Mercedes College has harnessed the power of the sun to reduce its carbon footprint through a major contract with Tindo Power.

The Catholic college in Springfield recently switched its power supply over to 288 solar panels to generate about 12 per cent of the school’s electricity each year.

The system will be at its most efficient in the middle of February when its peak generation capacity is as much as 15 per cent of the College’s needs, right at the time when it requires it most to run air-conditioning systems on hot afternoons.

The Power Purchase Agreement with Tindo Power to install the 72-kW Solar System was the first agreement of its size between a school and the SA-owned solar company.

“We are passionate about ecological sustainability and want to be a leader in actively minimising our carbon footprint,” said Mercedes College principal Peter Daw.

“We believe that it is possible to be environmentally sustainable, socially responsible and financially prudent...