



# HOW TO CHECK FOR LEAKS

## TO SEE IF YOU HAVE A LEAK IN THE SCHOOL GROUNDS

If the school has a water meter;

- At the end of a school day make sure everything which uses water is turned off e.g. dishwasher, urinals and that there is no activity in the school over night.
- Take a reading from the water meter.
- Take another reading before the school opens the next day.
- If there is a difference in the two readings, you have a leak in the school grounds.

If the school suspects it has a leak, but has no water meter, it is sometimes possible to find out where the leak is by walking around the school grounds during a very quiet time and listening for the sound of water. Some local authorities have equipment to identify leaks.

Another way of identifying outdoor leaks is to walk around the school during a dry spell and look for wet patches on the ground.

## TO SEE IF A TOILET BOWL IS LEAKING

- In the evening put a few drops of green food colouring in the toilet bowl.
- The next morning check for coloured water on the bathroom floor.

## TO SEE IF A TOILET CISTERN IS LEAKING

- Put a few drops of green food colouring in the toilet cistern.
- After 10 minutes, check for coloured water in the toilet bowl.

## HAVE STUDENTS CHECK SINKS FOR DRIPPING TAPS AND LEAKS

## HAVE STUDENTS FEEL AROUND CONNECTIONS ON RADIATORS FOR LEAKS (when radiators are off).

## HAVE STUDENTS IDENTIFY WASTEFUL HABITS BY QUESTIONING/SURVEYING OTHER STUDENTS (flushing more than once, not using dual flush facility on new toilets, letting tap run unnecessarily)

## ENCOURAGE STUDENTS TO IDENTIFY WAYS WATER IS USED AND WASTED IN THE SCHOOL.