

The Education Center at The Watson Institute



Located on The Watson Institute's main campus in Sewickley, PA, The Education Center at the Watson Institute is an approved private school that serves more than 100 students ages 3 to 21 with autism, cerebral palsy, brain injuries and other neurological impairments.

The Education Center employs a combination of nationally recognized educational techniques. The child's team, including family members, teachers and therapists, determines the best methods to use in order to achieve the goals of the Individualized Education Plan (IEP).

A variety of specialized services are available to Watson students, including community-based instruction, integration in community programs, life skills training and augmentative communication. These options foster the development of social skills and allow students to acquire the skills needed to independently accomplish daily tasks.

Applied Behavior Analysis

Through Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA), Watson uses behavioral intervention to improve the attention, imitation, language and social skills of children with autism. Repetition, structure and positive reinforcement are essential components of ABA.

Structured Teaching

The Watson Institute has employed structured teaching techniques in classrooms for more than 10 years. These classrooms serve as dedicated learning environments for children with autism.

Classrooms for Children with Neurological Impairments

For many years, The Watson Institute has served children with a variety of neurological impairments. Because Watson professionals understand that children who have suffered a brain injury or other neurological impairment have very special needs, a classroom has been established to meet their specific needs.

Watson's programming is intended to help children whose neurological impairments are the result of an external force to the skull caused by an automobile accident, sports injury or bicycle accident, as well as an internal occurrence such as a tumor, stroke, infection, child abuse, seizure disorder or anoxia.

Satellite Locations and Programming

Watson provides specialized services in general education settings in several of Pittsburgh's urban and suburban school districts, allowing children to receive education in their own districts and also encourages teachers to participate in professional development training to acquire the necessary skills to educate diverse learners.