



for the **LOVE** of
SOLAR

COMPETITION! Win solar panels
for your school
www.foe.ie/solarschools

HOW TO ENTER?

- Come up with an action project idea.
- Make a video explaining your idea.
- Submit your application online - Deadline February 14th 2020.
- Online public vote - February 2020.
- April/May 2020 - Winning schools complete their project, with support from us!
- Summer 2020 - Solar panels installed on winning schools.

WHY BE A SOLAR SCHOOL?

- Lead the change to a clean renewably-powered future and help Ireland play its fair share in tackling the Climate Crisis.
- Save money on bills, and make money by selling any energy generated outside of school hours (we've created a special partnership with a company to buy the power).
- Learn about the benefits of renewable energy.
- Learn about renewable energy policy.
- Gain knowledge of the political system in Ireland & how to engage with politicians.
- Help demand easier access to renewable energy for all schools!

for the **LOVE**
SOLA

TOP TIPS FOR DOING AN ACTION PROJECT:

Five Steps to a Cleaner, Brighter Future

- 1 Gather a team** – this can be your class, your green school committee, or a mix of students, teachers & people from the community.

 - 2 Research** – take a look at our website to learn more about the benefits of solar on schools and the barriers today.

 - 3 Brainstorm** – once you've learned about the benefits of solar energy, the barriers that exist and the solutions grab your team and start brainstorming!

 - 4 Action points** – once you've decided on your idea set some clear action points and decide who's responsible. Think of all the people you need to get on board e.g. teachers, parents, politicians etc. Create a timeline with realistic deadlines.

 - 5 Raise Awareness** – Don't forget to raise awareness of your project. Host an event, start a social media campaign, write a press release? Remember our hashtags are *#ForTheLoveOfSolar #SolarSchools #generationsolar*
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Check out our website for more resources and helpful tips.

www.foe.ie/solarschools

CREATING A WINNING PROJECT IDEA

- Is your project related to community energy/renewable energy/solar energy/climate change?
- Does your project have an awareness-raising element?
- Will your project improve your team working skills?
- Does your project demonstrate your researching and planning skills?
- Does your project include other people in your school (teacher, students, parents, Board members)?
- Does your project engage other members of the community (local people, local newspapers, clubs, politicians, TDs etc.)?
- Does your project demonstrate your knowledge of environmental issues, particularly knowledge relating to energy, climate change, environmental policies in Ireland & Europe?

PRIZES

Solar panels for at least 8 winning schools across the country!* One primary and one secondary school winner in each of the 4 regions; Dublin, Leinster, North West & South.

Free workshop for all 8 winning schools.

Free Workshops for 26 runners up

Support to carry out your action project.

