

THE EDISON CENTRE

Together we'll find a way...



DISCOVERY MULTI ACADEMY TRUST

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About

The Edison Centre is a nurture provision based in Southway Plymouth. We offer an alternative placement for children from Foundation Stage to Year 6 across Plymouth. Children receive intensive provision meeting specific targets, enabling them to succeed in their mainstream education.

The Centre is a therapeutic environment. We use a balance of structured play, guided activities and independent work to motivate learners and support each pupil to find the best way of learning for them. We cover a broad and balanced curriculum, with topic-based enquiry approaches where pupils work together to solve problems and answer questions. This promotes motivation and encourages social skills.

We are a small setting which allows for personalised planning and the development of close relationships between the staff, children and families. We provide a package of specialist support for child and family, including a parenting group and partnership sessions, where parents join their children in the centre to view the work of the week and share a treat made by the children.

We are a Trauma Informed setting and have a member of staff who is a Trauma and Mental Health Informed Practitioner (TISUK). The practice that is part of being a Trauma Informed setting allows children to succeed. It is our goal to help children who have experienced Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) positive experiences to recover.

There will be collaborative work between us and the child's mainstream setting; establishing a solid foundation for a smooth reintegration and progress towards positive targets.

We have a variety of spaces to meet the needs of the children and curriculum:

- Classroom with designated library area
- Break/Lunch room
- Therapeutic play room
- Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Lab
- Outside area (with animals)

All of our facilities are screen-free nurturing environments for our learners.



You might use us for....

Information towards an EHC.
Strategies to help the child remain at your setting.
Respite.
Training for staff.
Help for families.

What we promise...

A mid-term and closing report documenting the child's social, emotional and academic ability.
An assessment around social, moral and spiritual understanding.
An individual behaviour plan.
A log of behavioural incidents.
A RAG rating of the child's time at Edison.
Advice around next steps.
Work with the family.
CPD for the school.
Pre-assessment and reintegration sessions.

Referral & Assessment Process

1. Contact with the Edison Centre for initial discussion and completion of referral form by SENCo/INCo. Contact can be made by emailing:
edison@discoverymat.co.uk
2. Receipt of referral and initial meeting with the mainstream provision, parents/carers of the child and the Edison Team.
3. Visit and observations of the child by the Edison Team.
4. Collation of information and child with parents/carers (if appropriate) to visit the centre. Assessment profile completed and discussed with mainstream provision re. package for the child.
5. Confirmation of targets, outcomes and supporting package, parental consent and school consent obtained. Costs confirmed and agreed.
6. Attendance at Edison Centre with the following feedback/monitoring visits:
 - Attendance
 - Target progress
 - Barriers to progress
 - Professionals reporting (e.g. Speech & Language Therapist)
 - General level of engagement and progress
 - Any arising issues (e.g. behaviour, safeguarding, first aid)
 - Home/Centre communication book
 - 3rd Week Mid-point report shared
7. 5th Week (of child attending centre) meeting/TAM of all involved to review progress and discuss reintegration.
8. End of placement (final reporting/evidence & support)
 - Attendance
 - Progress
 - Child's learning journey
 - All professionals' reports
 - Target outcome/achievement
 - Appropriate referrals made
 - Edison Team to attend, advise staff and support child upon reintegration

Schedule & Timetable

Pre-Assessment by Edison Team Observations by Edison Team	Child's 6-week placement at The Edison Centre (Term-time only)	Reintegration into mainstream school with support from Edison Team
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Hours for children:

Monday	09:30 – 14:00
Tuesday	09:30 – 14:00
Wednesday	09:30 – 13:00
Thursday	09:30 – 14:00
Friday	09:30 – 14:00

Example Timetable:

Time	Activity
09:30	Enter, register & listen to story
09:45	Maths fluency Activity
10:15	Brain Break
10:20	Outdoor learning Activity
11:00	Break
11:15	Writing/Comprehension Activity
11:45	Lunch & play
12:15	Therapeutic play session
12:45	Teambuilding Activity
13:15	Brain Break
13:20	Science/Art Activity
13:50	Reward Time
14:00	Home Time

*Example timetable only. Actual activities will change from day to day.

We provide regular visits from specialist providers (such as Police, Discovery Bugs and Plymouth Music Zone), to allow our learners to aspire. We regularly work outside of the classroom as we see the benefits of this for most of our children.

The Edison Team

We currently have 4 members of staff who make up the Edison Team:

Mrs Lindsay Cooper Smith – SEN Teacher

Lindsay is a qualified teacher of 12 years in total with 4 years as a SENCo. She is also qualified in Pivotal MAPA (CPI) and is a Trauma & Mental Health Informed Practitioner. Further to this, Lindsay is the CAPO (Children Affected by Parental Offending) Champion for the Trust, and is pioneering this across the city.

Mr Jamie George – SEN Teacher

Jamie is a qualified teacher and is about to qualify as a SENCo too. He has experience of working as EYFS & KSI team leader and teaching experience in all stages. Jamie also specialises in music and PE.

Mrs Sue Healey – SEN Teaching Assistant

Sue is a qualified teaching assistant and has 21 years' experience working with primary children. She previously worked in the Discovery MAT at Oakwood Primary Academy. Sue is a very skilled individual and has excellent knowledge about teaching and learning.

Mr Patrick Owen – SEN Teaching Assistant

Patrick is a qualified teaching assistant and has worked in primary education for 8 years. He has experience in Nursery, EYFS, KSI and KS2, and is currently studying a Foundation Degree in Teaching and Learning. In addition to this, he is a member of the Local Advisory Board for the Trust. Patrick previously worked for the Discovery MAT at Weston Mill Community Primary Academy.

Testimonials

Parent

The caring, calm and nurturing environment at Edison gave us our son back for six weeks. He was keen and happy to attend and enjoyed the work, even reflecting on those wobbly moments and the triggers behind them.

Edison regularly fed back what was helping J and how he was managing in the unit.

The unit setting and the mixing of the parents along with the parenting course input were great for sharing experiences in a non-judgmental environment, with other parents who understood the difficulties.

I would recommend Edison without hesitation to any parents/carers whose child is struggling in mainstream.

R absolutely loved coming to the Edison Centre. If it was a permanent solution, I would have kept him there.

The teachers were very nice and understood my son's needs. Thank you.

She seems able to control her temper a bit more and understand her own and other people's emotions, especially the impact her actions have on them. She likes finding her own coping mechanisms and planning a space to go to calm down.

I was happy with the assessments and recommendations.

School

The Edison Centre was a fantastic experience for D and Salisbury Rd. We would use the project again and it has really helped D to begin to mature. His tone of voice has changed since being at Edison and the frequency of incidents have reduced.

Always great to work alongside the team at Edison. It is particularly helpful for the children to have such a positive experience of education. It is also extremely helpful for our staff to work alongside the Edison Centre and the support, guidance and strategies given to staff help greatly to upskill them.

The clear information shared with school and parents has been invaluable to all involved. Thank you.

The feedback and assessment of social/moral and spiritual development was helpful. It was also good to see the level of work they were able to complete with you.