



CHABAD
HEBREW
SCHOOL
RICHMOND

parent / student HANDBOOK

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Director's Letter

Dear Parents,

Imagine a Hebrew school where your kids don't want to miss a day! They come in with a smile and leave humming a new Hebrew song. Imagine a child who feels the warmth and spirit of Judaism and then imagine the pride of this child's parents. Welcome to Chabad Richmond Hebrew School where the values and tradition of Judaism are vividly brought to life and individual attention is given to your child!

The goal of our Hebrew School is for the children and their families to experience Judaism in a fun, positive way and gain knowledge about their illustrious heritage and traditions. This will strengthen their Jewish pride and connection to G-d, their involvement in the synagogue, their participation in Jewish life and their determination to live as Jews. Hebrew School is also a great place to make Jewish friends and create friendships that can last a lifetime.

We need your help to achieve this goal! With your interest and participation, your child will see Hebrew School as a privilege and opportunity to learn about their Jewish identity. Thank you for taking on this commitment and welcome to the team!

Best wishes for a happy, healthy, and successful new year!

Hebrew School Director
Chana Gordon

Curriculum

We are thrilled to announce an incredible program that will capture your child's heart. We are excited to be taking the students on a journey that will leave them feeling proud of their Jewish identity, self-confident, and empowered. Through a hands-on learning experience, your child will develop a strong sense of belonging and individuality.

At Chabad Richmond Hebrew School, we are always working on enhancing our curriculum to make it more of an immersive and meaningful Jewish experience. This year, we have worked hard to assemble a curriculum that will expand your child's knowledge base while encouraging your child's creative side to blossom.

Using educational tools, such as theater, crafts, STEM, and filmmaking, we will be diving deep into the first book of the Torah, Bereishis. From Adam and Eve through The Great Flood and until the story of Yosef, your child will cultivate a strong Jewish identity and Torah values such as kindness, sensitivity, visiting the sick, the value of each mitzvah and more. They will know that this is their story and feel a sense of belonging as a part of Jewish history.

In addition to learning Bereishis, the story of our lives, we have a fantastic Hebrew Reading Alef Champ program and special holiday programs events and Shabbat dinners.

Each class is broken into two parts:

Part 1: An interactive way to tell the story.

Part 2: A hands-on activity where the kids continue learning the story or internalize the message.

Through engaging and fresh activities, your child will sense that Jewish history isn't just something of the past. Students will perceive that this is their story and feel confident and responsible to live an active life portraying the values taught by our ancestors.

Areas of academic emphasis include:

1. Jewish History
2. Hebrew reading and vocabulary
3. Holidays and traditions
4. Culture and current events

This course engages children in discovering the higher purpose of everyday lifestyle, and gives them the tools to practically implement their inspiration.

Communication

Your child's happiness is our top priority. Communication between parents and staff is very important and will make the Hebrew school experience more pleasant for your child. If an issue arises or you have a

concern you would like to address or feedback to share, positive or negative, we request, implore and beg, please do not wait to share. Please call or email Chana Gordon or Rabbi Baitelman right away so whatever it is can be addressed in a timely manner. We want your child to love coming to Hebrew School, to have a meaningful experience and not to want to miss a day, if there is something that you would like to share with us that will help give your child a better experience at Hebrew School please reach out. We are here for you.

Chana Gordon - HS@ChabadRichmond.com, 778.908.3343.

Rabbi Baitelman - Rabbi@ChabadRichmond.com 604.518.9374

General Hebrew School updates and photos will be posted on our closed whatsapp group. If you would like to receive our updates via email instead of whatsapp, please let us know.

Homework

Homework is strongly recommended. It will consist of a page of hebrew reading so your child can reinforce what they learned on Sunday and continue to make progress in their hebrew reading. We will still give your child a warm welcome even if they did not do homework, however in order for them to be successful it is in their best interest to review.

Throughout the year we will be sending home mission cards periodically to implement the learning ie: before a holiday, we highly encourage you to help your child do the mission and fill it out, this way they can participate in the incentive and feel proud of their accomplishments.

Programs Throughout the Year

Besides for the weekly Bereishit lessons, we have a host of other programs that we use to create the best experiences for your child:

CKids Clubs and Family Programs

CKids Clubs are insider events that get children innovating with fun, new mediums and skill sets. Open to the larger Jewish community, we invite more Jewish children and their parents to join CKids Clubs.

Our first 2 events are scheduled. September 11 is the Shofar Factory/ High Holiday Fair, September 18 is the Torah Celebration, save the date.

Jewq Torah Competition

Children in 150+ cities worldwide put their Jewish knowledge to the ULTIMATE test. High achievers win prizes and an exciting end-of-year trip!

Tzivot Hashem

Optional program, please let me know if you would like your child to join. Move up in ranks by doing missions and filling out weekly mission cards online. Monthly rallies highlight Jewish birthdays and ranks.

Shabbat & Holiday Dinners

Throughout the year we will have Hebrew School Shabbat Dinners, we would love to have your family join and enjoy spending Shabbat with the Hebrew School Family. Rosh Hashana Dinner, September 25 you are invited to join, will take place either at the Gordon home or at Chabad Richmond, depending on how many people are interested. October 9, there will be a dinner in the Chabad Sukkah, filled with camaraderie and joy, we will have a online form to book your spot.

Jewish Birthday Club

This year we are introducing Jewish birthday club. Children will be taught about the customs of a Jewish birthday. Once a month we will have a Shabbat lunch at Chabad Richmond where we celebrate kids birthdays of that month. The birthday boy/ girl who attends their birthday kiddush lunch will receive a birthday package. It is a great time to invite family/ friends to celebrate with you at Chabad. The child or parent can share a dvar torah or short speech if they would like.

