



*“Children are the most precious treasure a community can possess, for in them are the promise and guarantee of the future. They bear the seeds of the character of future society...”*

*Universal House of Justice*

Children under 12 years can participate in Children's Classes. To connect with a Children's Class teacher please contact your local Bahá'í community.

[bahai.org.au](http://bahai.org.au)  
[bahai.org](http://bahai.org)

Australian Bahá'í Website  
International Bahá'í Website



# Children

Spiritual Education Programme

Children are the most precious treasure a community can possess, for in them are the promise and guarantee of the future.

For this promise to be realised, the moral and spiritual education of children is of vital importance.

The goal of spiritual education is to cultivate in participants spiritual qualities such as love, forgiveness and justice, and to help them manifest these qualities in all interactions with all people. Classes draw on the elements of prayer, understanding and memorisation of the Word of God, stories, songs, art, cooperative games, and music. Families are welcome to participate in classes and associated activities.

*“...attach importance to the training of the children, for whatever they learn in that early stage of their development will leave its traces upon their whole life. It becomes part of their nature.”*

*Bahá'í Writings*

**Bahá'í children's classes** are open to all children, subject to parental approval. All classes are taught by volunteers who are trained by training institutes. All teachers are certified under the Bahá'í Child Protection Policy, which requires compliance with the relevant child protection laws of Australia's states and territories.

Across Australia, growing numbers of Bahá'í children's classes are being conducted in neighbourhoods, communities, and in some State schools. These classes are empowering children to contribute to the creation of a peaceful world through exploration of universal themes such as:

- We are all loved by the same God
- We are all one human family
- Diversity is valuable
- Women and men are equal
- All forms of prejudice must be eliminated
- The natural environment is a sacred trust
- Consultation is an essential skill for peaceful problem solving

#### **The classes aim to help children to:**

- Acquire spiritual qualities such as love, truthfulness and generosity
- Develop patterns of behaviour that lead to a fruitful and productive life
- Become aware of God's love for humanity and His unfailing assistance



*“O Thou kind Lord! These lovely children are the handiwork of the fingers of Thy might and the wondrous signs of Thy greatness. O God! Protect these children, graciously assist them to be educated and enable them to render service to the world of humanity.”*

*Bahá'í Writings*

#### **Continuing the Educational Process**

Children who have reached the age of 12 can continue the educational process by entering into the Junior Youth Spiritual Empowerment Programme. Through this programme participants build capacity to take personal responsibility for their own spiritual development and for their contribution to the wellbeing of society.