



PARENT
HANDBOOK

5781

תשפ"א

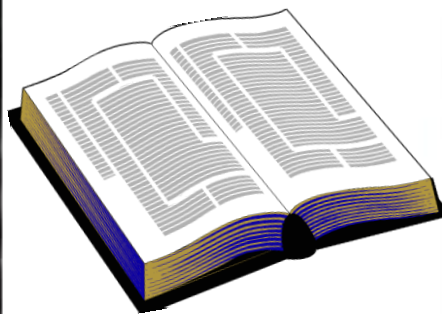


Table of Contents

OUR MISSION STATEMENT	3	Tzivos Hashem & the Chidon Mitzvos	14
ARRIVAL:	4	BAR MITZVAH CELEBRATIONS.....	14
DISMISSAL:	4	BIRTHDAY FARBRENGENS	15
ATTENDANCE:.....	5	HEALTH	15
LATENESS.....	5	GOSSIP AND NEGATIVE TALK	16
BUS TRANSPORTATION:	5	GOING OUT	16
SNOWDAYS.....	7	COMMUNICATION	17
CARPOOL	8	TEXTBOOKS – GENERAL STUDIES	17
MEALS AND SNACKS.....	8	DAMAGES.....	18
Nut Free Zone	9	VITAL INFORMATION	18
DRESS CODE	9	HOMEWORK	18
DETENTION.....	10	INTERPERSONAL RELATIONSHIPS.....	19
SUSPENSION	11	LOST & FOUND.....	19
INTERNET/MEDIA	11	IN CONCLUSION	19
TECHNOLOGY POLICY	13		
Sanctifying Our Environment	13		

Dear Parents שיהיו,

With all that we have been through this past year, the anticipation for the coming school year is more palpable than ever. It is my hope that the cheder will deliver beyond the expectations for this coming school year.

The dedication of our Rebbies has never been realized as much as in the past year, and with a qualified team of teachers, and a supportive staff that are committed to the cheder success, under the competent leadership of Rabbi Brawer we are slated to have the greatest year yet.

This Handbook presents a compilation of the Cheder's educational and administrative policies, values, requirements and procedures. This handbook is intended to serve as a reference guide throughout the year as to enable a smooth and productive year for your children.

Communication is a key component to successful Chinuch. Feel free to contact me with questions or concerns at menahel@chedermonsey.org or by phone at 845-356-1213 Ex 2101.

Looking forward to a year of learning, *midos tovos* and *chassidishkeit*,

Rabbi Levi Kaplan
Principal

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

Cheder Chabad of Monsey is a growing, vibrant educational institution which strives to meet the Limudei Kodesh and General Studies needs of each individual student. Established in 1999, our mission has been to lay the proper foundation and training of today's children to meet the challenges of the future, by forging links between our traditional and uncompromising Jewish values and the world around us.

The uniqueness of the Cheder are the chassidishe melamdim espousing the fervor and flavor of Chabad Chassidus, as inspired by the teachings of the Lubavitcher Rebbe. There is a special emphasis on ahavas Yisroel and serving Hashem with simcha interjected into all aspects of the school programs.

Our dedicated melamdim and teachers create an atmosphere of excitement and motivation resulting from their passion and dedication to Jewish life and learning, while instilling a love of learning in our talmidim. Our Limudei Kodesh Program includes the highest level of Hebrew/English learning in Chumash, Mishnah, Talmud, Halacha, Novi, Tanya, Parshas HaShavuah, Yomim Tovim, Chassidus, Tales of Tzaddikim, Nigunim, and more.

Our General Studies curriculum interweaves Torah values into its program creating an integrated tapestry of an up-to-date secular education and an authentically Jewish worldview.

Our school is affiliated with the Board of Education of New York State. The East Ramapo Central School District (ERCSD) supervises our Universal Pre-Kindergarten program and administers the Federal Title I-V programs that fund many of the special services we receive: Bus Transportation, School Nurse, Tutor/Mentor Program, ESL Tutoring, Psychologist, Speech Therapist, Occupational Therapist, Resource Room, etc.

