



Association for
**Science and
Discovery Centres**



New members
pack 2026/27





The Association for Science and Discovery Centres (ASDC) supports over 60 publicly accessible science centres, discovery centres, science museums and scientific bodies to engage with over 25 million people of all ages, genders, backgrounds and abilities every year.

We bring together the UK's major science engagement organisations and play a strategic role in the nation's engagement with science - working to explore, improve and share new working practices, to build sector knowledge and to encourage more diverse participation in science through inclusive, exciting and engaging public-facing projects.

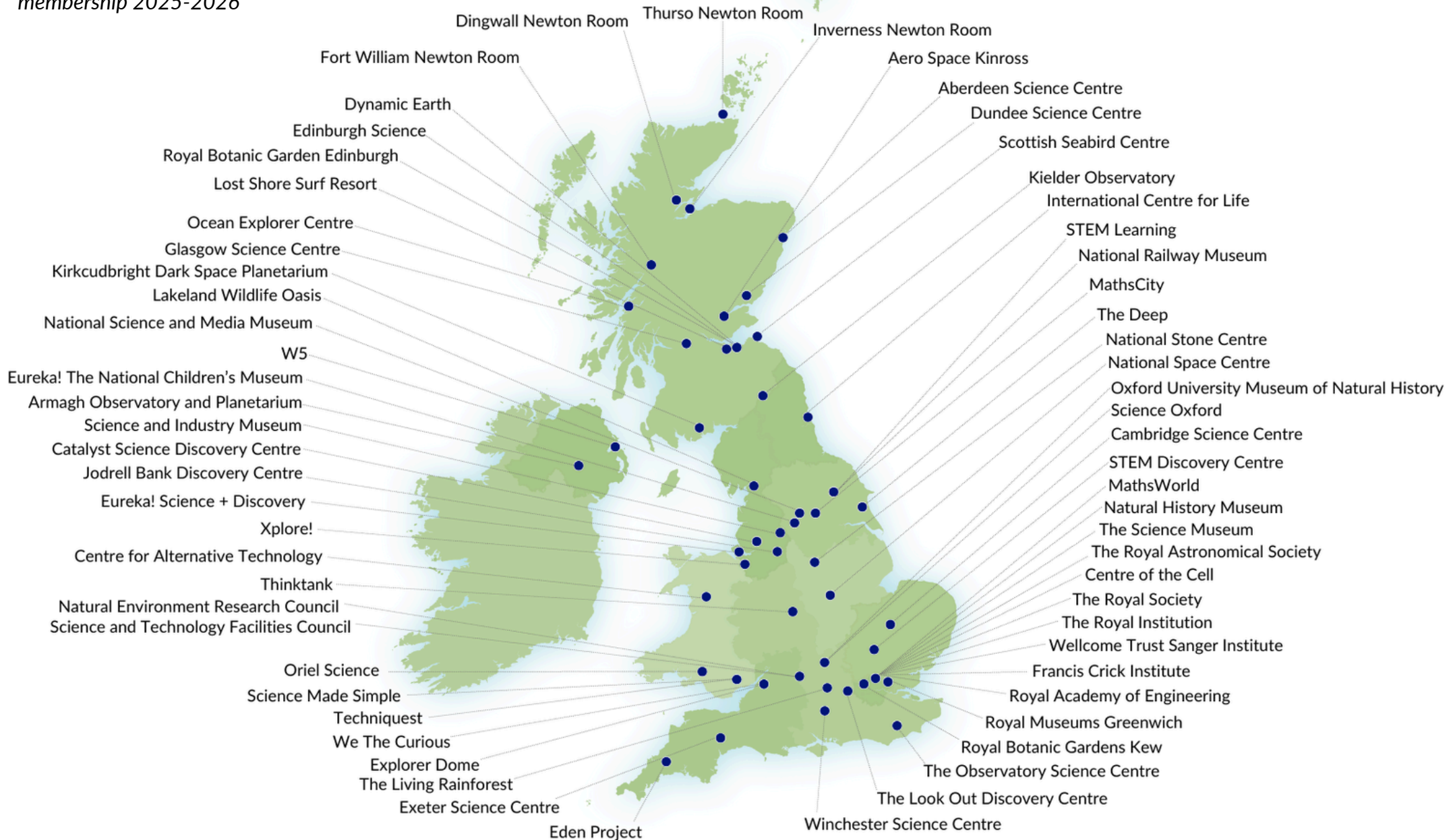
Our work actively delivers STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) outcomes, leveraging national infrastructure, expertise and investment to offer families and the wider public unusual and exciting opportunities to discover, discuss, question and explore the latest science, engineering and research.

