# VIRTUAL kit: PROFESSIONALISM AND ETHICS (DIRECTORS)

**Kit QT**

What’s the difference between a “job” and a “profession”? Ethics! Ethics within a field can guide a person’s behavior and provide moral principles to follow. Ethics can help navigate those tricky “gray areas” within early childhood. We use ethics in almost all daily matters.

Hand-in-hand with ethics is the concept of professionalism. Our professional appearance is all about how we present ourselves, our programs, and our staff to the outside world. Professionalism, and ethics, help elevate the field of early childhood beyond just a job, to a profession. The resources below will provide more guidance on navigating the ethical and professional world of early childhood.

**SHOW ME NOW – I NEED IT TOMORROW**

[NAEYC Code of Ethical Conduct and Statement of Commitment (Position Statement)](https://www.naeyc.org/sites/default/files/globally-shared/downloads/PDFs/resources/position-statements/Ethics%20Position%20Statement2011_09202013update.pdf) (PDF)

[Code of Ethical Conduct Supplement for Early Childhood Program Administrators](https://www.naeyc.org/sites/default/files/globally-shared/downloads/PDFs/resources/position-statements/Supplement%20PS2011.pdf) (PDF)

[Ethical Issues – Responsibilities and Dilemmas (Article)](https://www.naeyc.org/resources/pubs/yc/mar2016/ethical-responsibilities-dilemmas)

[Professional Boundaries and Early Childhood Education (Article)](https://www.naeyc.org/resources/pubs/yc/dec2020/professional-boundaries)

[I’m a Teacher, Not a Babysitter!: Professionalism in Early Childhood (Article)](https://www.continued.com/early-childhood-education/articles/i-m-teacher-not-babysitter-22776)

[Ethics for the Early Childhood Professional (Video)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lxOBih8n_sQ)

**WHAT DOES THIS LOOK LIKE IN PRACTICE? (I HAVE A LITTLE MORE TIME TO READ ABOUT THIS)**

[Ethics and the Early Childhood Educator (Webinar)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BX0WM7cGuT4)

[Ethics and the Early Childhood Educator: Using the NAEYC Code (Book)](https://www.naeyc.org/resources/pubs/books/ethics-educator-third-edition)

[Professionalism in Early Childhood Education (Book)](https://www.amazon.com/Professionalism-Early-Childhood-Education-Children/dp/0137064705/ref%3Dpd_bxgy_img_2/138-5230806-9904736?_encoding=UTF8&pd_rd_i=0137064705&pd_rd_r=428851d5-2641-47fd-91f3-3c0b00a79f88&pd_rd_w=g1ffe&pd_rd_wg=3dYJg&pf_rd_p=f325d01c-4658-4593-be83-3e12ca663f0e&pf_rd_r=VVR2KSPDKV3V4VCANT8Q&psc=1&refRID=VVR2KSPDKV3V4VCANT8Q)

[Power to the Profession (Webinar)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TrMDsxiZI-Y)

**WHAT DOES THE ECRC HAVE ON THIS TOPIC**

Bloom, P. (2016). *A great place to work: Creating a healthy organizational climate*. New Horizons. ISBN: 978-0982708279

Education Service Center. (1999). *Leadership: The vision beyond the doorway.* Education Service Center.

Rodd, J. (1998). *Leadership in early childhood: The pathways to professionalism.* New York Teacher’s College Press. ISBN: 080071513559.0

**HOW CAN I FIND TRAINING/TRAINING MATERIALS ON THIS TOPIC?**

* [**KCCTO Courses**](https://kccto.org/shop/)
	+ Leadership Series: Inspiring Early Childhood Educators
	+ Power of Positive Communication
* [**KCCTO-KITS ITSN Community Based Training**](http://kskits.org/)
	+ Live Virtual: Director’s Alliance (Ongoing Series)
* Visit these links for collaborative training calendars:
	+ [KCCTO Training Calendar](https://kccto.org/)
	+ [KITS Training Calendar](http://kskits.org/)

To inquire about a specific class, please visit [KCCTO](http://kccto.org/) and check for their current office contact information at the bottom of the page.

**IF YOU THOUGHT THIS WAS HELPFUL YOU MIGHT ALSO LIKE:**

Virtual Kit: Staff Morale

Virtual Kit: Effective Family Communication and Partnerships

**WHAT IF I STILL NEED HELP?**

You may request technical assistance from the KCCTO-KITS Infant Toddler Network Specialists. Please visit [KCCTO](http://kccto.org/) and check for their current office contact information at the bottom of the page.

**EVALUATION**

Please take a minute to complete a brief survey on the Virtual Kits page to let us know what you think about this virtual kit, and what other topics you would like to see addressed in the future.

**REFERENCES**

Crosby Kile, N. (2018). [I’m a teacher, not a babysitter!: Professionalism in early childhood](https://www.continued.com/early-childhood-education/articles/i-m-teacher-not-babysitter-22776).

Feeney, S. (2011). *Professionalism in early childhood education: Doing our best for young children.* Pearson. ISBN: 978-0137064700

Feeney, S. & Freeman, N. K. (2016). [Focus on ethics: Ethical issues-Responsibilities and dilemmas](https://www.naeyc.org/resources/pubs/yc/mar2016/ethical-responsibilities-dilemmas). *Young Children (71)*1

Feeney, S. & Freeman, N. K. (2018). *Ethics and the early childhood educator: Using the NAEYC code.* NAEYC. ISBN: 978-938113-33-8

Feeney, S., Freeman, N. K., & Moravcik, E. (2020). [Focus on ethics: Professional boundaries in early childhood education](https://www.naeyc.org/resources/pubs/yc/dec2020/professional-boundaries). *Young Children (75)*5.

Harder, M. E. (2016). [*Ethics for the early childhood professional*](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lxOBih8n_sQ)[Video]. YouTube.

NAEYC. (2017). [*Power to the profession*](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TrMDsxiZI-Y)[Video]. YouTube.

NAEYC. (2018). [*Ethics and the early childhood educator*](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BX0WM7cGuT4) [Video]. YouTube.

National Association for the Education of Young Children. (2011). [Code of ethical conduct and statement of commitment](https://www.naeyc.org/sites/default/files/globally-shared/downloads/PDFs/resources/position-statements/Ethics%20Position%20Statement2011_09202013update.pdf) (PDF).

National Association for the Education of Young Children. (2011). [Code of ethical conduct: Supplement for early childhood program administrators](https://www.naeyc.org/sites/default/files/globally-shared/downloads/PDFs/resources/position-statements/Supplement%20PS2011.pdf) (PDF).