ARRIVAL AND DISMISSAL

ARRIVAL:

Grades 1-6

1. Monday through Friday, Cheder begins at 8:30 am. On Sundays, Cheder begins at 9:30. (year-round)
2. Breakfast is served within the first hour of the school day¹
3. Children should not be brought to Cheder prior to 8:20am as there will not be supervision. On Sundays children should not be dropped off earlier than 9:20am

Grades 7-8

1. Talmidim of grades 7-8 are required to attend minyan at Cheder
2. Minyan times: Monday-Friday 7:15am, Sundays 8:30am
3. Breakfast is served after minyan²
4. Children who are carpoled to Cheder for minyan should not be dropped off before the doors open at 7:00am Monday-Friday and on Sundays at 8:20.

DISMISSAL:

Monday -Thursday – dismissal for Grades 1-5 is at 4:10pm. Grades 6-8 are dismissed at 5:15pm. On **Sunday** dismissal is at 1:30pm dismissal for all grades. **Friday** dismissal is at 12:00pm for all grades.

On non-bus days, Monday thru Thursday, all grades are dismissed at 4:15.

As a matter of routine, students may not be picked up early. Students being picked up early for a unique circumstance must to be signed out at the office. Students in grades Six and up can be signed out via a call to the office. The secretary will arrange for your son to be called out of his classroom.

When special transportation arrangements are required, please arrange them before your son leaves to school. Students will not be allowed to make calls to shuffle transportation arrangements.

¹ To be determined

² To be determined

ATTENDANCE:

Every day of learning is critical. Please assure that your children are at cheder on time every day. Special emphasis should be made for your children to be back in school on days following any school break, be it: Sukkos, Pesach, Chanukah, or mid-winter. Missing the first day back, often causes a break in the link that is impossible to restore.

In the event that a student is late or has been absent from cheder, a note must be sent to the Rabbi/teacher explaining the circumstances.

If possible, all appointments (medical, dental etc.) should be made after school hours. If it is necessary for your child to leave during school time, please send a note with your child in the morning addressed to his Rabbi. The note should include the pickup time.

Parents should avoid calling the office to have messages delivered to their children except in a genuine emergency.

Attendance for both programs, Judaic and General Studies is mandatory. No exceptions.

LATENESS

Children who arrive late disturb the routine of the class and struggle to get into things with their peers ahead of them. You should do everything you can to make sure that your child arrives in school on time each day. In the rare event of lateness, a note must be presented to the rebbi/teacher.

Students in grades 7-8 who arrive after the completion of *shacharis* must complete *davening* before they come to Cheder. Parents must send a note indicating that their child has already *davened*. A student who arrives late and hasn't davened will not be allowed into the CHEDER.

BUS TRANSPORTATION:

All children who are residents of the East Ramapo Central School District (ERCSD) or Suffern Central School District (SCSD) are eligible for free bus transportation.

Families residing in ERCSD need to complete a Transportation Request Form and bring it to the Cheder administration Office. The Administrative Office will notify you of the date when the form is due.

(When SCSD will provide transportation, families residing in SCSD need to complete a Transportation Request Form and bring it to the SCSD Transportation Office, 45 Mountain Avenue, with proof of age (birth certificate) and residence (rent contract, deed, utility bill, etc.). For more information, please contact the bus transportation office directly at 845-357-7783.) A bus pass will be mailed to every student. Please have your child bring it to school so it can be attached to his knapsack.

As per district policies, children are permitted to ride only on their designated route. If a child will not be taking his regular bus a temporary bus pass must be obtained from the Transportation office. Children not residing in the ERCSD may not use the buses at any time. Alternate transportation arrangements must be made in advance.

There is no bus transportation on Sundays and Public Holidays. For your convenience, we marked all these dates in the Cheder calendar. Please arrange for your carpools accordingly.

