



CKids Hebrew School of Gloucester County

# Parent Handbook

A Proud Affiliate of  
CKids: The Chabad  
Children's Network



Chabad of Gloucester County  
[www.JewishGloucester.com](http://www.JewishGloucester.com)

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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!

Hebrew School Director

Mina Richler

## Curriculum



### Grades K-2: SuperJew

Throughout this curriculum, students will be introduced to key Jewish concepts, Mitzvot, and Middot. They will learn how to relate the knowledge to their lives while instilling the idea that the Torah is our guide and source for how to live as Jews. They will learn the importance of laying the foundation at this young age to be able to incorporate the Torah into their lives.

Each week, the teacher will broach an exciting 'Super Powers' framework to introduce a new dilemma, scenario, or challenge to the students. These scenarios will be relatable to their day-to-day lives. Using clues, the students will be taken on an exploratory journey, facts, and how-to information from the Torah that will lead them to gain a full understanding of the subject matter. The clues will encourage engaging and fun methods of learning; including interactive activities, games, music & movement, and crafts as they make their way through the lesson. Students will discover new 'Super Powers' each week which builds their image as a Super Jew!

### Grades 3-5 and 6-8: Israel Quest



Unlock our heritage through the new CKids (Chabad Children's Network) Hebrew School Program! Embark on an adventure of a lifetime, exploring our history as Am Yisroel Chai! Discover our humble beginnings in Israel and the secret to our eternal strength.

Students will relive the journey of the Jewish People in the Land of Israel, from the time the Jews entered the land led by prophets and kings, until the untimely destruction of the Holy Temples. Discover the secret to our eternal survival with tools that were established to keep Judaism thriving in the Diaspora. Using educational tools such as VR, topography, theater, crafts, STEAM, and filmmaking, this experience is bound to capture the attention of each student.

The curriculum is designed to generate a positive change in children by encouraging them to integrate Torah, Mitzvot and Yomim Tovim into their lives. Children will have the passion and knowledge to live according to our heritage by internalizing the lessons and skills they learn. Upon completion of this course the student will have developed methods to proudly live Jewishly and to create change in the world around them.

Areas of academic emphasis include:

1. History of Jews in the Land of Israel
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.

## The Approach

At CHS 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:

### **CKids Clubs**

CKids Clubs are insider events that get children innovating with fun, new mediums and skill sets. Featuring the Jewish “BIG 3”: Pride, Heritage & Identity! Opened to the larger Jewish community, we invite more Jewish children to join six 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. 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.

Attendance and Tzivot Hashem Ranks are kept in the new ChabadPlus app.

### **CKids Shabbaton**

Exciting performances. New friends. Yummy Shabbat food. One action packed weekend. Finish up with Sunday’s International JewQ Championship and Tzivot Hashem Award Ceremony.

### **Aleph Champ**

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.

**CHS** 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.

## Hebrew School Schedule

All students meet Sunday mornings from 9:30–11:30 a.m.

<b>K-1 Class Schedule</b>	<b>Activity</b>
<b>10:00am-10:10am</b>	Mitzvah Mailbox and Welcome Activity
<b>10:10am-10:30am</b>	Morning Prayers and Songs
<b>10:30am -11:05am</b>	Aleph-Bet Lesson
<b>11:05am -11:15am</b>	Snack/Birthday Bash/Challah Days (Hamotzi)
<b>11:15am-11:50pm</b>	SuperJew Lesson
<b>11:50am-12:00pm</b>	Goodbye Routine (Review, Song, Mitzvah Note)

<b>2-5 Class Schedule</b>	<b>Activity</b>
<b>10:00am-10:20am</b>	Tefillah-Prayer
<b>10:20am-11:05am</b>	Israel Quest
<b>11:05am -11:15am</b>	Snack/Birthday Bash/TH Rallies
<b>11:15am-11:30am</b>	JewQ
<b>11:30am-12:00pm</b>	Aleph Champ

<b>6-8 Class Schedule</b>	<b>Activity</b>
<b>10:00am-10:20am</b>	Tefillah-Prayer
<b>10:20am-11:05am</b>	Israel Quest
<b>11:05am -11:15am</b>	Snack/Birthday Bash/TH Rallies
<b>11:15am-11:30am</b>	JewQ
<b>11:30am-12:00pm</b>	Aleph Champ

## Chabad Plus App

We are pleased to use the new Chabad Plus app as our student database management.

In the Chabad Plus app, you will be able to monitor your child's attendance, complete Mitzvah Missions, view their Aleph Champ levels, Tzivot Hashem ranks and points earned during class. Your child will be able to use their points to purchase prizes from a virtual prize store, and they will receive their prizes during the monthly rallies.

You will receive an email to sign up for the Chabad Plus app.

## Homework

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

## 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 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.

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

**Rabbi Avi Richler - 856-357-3954**

**Mina Richler - 856-879-8140**

## Drop Off/ Pick Up

- Sunday: 10:00am-12:00 pm

Drop-off and pickup is done via the carpool line. You can enter our parking lot and join our carpool line outside the building.

## Leaving Class Early

Please note our new policy: If for some significant reason your child has to leave early, you are required to go to the office and sign them out. The secretary will then call your child who will come up. 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. 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.

## 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. 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.

At CHS, we believe that every Jewish child is entitled to a Jewish education. No child will be turned away due to lack of funds. Scholarships and payment plans are available.

## 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.

## 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.

## Kippah

All boys must bring their Hebrew School 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 variety of Kosher snacks will be provided at Hebrew school. If you would like to send in your own snacks, please ensure that it is certified Kosher.

## 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.

Photos of Chabad Hebrew School in action will be posted bi-monthly on our website-make sure to view them at [www.JewishGloucester.com](http://www.JewishGloucester.com).

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 Mina Richler - 856-879-8140 or email [Jerseyjews@gmail.com](mailto:Jerseyjews@gmail.com).

## 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!

