Information for parents and the school community.

Who and what are Philosophical Ethics classes for?

Families now have a legislated right to choose Ethics for their children. Ethics classes are an option for primary school students who do not attend SRE/Scripture in NSW public schools. Classes are currently available for years 1-6. Classes for Kindergarten will start in term 3, 2014.

Primary Ethics is the non-profit organisation authorised by the NSW state government to design and deliver a philosophy-based ethics curriculum. Our curriculum is deemed age appropriate by the Department of Education.

What do children learn in Ethics classes?

Students learn how to think about ethical issues. Students form a ‘community of inquiry’ with their peers and talk about subjects such as homelessness, keeping promises, and the treatment of living things. They learn how to find and evaluate the morally relevant issues in each topic. Trained volunteer teachers lead discussions. There is a short video of an ethics class and more information on our website: http://www.primaryethics.com.au/whathappens.html

Who are the teachers?

Our Ethics Teachers are volunteers who have gone through our selection, screening and training processes. Most teachers are parents from the school community. Other volunteers are usually members of the local community such as retirees, university students, grandparents and local business owners.

Can I be an Ethics Teacher?

We’re looking for volunteers who
- have time to prepare for and teach a 30min class each week of the school term,
- who enjoy engaging with children
- have an interest in philosophy/ethics

We give our teachers training and ongoing support and the opportunity to work with children and meet new people. Read about volunteering at our website www.primaryethics.com.au/volunteers.html

Volunteers must undergo a criminal history check and sign a Working with Children declaration.

How do I get my child into Ethics class?

If classes have started at your school, make your choice by letting the school know in writing. Your school office will be able to tell you if they have any further paperwork for you to sign.
If classes have not yet started, contact us and let us know you'd like classes. info@primaryethics.com.au

How do I find out more?
Come to our website: www.primaryethics.com.au or Email us: info@primaryethics.com.au