Safety is of utmost importance. Due to the cheder's limited reach in supervising what occurs on the bus, it is the parent's responsibility to make sure your children know and adhere to appropriate bus procedures. A misbehaving child will be cited by ERCSD busing for misbehaving and bullying on busses.

In the case a student is cited by ERCSD, a triplicate is issued by the dispatcher, one copy is sent to the school, one to the parents and the third is filed with the ERCSD. The school district will not tolerate misbehavior on the bus. Students may be suspended for misconduct for days, weeks and even a month. Students should take warning seriously and avoid issues of not being allowed to take the bus to and from school.

Please instill and reinforce the following procedures with your son/s:

- Be at the bus stop a few minutes early
- After the bus comes to a full stop enter the bus quickly and find a seat
- Be courteous to the driver

- Remain seated at all times when the bus is moving
- Keep heads and arms inside the bus at all times
- Absolutely no fighting, bullying or shouting on the bus
- When you arrive at cheder leave the bus in an orderly fashion; no pushing
- Obey all instructions given by the bus driver
- Keep the bus clean and in good condition

SNOWDAYS

Inclement weather and hazardous conditions can interfere with getting your children to cheder. At times, it becomes necessary to dismiss the students early. It is important that you lookout for a communication from the Cheder regarding changes due to the weather. Weather notifications will be broadcast between 6:00-6:30 am on each snow day. Whether communication will be sent out as a WhatsApp and/or text message.

There are several policies and factors that guide our decision about delaying or closing the Cheder on snow days. What follows are a few considerations and are by no means an exhaustive list:

1. Warning alerts by Hatzloho and the like
2. Decisions made by ERCSD
3. Coordination between school divisions
4. Anticipated whether conditions at pickup times can impact the decision of whether to have cheder at all. (On days with early dismissal make sure you will be able to pick up your children on time before dropping them off)

During the weekdays, when ERCSD announces a two-hour delay, talmidim who join minyan should come to school regular time AFTER davening. **There will be one arrival time for all grades.**

On Fridays, when ERCSD announces a two-hour delay, cheder will be closed.

When cheder is closed due to weather conditions, there will be either a zoom class or conference call with the Rebbi for 90 minutes on the first day. If Cheder must remain closed for two days consecutively there will be a full day on line program.

CARPOOL

Arrivals: Students who are brought by car should be dropped off at the curb along the side of the building. Vehicles may never enter the fenced play area/driveway. Please do not drop off children across the street.

Dismissal: Cars should enter Bluefield Rd. and line up in single file line alongside the curb. Please do not use the Widman Court entrance for carpool pickup. Drivers must remain in their vehicle. If you wish to leave your vehicle, please park in the lower parking lot and walk to the waiting area to pick up your child. There is no parking directly across the street of the carpool area. U-Turns are not allowed at any time. This is for the safety of the children.

We urge you to pick up your children on time and to exercise extreme caution when driving through the pickup area. Children in grades 1-5 may not be left in Cheder to wait for grades 6-8 dismissal at 5:25, a student who does so intentionally risks explosion.

THE SCHOOL DAY

MEALS AND SNACKS

Breakfast is served to all students every morning³. Students are encouraged to bring *pareve*, healthy snacks and bottled water each day. All snacks must be *bishul yisroel*, *cholor yisroel* and *pas yisroel*.⁴ Popcorn, pretzels, rice cakes,

³ To be determined

⁴ Excerpts From the Rebbe's Letter About Kashrus translated by Rabbi Tzvi Freeman

"...concerning how to deal with food that is not "kosher lemehadrin"...but this food can give a child a better appetite:

In general, it is explained in many places that *hiddur* in kosher food is not just a matter of keeping a mitzvah. Rather, since every food becomes the blood and flesh of the body, and the body is connected with the *neshama*, so the kashrus and purity of the food affects the character and good *midos* of whoever uses this food. Therefore, any contribution we can make to the *hiddur* and purity of the food should also be seen as a contribution to the development of a refined and pure human character. And if this is so by adults, it is much more so by children whose character is still in its formative stages. With children we must be very concerned about the direction we are taking them.

