

Parent Handbook

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 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!

Mrs. Alta Goldstein

Hebrew School Director

Curriculum

Throughout the curricula used, students will be introduced to key figures and concepts in the Torah. Students will know their Jewish story and strongly feel their part in it. With a pride in their ancestors, they will be confident and equipped to live their lives proud Jews.

Each class is broken into two parts:

Part 1: An interactive way to learn the lesson.

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.

The curriculum is designed to generate a positive change in children by encouraging them to integrate Torah and Mitzvot into their lives. Through focused lesson goals and repeated application, the children will gain real skills and will be able to effect a genuine change in their lives. The curriculum offers timeless lessons and ways to integrate the knowledge children need to practically implement the skill. Children will have the passion and knowledge to live Jewishly, by internalizing the lessons and skills they learn. 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

The various curricula chosen engage 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:

Mrs. Alta Goldstein

630-386-1848

Alta@ChabadNaperville.com

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.

Family Days, Jewish Month rallies, Friday Night Shabbat Dinner, hands-on education, and family workshops as well as games, drama, and songs are blended into our curriculum.

Homework

Limited homework will be assigned. Your child can be sent home with Hebrew reading practice for them to do each night of the week. Although we pride ourselves on a fantastic Hebrew reading curriculum, we see the most results when children practice their Hebrew reading throughout the week. It is very difficult to retain the skills when it is only done once a week at Hebrew School! Please help us help your child succeed by encouraging them to practice their Hebrew reading at home!

Our Approach

At 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.

Aleph Champ/Hebrew Language Reading & Comprehension

Aleph Champ is a phenomenal Hebrew Reading program. This system offers 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.

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.

Drop Off/ Pick Up

- Sunday: 9:30-12:00 am

Dropoff and Pickup is at The Abrams Center for Jewish Life. We encourage you to come into the building to pick up your kids and say hello to the teachers and other parents!

Please refrain from dropping off your child early or picking up late.

Leaving Class Early/Coming Late

If your child must leave early or will be arriving late, please notify Alta Goldstein at least 24 hours in advance.

In the case of an absence, please let Alta know at least 4 days in advance.

Hebrew School Schedule

Hebrew School meets Sunday mornings from 9:30–12:00 p.m.

Sample Schedule	Activity
9:30am-9:50am	Tefillah-Prayer
9:50am-10:45am	Class Curriculum
10:45am-11:00am	Recess & Snack
11:00am-11:30am	Lesson based project or activity
11:30am-12:00pm	Hebrew Reading-Aleph Champ

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.

Adhering to the attendance policy is 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 or credit card. Payments should be given to the director only and not to other staff members. Tuition fees are non-refundable. There are no refunds or credits for days missed due to illness, holidays, or family vacations.

Supplies

All textbooks and workbooks will be provided by the school. We ask that each student have a box or case designated especially for Hebrew School with the following supplies:

3 Sharpened pencils , 1 Sharpener, 3 Glue sticks, 1 bottle of glue, 1 pack of crayons, 1 pack of markers, 1 index card box.

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.

We will be emailing and texting pictures, important notices and newsletters to let you know what is happening during Hebrew school. Please download whatsapp app and check your email Hebrew school notices to monitor how your child is progressing.

Behavior Management

Teachers will make all classroom rules clear to students.

Teachers will give reminders of the rules. If the behavior continues, the student will go to the director and spend a few minutes collecting 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.

Kippah

All boys should bring their own kippah to wear in class.

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

Snacks & Drinks

We will provide a light snack for your children to eat during Hebrew School. Feel free to send a water bottle with your child to drink when they feel they need it.

Photos

Photos of Chabad Hebrew School in action will be posted from time to time on our Facebook Group and Instagram pages as well as the whatsapp app .

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!
- 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!