

Student Expectations

Behavior & Discipline

We wish to promote a pleasant and cooperative atmosphere in the school that encourages each child to do his/her best. Therefore, class rules will be explained on the first day of school. Class rules will require that students be respectful of each other and each other's property. Students must show respect for teachers, other staff members and adults at all times.

If and when discipline problems arise, they will first be handled within the classroom. Teachers will keep a record of the problem, including any phone calls made to parents. In addition, the teacher will keep the Director of Education informed of the situation. When a discipline problem can no longer be handled within the classroom, the child will be sent to the office, where the Director of Education will speak with him/her. When a child is ready to return to class, s/he will be sent back. Each visit to the office is recorded, with the date and nature of the incident that prompted the child's removal from class.

If a child is sent to the office two times, the Director of Education will call home to discuss the situation. Calls will be made home on each subsequent visit to the office. After two calls, if there does not seem to be any improvement in the child's behavior, the parent will be asked to come to school to meet with the Director of Education and/or the child's teacher.

We thank you in advance for your support of our program. Since religious education is a voluntary enterprise, we count on you to convince your child of its value and of the importance of treating teachers and other students with respect.

Class Preparation

Students should arrive for class with all necessary materials, including:

- their books
- sharpened pencils
- a set of markers
- tzedakah*
- paper/notebook
- a healthy snack (optional)

It is **essential** that students bring their books to class, as they will be used regularly.

Evaluation

To promote a non-competitive atmosphere, each student is evaluated based on his/her own progress. Each semester an evaluation will be sent home that discusses your child's academic progress and personal growth. In addition, teachers are always happy to schedule individual conferences with parents. Please call the Religious School office if you wish to set up an appointment to discuss your child's progress.

Homework

All teachers bear in mind the heavy loads our students carry, yet some home review is necessary. Students will benefit from a regular review of Hebrew at home. Please monitor your child's reading practice. On occasion, students may have written work to prepare. Please check with your child concerning any homework assignments. Your support and cooperation are essential to your child's continued growth and learning.

Snack

Kindergarten students will each be asked to bring snack for the class twice during the school year. This snack consists of *challah*, grape juice and an additional snack item requested by the teacher. Students in Grades 1 – 6 will enjoy a short snack break during their time here at Religious School. Students are invited to bring a healthy snack from home.

Attendance & Service Requirement Policies

Attendance

The Religious School staff works hard to create a meaningful Jewish learning experience for each child. In order to receive full benefit from our programs, it is essential that a child attend regularly and be prepared to participate fully in class. In order for a student to be promoted to the next grade, s/he must attend 80% of class sessions or the equivalent of this time. Make-up assignments and special arrangements will be made if these requirements are not met. In addition, it is important that students arrive on time for class. We know that on occasion individual students or a carpool may arrive late for religious classes. Our concern is not for the exceptions, but rather those who are chronically late. We urge all parents to start early enough to get their children to class on time.

Early Dismissal

Due to the short amount of time that your child spends in religious school, we ask that you do not remove your child from class early. On occasions when your child must be dismissed early from class, please send him/her with a note to the teacher stating what time the child needs to be dismissed. **Parents must come to the Religious School Office to sign out their child early.**

School Closings

In the event of inclement weather or other circumstances which mandate that our school be closed, we will work to inform you as soon as possible. **School closing decisions will be made no later than 1:30pm weekdays and 7:30am on Sundays.** We will update the phone announcement in the Religious School Office and post closings on News 12, and we will also send out an email to all parents. If you are unclear as to whether or not school will be closed, please call the Religious School Office at 883-3144 x342 after the noted times.

Tefillah Requirement

In an effort to increase the students' understanding of and familiarity with our worship service, the Temple Board has passed a resolution requiring attendance at services. Participating in our community includes participation in our worship. Service attendance allows a child to get comfortable with the prayer service, to practice Hebrew outside of the classroom and to have a Jewish experience with his/her family. **Students in Grades 3 – 6 will be required to attend the number of services equal to their grade** (Grade 3 students must attend 3 services, etc.). Students can fulfill their requirement by attending Friday night or Shabbat morning services. Attendance at holiday services will also count toward the requirement, with the exception of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. Students will be given service coupons to turn in as proof of attendance at a service. In order to successfully complete their grade and be promoted in our program, students must fulfill their *Tefillah* Requirement each year.