According to this, you can certainly understand my opinion that since we are not dealing, chas v'shalom, with a matter that a child's entire health is dependent upon--it's only a matter of adding more flavor and strength [?]-so we don't have to diminish the hiddur of the food. Certainly, we can find other ideas and ways to strengthen a child's appetite and make a child healthier that do not compromise the kashrus and hidur." (אגרות קודש הי"ח מכתב ו'תרי"א)

crackers, fruit and raw vegetables are recommended. Candy is not permitted and will be confiscated.

Lunch is served Sunday - Thursday⁵. Should you prefer to send along lunch please send along a long a food that corresponds to the cheder's menu. *Fleishig's* is served on Tuesdays and *milchigs* during the rest of the week. On a day that *Fleishigs* is served, do not send Milchig snacks for the afternoon. Please be aware that the Cheder Chabad Boys' School is not a nut free zone. However, new situations do arise and we try to accommodate children with various allergies. Please notify the office of any allergies you son has. Due to food allergies and different levels of *kashrus* observance students may not share or trade food.

Nut Free Zone

The Cheder is a nut free zone. Please don't send along any snacks containing nuts of any kind. Snacks with nuts will be disposed of outside the building. Please keep this in mind when planning a birthday event as well.

DRESS CODE

The way we dress reflects our values. The Cheder's values are that of a Torah-led-life illuminated by chassidus. Adherence to the dress code is mandatory. The following guidelines express our chassidishe standards and reflect our values:

- A yarmulke and *tzitzis* must be worn at all times (off-hours as well). No leather, knitted or bright colored *yarmulkes* are allowed. If unsure if a color is acceptable a black or dark navy yarmulka should be worn
- Pants: Black or navy blue pants. Jeans are not allowed no matter the color. (oversized-cargo pockets or skin-tight pants aren't allowed)
- Shirts: Button down shirts (white, blue or light blue with white stripes. No t-shirts, polo shirts or collarless shirts)
- Shirts should be tucked in at all times (except during recess)
- White shirts should be worn on *Rosh Chodesh* and *Chassidishe Yomim Tovim*

⁵ To be determined

- Once talmidim begin putting on tefillin students may wear only white shirts and a plain dark yarmulka without any writing. Boys who reached *Bar Mitzvah* age must come to Cheder every day with a hat and a dark colored suit jacket or blazer for *davening* and *bentching*. Zippered jackets, sweatshirts or sport jackets are not acceptable.
- Sweaters: The Cheder sweater, a Chidon sweatshirt or a plain navy blue sweater may be worn.
- Shoes: No sandals, crocs or hee-lies allowed. Shoes need to be dark colored and conservative looking. No white or bright colors on them.
- Socks: socks must cover the ankles. No bobby socks or ankle-less socks.
- Hygiene: Students are expected to bath/shower, brush their teeth and dress in clean clothing
- Hair: students are expected to take short haircuts and maintain short hair. *Payos* should reach the ear lobe.

A student who isn't dressed according to the cheder dress code will wait by the office until he is taken home or proper clothing is provided.

Visitors: in respect of our shared values parents participating in any school function, on or off the Cheder premises, including carpool, are expected to dress according to halacha

Men: yarmulkas, tzitzis, sleeved shirts and knee-length pants and socks

Women: skirt length below the knee, closed necklines and sleeves covering the elbow. Married women must cover all their hair. Friends or relatives who participate in school functions are expected to respect our values.

DETENTION

Students who are sent to the menahel for behavioral issues are placed on probation for a four-week period, if they are sent to the principal within that time they will need to serve detention. The office staff will notify you after the first instance so that you can speak to your son and be on alert for a possible detention.

Detention will last for up to one hour 4:10-5:10 PM every weekday. For grades six and up detention will be given on Sundays from 1:30-2:30 for the reason mentioned above.