We're excited to be working with our current members and new members over the next year, with lots of inspiring projects and new opportunities on the horizon.

Together, our vision is for a society where science is accessible, inclusive, and valued by all as a fundamental part of everyday life.

The ASDC network

Map of the UK showing
membership 2025-2026



The ASDC community



We support over 60 science and discovery centres, science and industry museums, outreach centres, national STEM organisations and learned societies. Together our members make up the UK's largest publicly accessible network dedicated to making science accessible to everyone.

No matter the size of your organisation, we're here to support you. Our members range in size from small teams with less than five members of staff, through to nationally renowned centres with hundreds of employees. We represent a great diversity of scale and geographic location, playing a crucial role in the nation's engagement with science.

"ASDC brings us all together on a regular basis, affording us opportunity to network and share valuable insight on ways that we can come together as a sector to leverage funding and resources."

Victoria Denoon, Head of Experience, W5 Science Discovery Centre

"The wealth of experience within the ASDC community has been of great benefit to us as a centre over the years. In particular the annual conference and training academies that form part of each project have given opportunities for networking and professional development for staff that would be difficult for us to make available to our small team otherwise."

Julia Riley, Head of Education and Interpretation, Jodrell Bank

"We are delighted that the powerful work delivered by the Science Centres across the UK has impacted audiences by helping increase their awareness, motivation and connection with their local environments."

Claire Andrews, Head of Community Engagement, Natural Environment Research Council

"ASDC continues to help us develop our public and schools programme. This is incredibly valuable, helping to maintain a variety of activities for our audiences."

Laurence Butler, Head of Visitor Experience at Thinktank, Birmingham Science Museum

ASDC member benefits

Networking and collaboration	Collaborative national STEM projects	Advocacy and influence
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Connect with people from over 60 science and discovery centres around the UK.• Join a community of like-minded professionals working in science engagement.• Monthly best-practice forums, masterclasses and the ASDC conference.• Gain fresh perspectives to adapt, innovate and lead through change.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Opportunities to run funded national STEM programmes that support your goals and reach new audiences.• Help design impactful initiatives through collaboration, reflection and shared learning.• Connect with leading science centres and partners to grow your influence and impact.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Be part of a national voice championing inclusive science engagement.• Gain visibility through ongoing advocacy within the STEM education and skills landscape.• Help shape a future where science is recognised as a vital part of culture and society.
Professional development and training	Impact and legacy	Access to research and resources
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Attend workshops, webinars, and conferences led by experts in science communication.• Get access to diversity, inclusion, equity and accessibility workshops and peer-led training academies.• Learn best practices for running successful science and discovery centres.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Amplify your impact by running our national STEM programmes that have reached over 2.9 million people and counting (2018-25).• Contribute to reports that demonstrate our collective impact across England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales.• Rely on ASDC's expertise to create, deliver and evaluate high-impact, independently assessed initiatives.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Get exclusive industry reports, best practice guides, and case studies.• Stay updated with science communication trends and audience engagement strategies.• Use ASDC's Theory of Change, toolkits and shared resources for improving visitor experience and articulating impact.

