

Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) Curriculum Pre-Nursery to Reception



Throughout the Early Years we focus on developing children's basic skills and laying down the foundations for their future education, as well as providing children with as many learning opportunities as possible that are appropriate for their age and stage of development, in a caring, safe and stimulating environment.

Play is the foundation for children's learning throughout their lives. All areas of the Early Years Curriculum can be covered through play which means what they learn and experience is both meaningful and purposeful. We are aware that all children are individuals and develop at different rates according to their maturity and academic ability. We cater for children's individual needs within each area of the curriculum, building on from their existing understanding and experiences. As the children develop and mature they are introduced to more structured and formal opportunities, preparing them for the next stage of their education at the Manor.

Throughout the Early Years at the Manor we offer a broad and balanced curriculum covering the six areas of Learning of the Foundation Stage:

- 1. Personal, Social and Emotional Development**
- 2. Communication, Language and Literacy**
- 3. Problem solving, Reasoning and Numeracy**
- 4. Knowledge and Understanding of the World**
- 5. Physical Development**
- 6. Creative Development**

These areas of learning and development cannot be delivered in isolation. Each area is equally important and delivered through planned, purposeful play, with a balance of adult led and child initiated activities both inside and outside.

Pre Nursery



In Pre Nursery the emphasis is on settling in and being away from home. We concentrate on building up confidence and developing social skills through a range of free play and exploratory experiences.

Nursery



In Nursery children continue to learn through play and discovery and receive a firm foundation in social, creative, linguistic, mathematical and physical development, and build up a knowledge and interest in the world around them. We recognise that they learn most effectively through a range of self- initiated experiences as well as activities planned by adults.

Reception



In Reception, children are stimulated through a topic-based approach that includes all areas of the curriculum. There is daily opportunity for children to explore and investigate in play situations alongside more formal teaching in small groups.

1. Personal, Social and Emotional Development

Each child is valued as an individual and given support through a caring and nurturing environment so that they learn to trust others, cooperate and develop their self confidence. They are also encouraged to become independent and take responsibility for their belongings. The children learn about appropriate behaviour and how to respect and help one another. As the children progress through the Early Years they start to attend and take part in school assemblies.



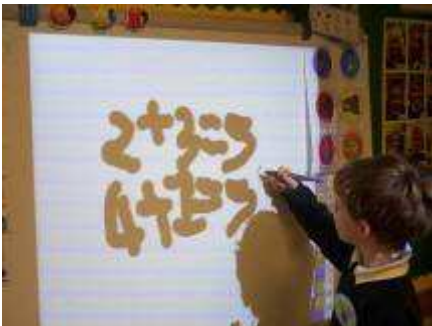
2. Communication, Language and Literacy

Children are given the encouragement to talk and communicate their ideas and listen to others observations and suggestions. Literacy is approached through stimulating activities, where stories become alive and sounds are explored through inspiring activities. The purpose of writing is encouraged through role play and routines around the classroom. By the time children start Reception, many of the children will recognise some sounds and have a good understanding and love of books through stories they have shared at home and in school. In Reception, the children continue to develop reading skills through stories and rhymes and fully enjoy the synthetic phonics programme. You are encouraged to reinforce this at home. All children in the Early Years have the opportunity to have a story read by the school librarian each week.



3. Problem solving, Reasoning and Numeracy

Throughout the Early Years, children will experience a variety of practical activities which will teach them to count, sort, copy and continue patterns, measure and compare and understand the concept of number. Mathematical skills are practised both indoors and outside and are incorporated into routines and role play areas. In Reception, the children will be introduced to basic calculations, problem-solving activities as well as exploring different ways of recording their mathematical ideas.



4. Knowledge and Understanding of the World

Children are given opportunities to learn about the world around them through investigation and observation. Children explore their surroundings both inside and outside, look at objects and artifacts and are encouraged to ask questions to develop their understanding. This area is often covered through a topic based approach and lays the foundations for Science, History, Geography and technology. Children develop an understanding of ICT through toys and equipment. In Nursery, the children start to enjoy exploring programmes on the Interactive Whiteboard and develop mouse control. In Reception, the children develop their computer skills further through a variety of programmes both in the classroom and in the Pre Prep ICT suite.



5. Physical Development

Children have many opportunities to play safely both indoors and outdoors, using a range of small and large equipment such as balls and scooters as well as the challenges of climbing equipment around the school. Children's fine motor skills are developed through a range of activities. All children have the opportunity of a specialist PE session each week and in Reception the children have two double PE lessons as well as the opportunity to take part in lunchtime clubs such as Tag Rugby, Tennis and Ballet. There is certainly plenty of opportunity for physical activity!



6. Creative Development

Creativity is fundamental to successful learning. The aspects of this area of learning include art, music, dance, role play and imaginative play. Being creative enables children to make connections between one area of learning and another. Children are encouraged to explore a range of techniques with painting, printing, modeling, collage and drawing being just some of the activities available. Children's work is valued through colourful displays in each classroom when children can be encouraged to leave their work in school! All children have a specialist music session at least once a week and parents get their tissues ready for the Nativity Plays at Christmas.

