

# BRG Traun: Climate protection – starting with ourselves!



BRG Traun is a secondary school in Traun, Upper Austria, with around 800 students and over 90 teachers. In the 2019-2020 school year, it launched the "Climate protection – starting with ourselves" project. Adopting a comprehensive approach, several ideas were brought to life and an array of smaller and larger measures were implemented. So far, the range of activities has included a climate hike day, the election of "energy and climate coordinators" in each class, CO<sub>2</sub> and noise monitors for the classrooms, a campaign to encourage cycling, participating in the physics Olympics and more. Through this project, students, teachers and parents work together on increasing their own environmental awareness. BRG Traun considers it pivotal to teach environmental awareness, nature protection and resource efficiency beyond the foreseen curriculum. It sees this as an important educational mandate and has made climate protection and energy savings an integral part of the school's overall concept. In 2020, the school received the Upper Austrian award for sustainable energy projects "Energie-Star".



## The project at a glance

In order to achieve the highest participation rate possible, both one-time projects and long-term activities were implemented – within and across classes. Some of the highlights to date were the climate hike day with waste collecting (800 participants!), the lighting project for the "physics Olympics", the school library project "climate protection reading tents", climate fasting during Lent, the Christmas recital with a focus on climate, implementing CO<sub>2</sub> and noise monitors in the classrooms, the campaign "climate work not firework" for New Year, and the various projects undertaken in the different school subjects (German, art, maths, physics, home economics, sports...)

Measures with long-term impact were also implemented, such as the election of "energy and climate coordinators" in each class, collecting and recycling plastic bottle caps as fund-raiser to the benefit of children with disabilities, the installation of a beverage dispenser without bottles for self-filling, a campaign to promote cycling, further training activities for teachers, lectures by invited experts, and the "food box project", which helps save leftovers from school lunches and reduce food waste.

### BRG TRAUN

- founding year: 1970
- approx. 800 students
- over 90 teachers
- 2014-2016: extension and renovation, refurbishment of the heating and ventilation systems, connection to district heating
- ongoing energy and climate protection projects

**ENERGY  
LEADERS**  
UPPER AUSTRIA

## Project results & outlook on the future

As a result of the overall campaign, climate protection and energy saving are now firmly anchored in the school's curriculum and will continue to be a focus in the future. BRG Traun is currently applying for the Austrian eco-label for schools. It would be the first certified school of its type in Upper Austria. Concrete goals and activities have been set in a five-year plan – there is still much potential for climate protection! The school is currently working on greening its courtyard and plans switching to energy-efficient LED lighting, purchasing new electrical appliances, and installing a rooftop PV system. Because the BRG Traun starts climate protection with itself!

Impressum: ÖÖ Energiesparverband, Landstraße 45, 4020 Linz, [www.esv.or.at](http://www.esv.or.at)  
ZVR: 171568947

