

Philosophy for Children SAPERE Level 1 course

The P4C approach

Philosophy for Children (P4C) is an approach that engages learners of all ages in talking and thinking carefully about things that really matter to them.

It succeeds in encouraging enquiry skills, better speaking and listening, better reasoning, and a deep consideration of values.

It is applicable at all levels of education and in a wide variety of subject areas and educational contexts.

Originated in America and developed over the past 50 years, P4C is now practised in over 60 countries worldwide.

Our **thinkwell** Philosophy for Children Level 1 course is a **SAPERE*** certificated practical introduction that extends over two days.

The course focuses on the theory and practice of developing communities of enquiry, and aims to provide participants with sufficient understanding to facilitate philosophical enquiries in their own context.

Who is it for?

Teachers, classroom assistants, tutors, curriculum leaders, advisors, managers and community group leaders have all found this course helpful in their work.

It has proved particularly useful to those focusing on:

- communication skills
- enquiry-based learning
- critical and creative thinking
- spiritual, moral, social and cultural learning
- emotional literacy
- values education

Aims of the course

- to provide practical ways of developing good thinking, questioning and communication skills in learners
- to develop skills in the facilitation of learning dialogues
- to develop skills in encouraging communities of enquiry
- to provide specific evaluation and assessment techniques
- to provide experience P4C as a participant, and support to reflect on its process and effects
- to encourage the application of P4C in participants' specific contexts and to facilitate reflection on its use



Course content



The course explores:

- what Philosophy for Children is
- how P4C techniques and resources can be successfully
- the connection of P4C with wider agendas like: Teaching Thinking, Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural education Course

Participants will:

- experience a number of Community of Enquiry sessions
- consider the principles of P4C and their expression in its practice
- use a range of practical strategies that encourage good thinking, collaboration and communication skills
- consider ways of monitoring progress

Structure of the course

The course extends over 10-12 hours on two days.

These days may be taken consecutively or split over time.

A split course is very beneficial as it gives participants time to try out the approach in their own context between sessions.

thinkwell can help those schools, colleges and community serving institutions that want P4C professional development without committing to the SAPERE Level 1 course. We can provide a 1-day or half-day introduction to the approach or even a twilight taster session.

Course Certification

Those who attend all course sessions, and complete an 'Evidence of P4C Enquiry Sheet' are eligible for the SAPERE P4C Level 1 certificate.

* **SAPERE** is the *Society for Advancing Philosophical Enquiry and Reflection in Education*. It is the internationally recognised educational charity that co-ordinates and validates training courses in P4C.

For further information about availability and pricing of this course contact us through our website at www.thinkwell.org.uk or by email to anne@thinkwell.org.uk