Detention may be given to students who skip class.

SUSPENSION

If a student's behavior jeopardizes his own physical or emotional safety as well as the safety of others they will be suspended. Behaviors such as: ignoring staff instructions, leaving the school premises without permission or engaging in unsafe behavior.

If the cheder cannot take responsibility for your child, he is returned to your care. The amount of days for which a child may be suspended for depends on how long it takes for the cheder to be certain that we can guarantee his safety and the safety of those around him.

The following behaviors may result in an in-school or out of school suspension:

- A talmid who is unresponsive to teacher or staff member
- A talmid who is blatantly disrespectful to staff member
- A talmid who physically or emotionally hurts another talmid
- A talmid who leaves school property without permission

INTERNET/MEDIA

The *Torah* says, "Do not place a stumbling block before the blind." The prohibition to place anything harmful in the way of the unknowing is one of the negative commandments. The internet is the primary source of filth and corruption in our children from a *halachic*, *chassidish* and moral perspective. Having unfiltered internet at home is prohibited.

In general, children should be discouraged from using the internet for entertainment or as a pastime.

Many of our children, often from wonderful homes, have been deeply affected by inappropriate exposure to the internet. It is wiser to be overly cautious in this area, rather than risk any dangerous exposure.

If you have internet at home, please adhere to the following guidelines:

- A computer or device that has internet access should be in a public area AND password protected. All internet use must be supervised. Filters and

monitoring software must be installed on all devices that have access to the internet

- Talmidim may not have a social media account; Snapchat, Instagram, Facebook, or the like are grounds for expulsion
- Students should be encouraged not to have an email address. If it is necessary for a student to have an email address, it must be with the principal's approval and be constantly monitored and their parents must receive a copy of each message
- When friends come over to play or to make a project on the computer, it is imperative that the internet is turned off

The cheder recommends the K9 Web Filter and has commissioned a local community member to assist with installing and tracking internet activity. For more information, please contact the office.

Exposing your child to movies television and/or secular videos is absolutely forbidden.⁶ TV programs include material that is halachically prohibited to be seen. Watching TV, videos and movies erodes our humanity, dulls the mind and creates insensitivity to issues of *tznius* and violence, destroying the

⁶ **Excerpts From the Rebbe's Sichas about T.V.**

Free translation by Sichot in English --Adapted from Likkutei Sichos Volume 18 (e. 459)

“Television is an agent of moral breakdown like no other. We are at a point where non-Jews are speaking up strongly against television because they recognize its destructive influence on children. We often hear of violence and murder cases as a result of the television and movies programs that influence these kinds of acts. Even if someone might think they will watch the educational programs, but how can the parents be guaranteed that their children will not watch the other programs. Moreover, the children can say “If my parents watch television why shouldn't I?” Furthermore, who is guaranteeing the parents themselves that they will not fail? Today they watch “kosher” programs and tomorrow they catch a glimpse of another program and slowly they can reach the point that “all is acceptable”.

*Some people claim that there are good religious Jews that have a TV in their house and why can't we learn from them? This can be compared to someone who says, since so and so has an eye infection I also want to be like him! So too spiritually – nobody is perfect, so why copy the **faults** of another person?*

Among all those who have a television, you cannot find even one that will claim that they bought it –out of being G-d fearing, or because of good character traits that they acquired from it. Rather each person has their own “excuse” for it, either in order to furnish their house better or for their spouse, or they received it as a gift – therefore how could they throw it out?

Once people were careful not to pass by a church and preferred to go around it. Mothers would warn their children not to come close to a church and not to look at crosses- and today by means of a television they are bringing the church, the priest and the cross into their home "Rachmana Litizlan". Therefore, it is of utmost importance that all of the above be immediately rectified and corrected.”

aidelkeit of our children. This is in addition to *bittul* Torah and ignorance that follow.