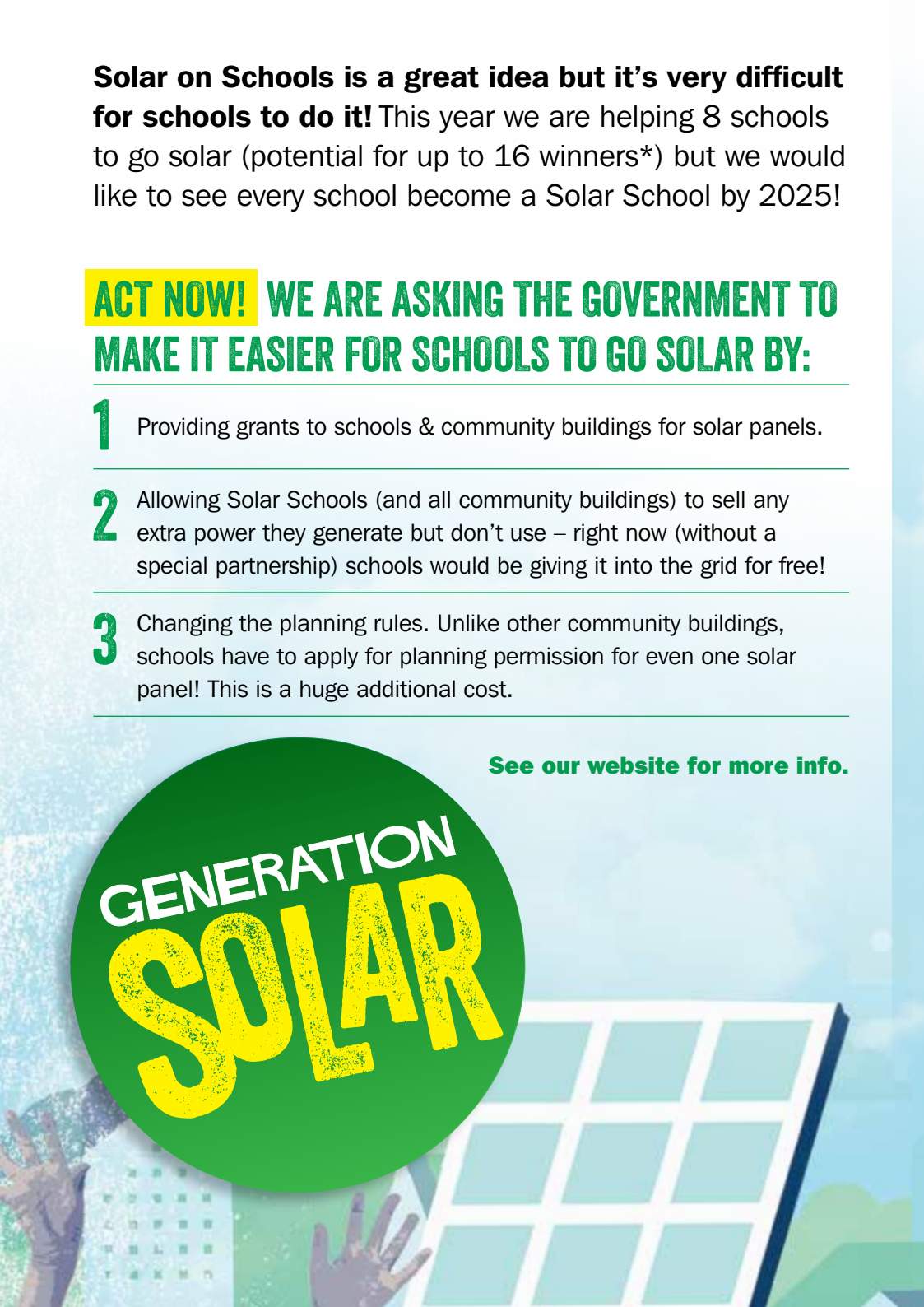
* The final number of winning schools is dependent on the level of grant that will be available from the Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland, and so it could increase from 8 to 16 winners. 2020 will be the first year schools can avail of grants for solar panels. Details of the scheme are expected before end 2109.

Solar on Schools is a great idea but it's very difficult for schools to do it! This year we are helping 8 schools to go solar (potential for up to 16 winners*) but we would like to see every school become a Solar School by 2025!

ACT NOW! WE ARE ASKING THE GOVERNMENT TO MAKE IT EASIER FOR SCHOOLS TO GO SOLAR BY:

- 1** Providing grants to schools & community buildings for solar panels.
- 2** Allowing Solar Schools (and all community buildings) to sell any extra power they generate but don't use – right now (without a special partnership) schools would be giving it into the grid for free!
- 3** Changing the planning rules. Unlike other community buildings, schools have to apply for planning permission for even one solar panel! This is a huge additional cost.

See our website for more info.



**GENERATION
SOLAR**



**Friends of
the Earth**

A Friends of the Earth initiative sponsored by

Tomar Trust

National influence, Local implementation

With additional support from _____



PLEASE NOTE: Solar panels can only be awarded to schools with suitable roofs. More info available at www.foe.ie/solar schools

Deadline February 2020

**For more information and to enter contact visit
www.foe.ie/solarschools or contact 01 6394652.**