

Ethics helps me to relate
to others better.

- Year 6 Ethics Student



Ethics classes support children to learn to think critically, discuss respectfully and make well-reasoned decisions. Classes are facilitated by our trained volunteers using approved lesson materials.

Questions? Visit primaryethics.com.au
or call (02) 8068 7752 to learn more

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our digital newsletter that gives
background on the topics your child
will be discussing in class
primaryethics.com.au/parents



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**Helping children
develop skills for life**



Ethics has added a real cohesiveness to our school. There's a strong sense of children working and playing together.

- Principal, Parramatta Region

Ethics in the primary years

In years 3–6, ethics students develop their critical thinking and discussion-based skills.

Stories, contemporary issues and real life scenarios form the basis of discussions on ethical issues such as selfishness, how we should treat living things, promises, greed, friendship, cheating, voting, punishment, homelessness, teasing and fairness in society.

Skills-based topics for this age group include respectful disagreement, inferring or figuring things out, validity, generalising, proving claims, structuring arguments, identifying incorrect conclusions, identifying faulty reasoning, evaluating the strength of evidence and thinking about thinking. Primary aged students are encouraged to develop their community of inquiry skills by asking each other well thought out questions and challenging each other's arguments.

Ethics in the infant years

Ethics classes in years K–2 focus on developing core skills such as listening to others, taking turns to speak and giving reasons.

Stories, poems and rhymes prompt children to discuss ethical issues such as hurting someone without meaning to, telling the truth, being kind, forgiving, ownership, fairness and empathy.

Our skills-based topics for this age group include asking and answering questions, disagreeing, changing your mind, working out what is true, giving and evaluating reasons as well as giving examples and counter examples. Logic is also introduced, with topics touching on inductive inference and deductive reasoning.

Enrolling your child

Ethics classes run weekly during the school year within the Special Religious Education/Special Education in Ethics (SRE/SEE) timeslot.

Primary Ethics classes are free of charge

If you'd like your child to attend ethics classes, advise the school office via a note or email. Your child can start as soon as an ethics teacher is available and eight or more students have enrolled in a class.

Become a volunteer

Ethics classes are taught by specially trained volunteers who are often parents, grandparents or members of the broader community looking to give some of their time to a worthy cause. Becoming an ethics coordinator or ethics teacher can be a very rewarding way to be involved in your school community. Volunteer ethics teachers are always needed to ensure that there are adequate classes to meet demand. Experience is not required, as comprehensive training and access to lesson materials is provided.

Primary Ethics is the sole approved provider of Special Education in Ethics to NSW public schools

Information for families