



Special Education in Ethics Special Religious Education Alternative Meaningful Activities



Special Education in Ethics, Special Religious Education and Alternative Meaningful Activities take place every Tuesday afternoon at 2:30 for Years 2 - 6. These programs are taught by authorised and trained volunteers and teachers.

Special Education in Ethics

Primary Ethics classes support children to develop their moral reasoning capabilities. The focus is on skills development rather than the promotion of any particular view.

The focus is for children to develop the skills to identify ethical issues, a willingness to engage in respectful discussion with their families and friends about ethical issues and the ability to think widely and critically in exploring reasons and developing arguments.

Students are encouraged and supported to make their own judgments about whether something is right or wrong, good or bad and to explain why, using evidence and reason. All Primary Ethics classes are based on this approach as distinct from blind appeal to authority or moral relativist approaches.

Our teachers are trained not to teach the students their own personal ethics and values. Ethical questions are questions about what we ought to do and how we ought to live. Secular ethics explores these fundamental questions by means of reasoned argument about values and principles, rather than an appeal to religion or cultural norms. This secular approach has a long history, reaching back to Socrates and Aristotle, and is sometimes described as 'philosophical ethics'.

Special Religious Education

Students who attend SRE classes will experience lessons that are:

- **Bible Based** - SRE lessons are designed so that children can engage with the Bible to discover the reality of God in their lives. Every lesson uses the Bible and encourages children to explore the Bible for themselves.
- **Relational**- Because Christianity is all about relationships, the lessons provide activities to help the children experience acceptance and love in the learning environment. The students will also learn about the relationship that God desires with mankind through Jesus.
- **Relevant** - Experts, experienced in theology and teaching children make sure that the Bible content is presented in a contemporary way that kids see as relevant. This helps the students to explore the Bible and Christian life so they can make up their own minds about it.

Children are encouraged to see themselves as God sees them, full of gifts and potential to be a force for immense goodness in our world. As such, Christian SRE contributes to positive self-image, identity and resilience, forming young people in their understanding of the morals and values from the teaching of Jesus.

Christian SRE is valuable for families who would like their children to understand the Bible and the Christian faith, and engage with a significant part of our Australian heritage.

Alternative Meaningful Activities

In the allocated time set aside for SRE and SEE students not attending are provided with supervised alternative meaningful activities. This could include reading, private study, relaxation or completing homework. They will be in a separate physical space from SRE and SEE classes and be supervised by a member of the school staff.