TECHNOLOGY POLICY

- Cameras, electronic games, music players, I-pods, MP3/4 players, flash drives, walkie-talkies, voice recorders, etc. may not be brought on the bus or to the Cheder building.
- Students may not have their own cell phones. They may NOT bring a cell phone to Cheder, regardless if it's a smart phone or not. Any of the above brought to Cheder will be confiscated.
- In the unique event that a student needs a phone for carpool purposes, a contract must be signed with the *menahel* and the phone kept at the office during the day.

Sanctifying Our Environment

1. Games:

Certain games are destructive and not within the spirit of our values, These includes: Secular reading material, game boys, DS, radio, cell phones, sports-cards, MP3 players, Ipods, toy guns. **These items will be confiscated if brought into the Cheder.**

Fortnight has proven to have a lasting negative effect on talmidim, instilling frivolity, sarcastic and sardonic disrespect, encouraging them to laugh off important or significant messages.

2. Sales by students

Students may not buy or sell any type of articles or food during Cheder. Any such materials will be confiscated.

3. Reading material

Parents are advised to carefully screen their children's reading material. Only reading material provided by the Cheder may be used in the Cheder. The Cheder library is a great resource for reading material

4. Propriety of students' possessions

All lunchboxes, school bags, loose-leaf folders, etc. should only bear pictures and writings that are consistent with "good taste" and Tznius. No sports, TV, movie or cartoon characters permitted. All possessions belonging to students should be clearly labeled with their first & last name.

Tzivos Hashem & the Chidon Mitzvos

The cheder runs a Tzivos Hashem Program. Rabbi Blotner is the cheder base commander. Students receive points for completing their missions and go up in rank. The cheder boasts a large map featuring the rank of all our students and it is updated every few about twice a month.

The cheder may also run certain programs for which students can earn achievement cards that can be entered for points on www.mashpia.com. We encourage you to sign up your son to TH.

Tzivos Hashem also runs an international competition called chidon mitzvos. This program runs for grades 4 and up and over the last few years has seen the vast majority of our students competing. Students must retain good standing in the cheder in order to participate in the chidon tests and Shabbaton. The chidon Shabbaton is scheduled around Rosh Chodesh Nissan.

BAR MITZVAH CELEBRATIONS

The Bar Mitzvah and its celebration set a foundation for the life of the young bochur and his *chaveirim* who are celebrating together with him. It is therefore critical that the atmosphere of the celebrations and its results are such that they promote positive, Torah'dik and *chassidische* values. As you prepare for this event, we would like to make some suggestions to help enhance your *simchah*.

Before setting a date for the formal Bar Mitzvah celebration, please check the school calendar to assure that the celebration does not conflict with a school event. As soon as the date has been set, please notify the Cheder office. By having this advance knowledge, we can help avoid having two celebrations scheduled on the same day and avoid conflicts with school activities still in the planning stages.

The Cheder is pleased to serve in an advisory capacity with regard to *Bar Mitzvah* preparations for its students, but does not undertake such training. The Cheder looks forward to taking part in the student's *simchah* of becoming *Bar Mitzvah*. We invite parents and grandparents to join the Cheder *minyana* on the first day that a boy puts on *tefillin* and then again on the day of his *Bar Mitzvah*. Nothing is expected from you beyond your participation, as we honor your son. Some parents may wish to offer the

students a light treat at breakfast such as cake/doughnuts and juice. Please do not plan a lavish breakfast for this event. Parents should check with the *menahel* concerning what is appropriate and acceptable. Of course, the celebration in Cheder is not a substitute for the *Bar Mitzvah* celebration in one's community. A *talmid* whose *hanochas teffilin* will take place outside of the cheder may not invite his classmates.

When planning a *Bar Mitzvah* celebration, please make sure all of your son's classmates are invited. When making a *Bar Mitzvah* celebration on a school night, please schedule the event in a manner that all children can be home at a reasonable time (around 10:00 pm) so that they can function properly the next day in Cheder. Please make sure that the atmosphere at this auspicious event is within parameters set by *halacha* and in a *chassidishe ruach*; including a proper *mechitzah* and appropriate music.