ASDC membership unlocks even more



Discounts on ticketed events	Members only online groups	ASDC Associate Member network
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Enjoy substantial discounts for delegates attending <u>ASDC events</u>, masterclasses and conferences.• Unlimited online attendance for digital events, allowing more employees at all levels to attend.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Private LinkedIn and Sharepoint channels for members only to share news, insights and experiences.• Ask peers for guidance through our Ambassadors network and build valuable connections.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Access to commercial organisations that share ASDC’s passions and have relevant experience of the sector.• All <u>Associate Members</u> are approved by ASDC trustees and have either already worked within the membership, or have a relationship with ASDC / a membership organisation.
Sharing inspiring practice	Free advice	Free advertising and promotion
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mechanisms for sharing content, approaches and expertise across the network with a new content vault (launching Spring 2026), content showcases and staff swaps.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Contact the ASDC team for support and specialist advice, connections, advocacy and insights.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Advertise job vacancies on the <u>ASDC website</u> and <u>LinkedIn page</u> for free.• Free space to share news, events and opportunities in our <u>monthly newsletter</u> to over 2,500 subscribers.• Member news shared on ASDC social media channels.

ASDC26: Who cares about science? 14th - 15th October at Techniquest, Cardiff Bay, Wales

For the first time, the ASDC Conference will be in Wales at the UK's longest-established purpose-built Science Discovery Centre, which this year celebrates 40 years!

Across two energising days expect new thought-provoking keynotes, interactive workshops, lightning talks and hands-on sessions tackling the biggest challenges and opportunities in science engagement. This unique event provides an opportunity to shape the future of STEM education and outreach, build new partnerships across sectors, and showcase how science and discovery centres can drive social impact on a national scale.

Sign up to the [ASDC monthly newsletter](#) for regular updates directly to your inbox, including the latest conference news, call for submissions and early bird tickets with special offers for members.



Delegates from ASDC25 at The National Science and Media Museum shared their biggest takeaways from the event:

- *“The emphasis of the importance of organisations collaborating to ensure the success of our industry”*
- *“The conference is always energising and gives me hope that it's not just us facing the struggles that we're facing - and that other centres also have the same priorities and are striving for the same goals we are”*
- *“Creating legacy from engagement work is essential if as a sector we are to achieve long term benefits”*

The biggest takeaways from some of the delegates who attended ASDC24 at The Royal Society:

- *“That ASDC is thriving and necessary. That the work of everyone attending the conference makes a difference. That work is actually being done that might change academic research culture.”*
- *“The power of SDCs to touch lives in a deep, emotional way”*
- *“ASDC remains a key driver of important, sector defining conversations and motivations.”*

Photos of ASDC25 at the National Science and Media Museum in Bradford:



As a charity, governed by trustees, we are always striving to ensure we offer you the best possible value for money.

Core members

Core members include science and discovery centres, science and industry museums, outreach centres, eco attractions.

Please see the table below for membership fees for 2026-27. Annual membership fee is based on the number of full-time staff, not including casual staff, volunteers or freelancers.

	<i>Membership fee (2026/2027)</i>
5 staff or under	£499
6 to 40 staff	£777
41 or more staff	£1,393

National Partners

For national STEM partners who share our values and our vision of a society where science is accessible, inclusive and valued by all as a fundamental part of everyday life.

ASDC has a strong commitment to collaboration and strategic alignment with wider national STEM organisations. National partner membership is a set annual fee.

	<i>Membership fee (2026/2027)</i>
National Partner	£1,071

ASDC core members

2025-26

Scotland:



N. Ireland:



England:



eden project



Wales:



ASDC supporting members

2025-26

National partners:



Associate members:



Funders (projects):



Contact us

- For further information about ASDC membership [visit our website](#)
- For general membership enquiries contact our Membership and Operations Officer, [Scarlett Li-Williams](#)
- For National Partnership enquiries contact our Head of Partnerships and Communications, [Rachael Tapping](#)
- For finance enquiries contact our Business Manager, [Vicky Hull](#)
- To speak to a member of the team call the ASDC office - 0117 915 0181 (*please note the team are only in the office Mondays and Wednesdays*)