Services begin at 10am, followed by the birthday kiddush, 12 or 12:15pm

Aleph Champ/Hebrew Language Reading & Comprehension

Grades 2- 5 will use Aleph Champ. It is a ground-breaking program. This system offers an innovative Hebrew reading technique that involves ten colored levels, according to the colors of the rainbow, for children to master. Students are motivated and have clear goals defined for them. Once they master reading they will work on learning hebrew script writing and basic hebrew vocabulary words. Detailed information about the program and goals of each level is listed on our website.

www.ChabadRichmond.com/HebrewSchool

Kindergarten and grade 1 will use the Adventure with alef program, learning the letters of the alef bet, through using different manipulatives, alef bet yoga moves,engaging flashcards and workbook. You can look up www.Adventurewithalef.com to read more about the curriculum.

Health and Wellness

Communication is key to allowing us to help your child. Please let us know if there are any important factors in your child's health, such as allergies, vision, hearing, medications, etc. This will help us to be understanding and cater to his/her needs. Of course, the greatest care will be taken to maintain the confidentiality of the student/family.

Contagious Illness: Please do not bring your child if they have a contagious illness ie: covid or the flu.

In case of minor injury, ie, cuts, scratch, bruises, one of the staff will treat the injury. For major injuries, G-d forbid, EMS will be called as well as the parents. In the event the parents/guardians cannot be reached, the emergency contact on file will be contacted. If necessary, the child will be taken to the nearest hospital.

Drop Off/ Pick Up

Hebrew School begins at 10am and ends at 12:15pm. Drop off begins at 9:50am, not earlier. Pickup is at 12:15 although parents can begin coming at 12:05pm. Please remind your child to wait on the sidewalk and not to run to the car until you are fully parked. We will remind them as well. This year, as we are at RJDS, there is a parking lot, we will bring the kids to the door, make sure we see you and we will send your child to your car.

If your child needs to leave school early for a certain reason, please notify a staff member upon arrival or send a note or write a text to Mrs. Gordon.

Hebrew School Schedule

Sundays, 10am - 12:15pm. K- Grade 5.

Grades 6-8, Cteen Junior schedule is written on a separate document.

Sample Schedule	Activity
10am - 10:30am	Alef Champ
10:30am - 10:45am	Davening
10:45am-11:00am	Recess & Snack
11:00am-12pm	Hands on engaging lesson
12:00 - 12:15pm	Cleanup and dismissal

Attendance

Regular attendance is crucial to your child's success in Hebrew school. There is a direct correlation between attendance and achievement, interest and attitude. Furthermore, coming late disturbs the entire class and disrupts your child's classroom routine. While we will welcome your child whenever they arrive/ attend, doing your best to have Hebrew School dates on your calendar and attending those days will be greatly appreciated and will help your child get the most out of Hebrew school.

Payment and Refund Policy

Tuition fees can be paid by check, credit card or cash. Payments can be made online, given to the director or Chabad Richmond Office Staff. Tuition fees are non-refundable. Should you decide to

withdraw your child from Hebrew School, your refund will be pro-rated up to February 1. After that date no refunds for Hebrew School tuition. There are no refunds or credits for days missed due to illness, holidays, or family vacations. Any questions regarding tuition please call the office 604.277.6427.

Textbooks

Textbooks and workbooks will be supplied by the school. Books should be treated with care and respect. There will be a charge for lost books (the cost of a replacement).

Behavior Management Plan

Teachers will do their best so the classroom setting is one that is structured and engaging and will pique interest of the students in the hope to minimize negative behaviors.

In addition, teachers will make all classroom expectations clear to students. In an event that a student has negative behavior the teacher will also do their best to come up with a solution fitting for this specific child, ie: doing a chore outside the classroom, going for a short walk with another staff member, sitting on the side for 2 minutes to take a few deep breaths etc.

If it seems like more of a major issue, parents will be phoned after class and the parents and teacher together will come up with a plan.

Zero Tolerance Policy: Any student involved in harmful and/or dangerous behavior to himself or others, or destruction of property, will result in a phone call to immediately pick up your child, followed by a meeting between the director and parents to come up with a plan.

Kippah

We encourage all boys to wear a kippah. It is part of the Jewish uniform, to read more about it [click here](#).

Tzedakah

Tzedakah (charity) is a concept which is basic to Judaism. Our school attempts to develop a commitment among our students to share with the less fortunate by donating a nickel (or more) a day. Parents are asked to provide the students with a daily coin for tzedakah.

Snacks

Kosher snack is provided at Hebrew School for the kids, not necessary to send any unless there is a specific need. If there is a specific need, no products with nuts please as there are kids allergic to nuts.

Parent Involvement

We have lots of opportunities for our parents to be involved in Hebrew School. Volunteering at our programs, driving field trips, and helping out during Aleph Champ are some of the ways you can be involved in your child's Jewish education, and we welcome your participation.

Helping Your Child Succeed

In order for our CHS program to be most effective, the home and CHS must work hand in hand and promote a close partnership. The following are a few suggestions:

- Many of our students are involved in other extracurricular activities, i.e. sports, music lessons, etc. All these are important; please place priority on your child's Jewish education.
- Participation in Synagogue services and celebration of Jewish Holidays will greatly enhance your child's interest in Judaism and strengthen his/her Jewish identity. We invite all Hebrew School families to join us at Chabad for Shabbat and holiday services and programs. You belong-no membership needed!
- Show your child that you are interested in his/her Jewish education. Make a habit of asking your child/ren how their day was, and what they have learned. This will greatly encourage and help foster a strong Jewish identity and positive attitude.
- Always remember that informal Jewish education is one of the best motivators for creating a positive Jewish identity!