**Intent:**

At The Manor, we believe every child should have the opportunity to ‘Let their Light Shine’ Our aim is to create a learning environment and build relationships that foster curiosity and confidence, allowing children to thrive regardless of their backgrounds, circumstances, or needs. Our EYFS provision is underpinned by our core values of love, joy, community, wisdom, and aspiration. We promote these values by providing children with opportunities to learn and develop them throughout their time with us.

We are committed to ensuring that children entering our EYFS setting begin their lifelong learning journey by developing physically, verbally, cognitively, and emotionally, while also embedding a positive attitude toward school and fostering a love of learning.

Our passion lies in providing children with first-hand learning experiences, allowing them to become resilient, inquisitive, and confident individuals. We believe that hands-on, real-world learning not only facilitates active engagement but also promotes deep, lasting understanding by creating memorable experiences. We take pride in promoting independence and problem-solving skills.

We foster a language-rich environment by encouraging children to express and develop their ideas through the use of stem sentences, guided group discussions, and adult interactions during play. It is our intent that all children receive systematic, synthetic phonics instruction through the Little Wandle phonics program to ensure they can accurately read words and sentences by the end of Reception.

**Implementation:**

At The Manor, we follow the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) framework, which is based on four overriding principles:

1. **Unique Child** – Every child is unique and constantly learning, capable of being resilient, confident, and self-assured.
2. **Positive Relationships** – Children learn to be strong and independent through positive relationships.
3. **Enabling Environments** – Children learn best in environments that respond to their individual needs, with strong partnerships between practitioners and parents/carers.
4. **Learning and Development** – Children develop and learn in different ways. The framework covers the education and care of all children, including those with special educational needs and disabilities.

Our curriculum provides a play-based and experiential learning environment, combined with focused teaching of basic skills, ensuring that children make rapid progress before moving to Year 1. At The Manor, children have access to a wide range of opportunities in both indoor and outdoor settings, engaging in planned, focused activities as well as self-initiated and free-flow activities.

The learning experiences within our EYFS are linked to the seven areas of learning and development, which are divided into three prime areas and four specific areas. The three prime areas are essential for children's healthy development and future learning:

1. **Personal, Social, and Emotional Development** – Providing opportunities for children to be active and interactive, develop coordination and movement, and make healthy choices.
2. **Communication and Language** – Encouraging children to express themselves confidently and expand their vocabulary. We model full sentences and offer opportunities for children to build language through group discussions and play.
3. **Physical Development** – Supporting children to develop self-confidence, form positive relationships, manage their feelings, and develop social skills.

As children progress in these prime areas, they naturally develop skills in the four specific areas:

1. **Literacy** – Encouraging children to link sounds to letters, begin reading, and engage in writing. We provide a range of reading materials and use talk for writing to help children develop re-telling and language skills.
2. **Mathematics** – Teaching children to count, understand numbers, solve simple addition and subtraction problems, and describe shapes, spaces, and measures. We use manipulatives to deepen their understanding.
3. **Understanding the World** – Helping children make sense of their physical world and community by exploring people, places, technology, and the environment.
4. **Expressive Arts and Design** – Encouraging children to explore and create through various media and materials, while expressing thoughts and ideas through activities like art, music, movement, and role-play.

We plan for rich, first-hand experiences through indoor and outdoor activities, visitors, and trips to widen children's learning. These experiences promote exploratory thinking, creativity, and problem-solving across all areas of the curriculum.

Our curriculum also emphasises emotional security, character development, and physical activity. We help children understand the importance of healthy living, kindness, and the value of being active.

**Impact:**

The impact of our Early Years curriculum is the creation of well-rounded individuals who are aware of their environment, appreciate diversity, and possess the courage and resilience to face the world confidently. Our approach ensures that children develop a deep sense of community, curiosity, and wisdom.

We believe that by providing a variety of first-hand learning experiences, children develop a sense of aspiration, contributing to their emerging sense of place and community. Our focus on strong language and communication skills helps children express themselves clearly and confidently, preparing them for academic success and meaningful social interactions.

We aim to close the gap between children from language-rich homes and those with less varied language exposure by engaging in high-quality dialogues with adults. Through modelling new language, rephrasing, and expanding vocabulary, we ensure children can articulate their ideas in well-formed sentences by the end of their EYFS journey. This language-rich environment equips them for success both in school and beyond.