

# Philosophy for Children

## Philosophy for Children (P4C)

At Holy Family School every child from Nursery to year 6 has an opportunity to take part in a regular 'enquiry' or Philosophy for Children discussion. Having read a story, handled an artefact or watched a clip the children make up a question that they then want to discuss.

In a P4C enquiry, the children learn that their ideas have value, and that the ideas of other children have value too. Through Philosophy for Children they realise they don't always have to be right, but they gain the confidence to ask questions and learn through discussion.

P4C improves children's critical, creative and rigorous thinking. It helps develop higher order thinking skills, improve communication skills and helps children learn to co-operate with others. Children learn to reflect before speaking so they are accurate in what they really want to say. All this has huge benefits for personal development.

The skills that Holy Family children acquire in P4C, they carry through to all areas of the curriculum to a staggering degree. The ability to concentrate, to think beyond the obvious, to listen and evaluate and to form their own opinions have extremely beneficial consequences for their learning and their life skills in general.

Holy Family children also have the opportunity to go beyond their classroom learning and the normal requirements of their life in school e.g. through being members of the school council, faith ambassadors and learners as leaders. This enhances the broad and balanced curriculum on offer in the classroom.