BIRTHDAY FARBRENGENS

If you wish to make a birthday *farbrengen* at school, kindly speak to your son's Rebbi in advance to arrange a date and discuss appropriate refreshments. Birthday *farbrengens* will only be arranged during *limudei kodesh* sessions. A cake or cupcakes, one nosh and a drink are appropriate. Please make sure all nosh is *bishul Yisroel, pas Yisroel* and *cholv Yisroel*. Any additional or inappropriate items will be sent home. No home-baked items may be brought to school and no *pekelach*, please!

If you wish to have a birthday *farbrengen* at home or at a public facility, please be considerate of all the boys in the class. A small party with two classmates is appropriate, otherwise every classmate needs to be included.

HEALTH

- Current concerns about Covid require you to take your son's temperature every day and keep him home when he has a fever over °100. Student's temperature will be taken before they enter the building and they will not be allowed in if they have a fever.
- New York state law mandates that any child not in compliance with the required immunizations be excluded from school until the immunizations are brought up to date.

- State law mandates that all new students in 2nd, 4th and 7th grades must have a physical within a year of the start of the school year. If you do not send proof of a private physical, your child will automatically be examined by a school district appointed physician.
- If it becomes necessary for your child to have medication during the school day, DO NOT SEND THE MEDICATION WITH YOUR CHILD to take it on his own. It is to be brought to the office BY AN ADULT with a note from a doctor instructing how to administer it.
- The law requires that any medication, prescription and over the counter, i.e., Tylenol, Benadryl, etc. found with a child be confiscated and thrown away.
- Children entering Cheder from out of the country must be checked for lice and nits before admission to school. The cheder may check students for nits if there is reason to believe there is an issue. Students with lice should not be sent to school and will be sent home.

GOSSIP AND NEGATIVE TALK

Encourage your children to adhere to the *derech erez* standards enumerated in the student handbook. Under no circumstances should a parent criticize any member of the Cheder staff in front of a child. Doing so hinders our ability to educate your child. Grievance should be directed toward the teacher and/or principal privately and respectfully.

Experience shows that most grievances are rooted in misunderstanding. When you are upset about something at the school speak to the school directly. Putting down the cheder puts down your son.

WhatsApp can be a great tool and can also be utilized negatively. Spreading misinformation, negative energy about the cheder or judging someone on a group hurts all involved parties. Keep in mind that *lashon horoh* hurts all three, the speaker the listener and who it is about. Don't use your connection to others through the cheder as a means to spread *lashon horoh*.

GOING OUT

Students should attend functions with a **מחיצה**. Students should not partake in a mixed function or activities, i.e. parties, ice skating, ballgames, shows, etc.

Students should dress in a dignified, modest and *chassidische* manner also while not in school.

Shopping malls aren't a place for a *chassidische bochur* to hang out. Students may go only with parental approval and with an adult. Malls should not be visited just to spend time.

COMMUNICATION

On Orientation Day, you will have the opportunity to meet your son's Rabbi in his classroom. About two weeks into school, the Cheder will host a Back to School Night where Rebbis and Teachers will present you with what to expect for the coming year.

To facilitate communication between school and home, Student Progress Reports will be sent monthly. Report cards will be presented at the end of each semester. The teacher puts his best efforts forward to evaluate your son's progress. Two Parent-Teacher Conferences will be scheduled throughout the year. Parent-Teacher Conferences are recognized as the best method for advancing mutual understanding between school and home.

As soon as school begins, our teachers give their undivided and uninterrupted attention to the children. All conversations between parents and teachers must be reserved for after-school hours, except in cases of emergency. Please be considerate when calling teachers and call at a reasonable hour.

When you have a concern about something going on in school and you reach out to any of the cheder staff, it is recommended that use a win/win modal in your communication. Avoid put downs and accusations. Inquiring rather than accusing, supporting rather than judging lead to everyone winning. The Rabbi is supported and your child understood.

