



# Philosophy for Children (P4C) Policy 2020-2021

## St. Michael in the Hamlet Primary School

### Intent

This policy explains our approach to the teaching of Philosophy for Children (P4C) and its contribution to the curriculum at St Michael in the Hamlet school.

Its purpose is to:

- Assist members of staff in their planning and delivery of Philosophy for Children.
- Provide a reference for parents, governors, visitors to the school, Local Authority representatives and Ofsted Inspectors.
- Enable the Head and Governing body to identify priorities related to the development of Philosophy for Children in the school.



We believe that P4C is an ethos that underpins our teaching and learning at St Michael's school. It is a valuable tool that helps children to develop their thinking and questioning skills in every area of the curriculum. P4C is a regular part of our timetable across the school.

### Implementation of P4C

Teachers use elements of P4C in lots of different ways throughout the day including as a morning activity, PSHE activity, related to a topic or as a stand-alone enquiry. Through P4C the children are developing four main types of thinking:

- Creative thinking
- Critical thinking
- Caring thinking
- Collaborative thinking

Teachers will do a full enquiry at least once a term. This could be a stand-alone session based on a chosen stimulus or an enquiry linked to a topic. Teachers may generate questions and then return to discuss the chosen question at a later date or do the whole enquiry in one longer session.

### Implementation outside of lessons

Visitors to our school will see philosophical questions displayed around school. We have philosophical questions on the tables at lunch time for the children to think about or discuss while they are having their lunch.

Lots of teachers have displays in their classrooms that include philosophical questions to get the children using the 4cs of philosophical thought throughout the day (even when they don't realise they are doing it).

Our website has a P4C section on it that includes a short film about P4C at St Michael in the Hamlet and a question of the month for families to think about together.

Our school has been awarded the Silver P4C award by SAPERE (an internationally recognised body that promotes P4C). This is a fantastic achievement that involved a lengthy application process. We are only the second school in Liverpool to achieve this award!

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## Impact of P4C

The subject lead (Miss Nelson) monitors the implementation of P4C across the school and works with members of staff to decide next steps for their particular class.

## What about children with SEND?

P4C is taught in accordance with the schools Special Needs Policy. We recognise the fact that there are children of widely different abilities and backgrounds in classes and we provide suitable learning opportunities for all children by matching the challenge of the task to the ability of the child.

## What about equal opportunities?

P4C is taught in accordance with the school policy for Equal Opportunities and the requirements of the National Curriculum. P4C will actively promote multicultural awareness and provide a positive approach towards equal opportunities in race, gender and ability.

## Where can I find more information?

[www.sapere.org.uk](http://www.sapere.org.uk)

[www.stmichaelinthehamletschool.com](http://www.stmichaelinthehamletschool.com)

**Reviewed: March 2020**

**Next review date: March 2021**

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