

Regularly check your CO₂ monitor to balance energy usage with a healthy learning environment

Why?

Using your CO₂ monitor consistently has many benefits, including:

- **Understanding ventilation:** In any indoor space we share the air with the people around us. CO₂ monitors inform us how much of the air we are breathing in has been breathed out by others. CO₂ therefore is a proxy for ventilation and CO₂ monitors help us to understand when ventilation is good or poor.
- **Saving energy:** Monitoring CO₂ informs us when windows can be closed to conserve energy and when ventilation needs to be improved.
- **Reducing illness and increasing alertness:** Good ventilation reduces the spread of respiratory illness, such as COVID-19, influenza and colds, provides better air quality and also improves concentration and alertness.

How?

CO ₂ level	What it means	What to do
Under 800 ppm GREEN light	Good ventilation	Consider partly or completely closing windows to keep your space warm during winter. Keep track of readings and reopen windows if needed.
800 – 1500 ppm AMBER light	Adequate ventilation	Consider opening windows and/or doors. Higher-level openings first and then lower-level openings, where appropriate.
Over 1500 ppm RED light	Poor ventilation	Increase ventilation by opening windows and doors, where appropriate. If that doesn't help, notify school leadership. Fire doors should always remain closed.

- CO₂ concentration is measured in parts per million (ppm).
- **CO₂ levels will be constantly changing so you should check the monitor regularly.**
- It is good practice to ventilate your teaching/childcare space between lessons and at break times by opening windows and doors.