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MBE Chabad Hebrew School of NWBC

# 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 MBE 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!

Mimi Kaplan

MBE Chabad Hebrew School Director

201.560.2640

## Curriculum

Upon completion of this course the student will have created a method to integrate Torah, Mitzvot and Jewish Holidays into their lives and developed methods to create change in the world around them.

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

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

**Mimi and Rabbi Kaplan**

**201.560.2640 | [mimi@chabadplace.org](mailto:mimi@chabadplace.org)**

## The Atmosphere

The underlying strength of our school is in its general warmth and spirit, providing a learning experience in an atmosphere of joy and liveliness.

Each month, we choose a Student of the Month from each class. The candidate is a child who is recognized for his/her positive attitude, participation and attendance.

Mishpacha Days, Jewish Month rallies, Friday night dinners, Junior Congregation, school contests, hands-on education, and family workshops as well as games, drama, and songs are blended into our curriculum.

## Our Approach

At MBE Chabad 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 Shemot lessons, we have a host of other programs that we use to create the best experiences for your child:

**CKids Clubs**

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 to join CKids Clubs.

**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**

Move up the ranks with a new program celebrating the “me” and “u” in meaningful, mitzvah-filled Judaism.

**Aleph Camp**

Learn to read Hebrew like a boss. This award-winning, karate-inspired curriculum helps you set goals, learn at your own pace, and bring Hebrew Literacy to life.

**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.

## 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.

MBE Chabad Hebrew School has someone certified in CPR/First Aid on duty at all times.

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.

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## Hebrew School Schedule

All students meet Sunday mornings from 9:30am-12:00 p.m.

## Homework

Limited homework will be assigned. Homework will generally consist of a review, reinforcement or completion of classroom work, specifically Hebrew reading. All reading homework will be available online and the children will be able to send their reading recordings to their teacher.

## Drop Off/ Pick Up

- Sunday: 9:30-12 pm

This year, drop-off and pickup is done solely via the carpool line. You can enter our parking lot and join our carpool line outside the building.

Due to ongoing construction we will be making continuous changes to keep the carpool moving and the children safe. Please keep up with the email notices.

We will update changes via email.

## Leaving Hebrew School Early

If for some significant reason your child has to leave early, please let us know via email or text. This is a safety precaution to protect your children. No child will be allowed to linger in the hallways or wait outside.

## 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.

You can view your child's attendance in the new Chabad Plus app.

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## 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.

## 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 and not to other staff members. 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.

## 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 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.

## Kippah

We will supply CHS Kippahs for all the boys. 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

We hand out light snacks of fruits, pretzels and water each week. Water is always available for students to drink.

## Behavior Management Plan

Teachers will make all classroom rules clear to students.

Teachers will give one reminder of the rule. If the behavior continues, the student will be asked to observe from the back of the classroom.

If a child continues to be disruptive, they will ask the student to leave the classroom for three minutes to collect themselves. Parents will be contacted to review the episode. If disruptive behavior continues, a conference will be set up between child, parent and the director where a behavior management contract will be drafted.

Zero Tolerance Policy: Any student involved in harmful and/or dangerous behavior to himself or others, or destruction of property, will result in immediate suspension pending a conference between the director and the parents.

## Parent/CHS Communication

We believe in a strong parent/teacher partnership. Communication between parents and CHS is very important to ensure that Hebrew School is a meaningful and pleasant experience for your child.

We will be sending out weekly emails notifying you of upcoming events, important notices, and what your child has covered in class each week. 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 Chabad Hebrew School in action will be posted weekly on our website-make sure to view them weekly on our FB Page: Chabad Hebrew School NWBC. Please like and follow our page. Please follow us on our Chabad Instagram page as well: Chabad NWBC.


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 Mimi Kaplan@ 201.560.2640

## 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; 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 Hebrew School families to join us at Chabad for Shabbat and holiday services and programs. You belong-no membership needed!



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- 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!