys your energy.

What you will need to do

You'll need to:

- agree to give DfE and its partners access to your historic meter and future half-hourly meter data
- agree to a full privacy policy, a letter of authority and memorandum of understanding and a grant funding agreement – you'll receive these by email once we confirm you're taking part
- give DfE some short feedback

Data sharing will happen automatically, so you do not have to do anything else. You can ask DfE to delete your meter data after five years.

Contact us

If you would like more information or have any questions, email
sct.energypilots@education.gov.uk

Yours sincerely
Smart Meter Pilot