

DIALOGUE IS/IS NOT

In an encounter with those who might have different opinions, values and beliefs to my own, dialogue is the process by which I come to understand the others' lives, values and beliefs better and others come to understand my life, values and beliefs.

Sort the cards under these headings: **DIALOGUE IS** and **DIALOGUE IS NOT** (one card is left blank for your own ideas).

THE SAME THING AS A DEBATE	TRYING TO FIND OUT HOW WE ARE ALL THE SAME THROUGH DISCUSSING SIMILARITIES	ASKING QUESTIONS TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THE LIVES OF OTHERS
MAKING FRIENDS WITH SOME ONE ELSE	AN INTERVIEW	LISTENING CAREFULLY TO WHAT OTHERS SAY AND RESPONDING TO THEM
AN ARGUMENT	TRYING TO UNDERSTAND A DIFFERENT WAY AT LOOKING AT SOMETHING	WORKING TOGETHER TO FIND SOLUTIONS TO SHARED PROBLEMS
A DISCUSSION WHERE I FEEL SAFE ENOUGH TO ASK DIFFICULT QUESTIONS/SHARE DIFFICULT EXPERIENCES	TRYING TO FIND OUT HOW WE ARE DIFFERENT AND UNDERSTAND THOSE DIFFERENCES	READING PREPARED STATEMENTS TO OTHER PEOPLE
WAITING FOR MY TURN TO SPEAK		

EXAMPLE RULES FOR DIALOGUE

1. Always listen carefully to what other people are saying.
2. Think before speaking.
3. Always try to be positive.
4. Only one person speaks at a time.
5. Raise your hand to be recognised if you want to say something.
6. No interruption when someone is speaking.
7. When you disagree with someone, make sure that you make a distinction between criticising someone's idea and the person themselves.
8. No laughing when a person is saying something (unless they are making a joke).
9. Encourage everyone to participate.
10. Always use 'I' statements – don't generalise.
11. Take other people's points of view seriously; they may find it difficult to accept things that are obvious to you.
12. Remember your body language and manners (don't get angry).
13. Use open-ended questions.
14. Be honest in what you say.
15. Speak positively of your own faith or points of view, rather than negatively about other people's.
16. Respect other people's views, even if you disagree.
17. Do not treat people here as a spokesperson for their faith.
18. Do not tell others what they believe, but will let them tell you.
19. Acknowledge similarities and differences between your positions.
20. Do not judge people here by what some people who share their perspective say or do.
21. Do not insist that people agree with your views.
22. Make every effort to get along with everyone regardless of their faith, gender, race or age.