

YEARS 5 & 6

HANDBOOK FOR PARENTS



Introduction

Our objective for Cheder education in Years 5 & 6 is to build on the students' knowledge of Judaism, providing them with a better understanding of the values, festivals and stories that shape our Jewish identity. The curriculum is based on age-appropriate books, short videos and will give the children an opportunity to express their creativity.

Term Overview

Classes will be held on Saturday morning during term time. In general, the morning will start with a short cheder assembly at 10am in the Osorio Hall - parents are warmly invited to attend alongside their children. The Jewish Studies lesson will run from 10:15 - 11am. This will be followed by an optional introduction to Hebrew class from 11:15 - noon. Unless older siblings are also enrolled in the cheder, we ask that parents stay in or around the synagogue during class time until we can confirm that the children have fully settled in.

Term Dates

Autumn Term	Spring Term	Summer Term
Sat 13 Sep '25	Sat 10 Jan '26	Sat 18 Apr '26
Sat 20 Sep '25	Sat 17 Jan '26	Sat 25 Apr '26
Sat 27 Sep '25	Sat 24 Jan '26	Sat 02 May '26
Sat 04 Oct '25	Sat 31 Jan '26	Sat 09 May '26
Sat 11 Oct '25	Sat 07 Feb '26	Sat 16 May '26
Sat 08 Nov '25	Sat 28 Feb '26	Sat 06 Jun '26
Sat 15 Nov '25	Sat 07 Mar '26	Sat 13 Jun '26
Sat 22 Nov '25	Sat 14 Mar '26	Sat 20 Jun '26
Sat 29 Nov '25	Sat 21 Mar '26	Sat 27 Jun '26
Sat 06 Dec '25		Sat 04 Jul '26
Sat 13 Dec '25		

Jewish Studies Curriculum

We supply our teachers with a detailed curriculum for each lesson - parents are welcome to contact Rabbi Lea to receive a copy of the lesson plans. In this handbook, we are just sharing the topic of each lesson to allow parents to engage with their children about what they have learnt.

Autumn Term

Sat 13 Sep '25	Welcome to Cheder
Sat 20 Sep '25	Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur: Dan l'chaf Zechut
Sat 27 Sep '25	Sukkot: Kehillah
Sat 04 Oct '25	Living by the Book: How has Torah inspired the Jewish people?
Sat 11 Oct '25	Living by the Book: What is contained in the Tanakh, or Jewish Bible?
Sat 08 Nov '25	Torah: At the Heart of Jewish Life: How is the Torah considered a blueprint for Jewish life?
Sat 15 Nov '25	Torah: At the Heart of Jewish Life: How does the Torah continue to influence us today?
Sat 22 Nov '25	Tanakh: Prophets, Judges, and Kings: What was the role of prophets and how did they prophesy?
Sat 29 Nov '25	Tanakh: Prophets, Judges, and Kings: What can we learn from the words and stories contained in K'tuvim (Writings)?
Sat 06 Dec '25	Reading Sacred Texts: A Year of Jewish Books: What are some characteristics of the Torah service?
Sat 13 Dec '25	Reading Sacred Texts: A Year of Jewish Books: Why are different Bible texts connected to different holidays?

Spring Term

Sat 10 Jan '26	The Talmud: Texts of the Sages: What is the Talmud and why does it contain multiple opinions?
Sat 17 Jan '26	The Talmud: Texts of the Sages: What is Midrash and how does it expand on the Torah?
Sat 24 Jan '26	The Siddur: Words from the Heart: What is a siddur and what does it contain?
Sat 31 Jan '26	The Siddur: Words from the Heart: How do we make fixed prayer relevant for us today?
Sat 07 Feb '26	The Siddur: Words from the Heart: What does it mean to pray with kavanah (intention)?
Sat 28 Feb '26	Pass It On: Being People of the Book: What is our role in the chain of

	transmission of Jewish thought?
Sat 07 Mar '26	Welcome to Your World: How does understanding the evolution of Jewish history help us to understand ourselves?
Sat 14 Mar '26	Biblical Times: Becoming Am Yisrael: What is the difference between Am Yisrael, Eretz Yisrael and M'dinat Yisrael?
Sat 21 Mar '26	Biblical Times: Becoming Am Yisrael: How does understanding our biblical history affect Judaism today?

Summer Term

Sat 18 Apr '26	Biblical Times: Becoming Am Yisrael: What characterized Am Yisrael's evolution from a family into a nation?
Sat 25 Apr '26	Jewish Life with or without the Temple: What was life like during the Second Temple period?
Sat 02 May '26	Jewish Life with or without the Temple: How did the destruction of the Second Temple and our subsequent exile affect the Jewish people?
Sat 09 May '26	Creating Jewish Community: From East to West: How did living in the Diaspora affect Judaism during medieval times, and how do we know?
Sat 16 May '26	Shavuot celebration
Sat 06 Jun '26	Creating Jewish Community: From East to West: How did the rise of other faiths affect Jews during the medieval period?
Sat 13 Jun '26	Crossing Continents, Starting Over: What was the influence of the Spanish Inquisition on the Jews of Spain?
Sat 20 Jun '26	Crossing Continents, Starting Over: How did varying levels of freedom affect Jewish life under different rulers?
Sat 27 Jun '26	Winds of Change: New Opportunities and Responses: How did Jews navigate their newfound freedoms in western Europe?
Sat 04 Jul '26	Fun Day

