The Lady Eleanor Holles School is one of the most prestigious girls’ schools in the country. After the in-house electrician retired from the maintenance team, a new contractor was urgently required. Neil Lowe, Head of the Facilities Management Team, explains “at the time we urgently needed a different skillset which meant the electricians position wasn’t filled, therefore we had no one carrying out the maintenance for us. We decided in the short term to utilise a local contractor to carry out the work”. After going through the tender process Neil decided to partner with Sky Electrical “because they met the criteria of being local, cost effective and knowledgeable about electrical installations in schools”.

The school was in the process of planning two significant refurbishment projects to a laboratory and the art block. There were, however, concerns regarding the ability of the current supply to cope with the combination of new demands including heating, cooling and lighting. Refurbishments would have been greatly restricted if the existing supply was unable to cope with the ever increasing energy demands.

Neil explains “Sky Electrical suggested that they monitor the supply to find out if they need to balance the load and if there was spare capacity” and states “thankfully Sky Electrical were able to demonstrate that through the use of energy efficient fittings that we could refurbish the block without overloading the school”.

After the successful completion of the refurbishment installations, Sky Electrical were contracted to work on two other laboratories. The installations included new energy efficient high frequency lighting; modern safety cut out systems that cut off both power and gas supplies in emergency situations; air conditioning power supplies and new desk mounted power access points.

Investing in greater energy efficiency is key for a greener and more productive environment and has direct economic benefits. David Hogben, Managing Director of Sky Electrical, explains “we always recommend low energy fittings to our clients on the basis that they cost extra initially, but the usage savings can reduce energy consumption by up to 80%.”

In essence upgrading to new fittings is really a great business decision for any school that has light fittings older than six years. Sky Electrical can help you to identify and quantify the best energy saving opportunities for your school.