



Chabad Hebrew School of S. Lake County

Parent 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 Hebrew School] where the values and tradition of Judaism are vividly brought to life!

The goal of our Hebrew School is to experience and deepen Jewish knowledge which will strengthen your children's understanding of G-d, their identification with the Jewish people, their involvement in the synagogue, their participation in Jewish life and their determination to live as Jews.

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!

-Chavi Dubinsky
Hebrew School Director

Curriculum

Chabad of S. Lake County is excited to announce an innovative new curriculum at Juda Hebrew School for the upcoming school year. The new curriculum, titled “Israel Quest” will take students on an unforgettable journey through Jewish history, tracing the story of the Jewish people from their arrival in the Land of Israel to the building of the Beit Hamikdash and beyond. Through hands-on workshops, interactive storytelling, and creative projects, Tanach bring the past to life, they’ll uncover the heroic strength of our people and the keys to the enduring bond between the Jewish people and our homeland.

Throughout the year, students will explore the connection between Israel, Hashem, and us—the Jewish people. Together we have a bond that can never be broken. And at Hebrew School, we’re embarking on a quest to discover that rich history. We’ll be bringing Am Yisrael Chai to life by exploring stories from Tanach through the latest hands-on activities.

Areas of academic emphasis include:

1. Learning the wisdom and beauty of Judaism
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. It is our school-wide program, offering content and activities geared towards the different age groups.

Our Approach

At Juda Hebrew School we strive to stress the beauty and warmth of Judaism and its Mitzvot, providing a learning experience in an atmosphere of joy and liveliness. We place particular emphasis on the inclusion of Jewish ethics and values. Mutual tolerance and respect for fellow human beings are taught as basic principles of faith.

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

Tzivot Hashem

Move up the ranks with a new program celebrating the “me” and “u” in meaningful, mitzvah-filled Judaism. Monthly rallies highlight Jewish birthdays and ranks. We feature a Student of the Month from each class who is recognized for his/her positive attitude, participation and attendance.

Extracurricular

Family days, Shabbat experiences, school contests, hands-on education, and family workshops as well as games, drama, and songs are blended into our curriculum.

Aleph Champ/Hebrew Language Reading & Comprehension

Aleph Champ is a ground-breaking program that is the talk of the town. This system an innovative Hebrew reading technique that involves ten easily attainable levels for children to master. Students are motivated and have clear goals defined for them. In addition to reading they will be able to write and understand basic Hebrew vocabulary.

Homework

Limited homework will be assigned. Homework will generally consist of a review, reinforcement or completion of classroom work, specifically Hebrew reading.

Communication

Should you need to contact our staff during school hours, please contact:

Chavi Dubinsky 321-312-8346

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 notify us in the event of a contagious illness so that we may notify the parents of other children in the class to be aware of the symptoms.

In case of minor injury, the first aider 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.

This year, we have added an extra precaution to ensure health and wellness. For In-Person Hebrew School, please fill out the Health Questionnaire sent to you by 9:00 AM, each week of Hebrew School.

Drop Off/ Pick Up

- Drop Off: 9:55 AM (School begins at 10:00 AM)
- Pick Up: 12:00 PM

Please don't arrive earlier or later than the designated times

Leaving Class Early

Please note our new policy: If for some significant reason your child has to leave early, please contact us beforehand and sign them out.

Hebrew School Schedule

Sunday mornings from 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

| Sample Schedule | Activity |
|---------------------|--|
| 10:00 AM - 10:10 PM | Welcome Activity |
| 10:10 AM - 10:40 AM | Morning Prayers and Song |
| 10:40 AM - 10:55 AM | Recess & Snack/Monthly Jewish Birthday Bash |
| 10:55 AM - 11:25 AM | Class Curriculum and Craft |
| 11:25 AM - 11:50 AM | Aleph Champ/ Hebrew Reading |
| 11:50 - 12:00 PM | Goodbye Routine (Review, Song, Mitzvah Note) |

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. Any work that is missed due to attendance has to be made up.

Adhering to the attendance policy will be greatly appreciated and will help your child get the most out of Hebrew school. Great attendance will be rewarded.

Payment and Refund Policy

Tuition fees can be paid by check or credit card. Please note that should you choose to pay by credit card, you will be charged the 3.5% processing fee. Payments should be given to the director only. 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 refund will be allowed for Hebrew School tuition. There are no refunds or credits for days missed due to illness, holidays, or family vacations.

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.

Parent/HS Communication

Your child's happiness is our top priority. Communication between parents and staff is very important and will make the Juda Hebrew school experience more pleasant for your child.

If there are any issues that are bothering you concerning your child's education, do not disregard them. Please talk to us so that we can make your child more comfortable and alleviate any distress immediately.

We will be emailing important notices and newsletters to let you know what is happening during Hebrew school. Please check your email Hebrew school notices to monitor how your child is progressing. Additionally, you can join our whatsapp group by WhatsApp messaging 321-312-8346 where we'll be sharing important information to you. Homework and other important information will be sent home with your child as well. Please check his/her school bag for these notices.

Photos of Juda Hebrew School in action will be posted weekly on our Facebook page.

Should you have any questions or concerns regarding your child's performance and/or progress, please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher, call our director **Chavi Dubinsky 321-312-8346**

Behavior Management Plan

At Juda, our goal is to guide children toward self-regulation and responsibility while fostering a safe and nurturing learning environment. We believe discipline is an opportunity for teaching rather than punishment. Using the principles of Conscious Discipline, we focus on building strong connections, teaching self-regulation skills, and guiding children in making positive choices.

When a child struggles to follow a classroom rule, our approach includes:

- Connection & Understanding - Teachers will first connect with the child, ensuring they understand the rule and its importance within the classroom community
- Positive Guidance - We will use positive reinforcement and model appropriate behaviors to encourage self-discipline.
- Redirection & Choices - When needed, children will be gently redirected toward positive alternatives, helping them learn to make better choices.
- Calm & Reflect - If a child continues to struggle, they may be guided to a safe space within the classroom to regulate their emotions, reflect, and reset. This is not a punishment but a tool to help them regain self-control and rejoin the group when ready.

Student Safety Enforcement Policy:

Any student involved in violent conduct, severe misconduct, or any behavior that poses a serious threat to the safety of themselves, others, or property will be required to meet with the director, along with their parents, before being permitted to return to the program.

Kippah

All boys should bring their own kippah to wear in class. For sanitary reasons, please make sure your child has his own kippah every day. If he forgets his own kippah, he will be given one.

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 few pennies a day to charity. Parents are asked to provide the students with a daily coin for tzedakah.

Snacks

A light snack should be given to your child to bring to Hebrew school. Water is always available for students to drink.

Helping Your Child Succeed

In order for our JHS program to be most effective, the home and JHS 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; however, 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 Juda 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!