

St James' Church of England Primary School are the latest UK school to receive a **SAPER** Bronze School Award in recognition of their commitment to the Philosophy for Children (P4C) pedagogy.

The Bronze award is for schools that have made a commitment to P4C as a whole school pedagogy and started on the SAPERE training pathway.

About Philosophy for Children

Philosophy for Children (P4C) is a powerful approach to learning and teaching that boosts children's reasoning, social skills, and overall attainment. Children are taught how to create their own philosophical questions. They then choose one question that is the focus of a philosophical enquiry, or dialogue. The teacher, as facilitator, supports the children in their thinking, reasoning and questioning, as well as the way the children speak and listen to each other in the dialogue.



Research published by the Education Endowment Foundation (EEF) in 2015 showed that the more disadvantaged pupils, participating in weekly P4C sessions over one year, saw their reading skills improve by four months, their maths results by three months and their writing ability by two months. Feedback from teachers throughout the trial suggests that P4C had a beneficial impact on wider outcomes such as confidence, patience and self-esteem too. [Click here to see the full report.](#)

About the School Award Scheme

SAPER's three awards - [Bronze Award](#) [Silver Award](#) and [Gold Award](#) - celebrate a school's progress in establishing high quality P4C. The award framework provides guidance on progression towards achieving outstanding and sustainable P4C practice for the pupils, the teachers and the school. Each application undergoes rigorous scrutiny and only those who meet the criteria will receive an Award.

About SAPERE

Founded in 1992, SAPERE is the internationally recognised educational charity that promotes Philosophy for Children, known as P4C. SAPERE's mission is to train teachers in Philosophy for Children which encourages children to think critically, creatively, collaboratively and caringly. We help children, particularly those facing disadvantage, to become lifelong learners. Approximately 5,000 teachers a year are trained in P4C by SAPERE.

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