TEXTBOOKS – GENERAL STUDIES

The East Ramapo Central School District provides General Studies text books for its students, through a program of government grants. It is expected that books issued to a student will be returned in good condition. In the event a book is damaged or lost, you will be charged for it.

DAMAGES

Should your son damage Cheder property intentionally or unintentionally, you will be required to reimburse the Cheder for the damage and labor involved in repairs.

In the event of intentional damage to school property, a security deposit in equal amount will be required as well. The security deposit will be returned at the end of the school year provided that no further damage was done.

VITAL INFORMATION

Changes of address, telephone numbers, employment details, medical conditions, allergies or any other important information must be given to the school as soon as possible. When parents going on vacation, move to a new home, and illness of a family member, birth of a sibling or any other changes in the household can impact your child's behavior and ability to concentrate in class. Please inform the teacher or the office of any changes at home.

HOMEWORK

Homework is an important link between school and home. It helps our children recognize the interrelationship between teachers and parents. Homework reinforces material learned in class; *limudei kodesh* homework also emphasizes the importance of learning Torah throughout the day, at school and at home. It is also an opportunity for you to become involved in your children's learning, as well as a vehicle for communication with the classroom Rebbi or teacher.

Homework assignments are intended to be a quick review. On average the time it should take for *Limudei Kodesh* and General Studies subjects is as follows:

- Grade 1-2: Not more than - 15 minutes
- Grade 3-4: Not more than - 20 minutes
- Grade 5-6: Not more than - 30 minutes
- Grade 7-8: Not more than – 30 minutes

If your child spends more time on homework than indicated, or needs extensive help in completing his assignments, please discuss this with his teachers.

The homework book/sheets must be signed each night by the parent, after ascertaining that the assignments were completed by the child. Unsigned homework will be marked "incomplete." The homework book/sheets may be used to record any comments or questions you may have for the teacher or *rebbe*. If your child was unable to complete the homework, please explain the reason on the homework sheet.

INTERPERSONAL RELATIONSHIPS

Students should feel safe at cheder, we have therefore adopted a zero-tolerance policy concerning bullying. Bullying includes intimidation, name calling, fighting, not respecting a student's privacy, threatening others or any other type of behavior where the victim cannot defend themselves. Bullying takes place when one person has an advantage over the other that puts him in an advantageous position regarding the victim. The Cheder deals with bullying in a very strict manner including suspension. Repeated bullying is cause to remove the bully from Cheder.

LOST & FOUND

Please label clothing, books and other personal articles brought to Cheder. Unmarked articles are placed in the Lost & Found area. Jackets, coats, gloves, and the link, will be placed on the lost and found rack. Items left unclaimed will be disposed of after 30 days.

IN CONCLUSION

Remember, Cheder Chabad is an extension of your home. Your child will be in the able care experienced and loving staff, who work to create a warm, *chassidische* atmosphere and are in touch with the needs of young children growing up in today's world. We at Cheder Chabad of Monsey, care very much about the happiness of your child, therefore, cooperation and communication between parents and staff are vital. We encourage you to feel free to arrange an appointment to speak to your child's *rebbe*, teacher or

to the principal, whenever there is a concern about your child. Please call the Cheder office to arrange an appointment.

Daily Schedule

	Grade 1 - 3	Grade 4 – 5	Grade 6	Grade 7 - 8
<i>Sunday</i>				8:30 (Minyan)
Start of class	9:30	9:30	9:30	9:45
First Recess	10:30	10:55	11:20	11:20
Second Recess	11:50	12:20		
Lunch	12:15	12:45	11:45	11:45
Back to class	12:40	1:00	12:00	12:00
Mincha - <i>bizmano</i>			1:15	1:15
Dismissal	1:30	1:30	1:30	1:30
<i>Monday - Thursday</i>				Minyan 7:15
Start of class	8:45	8:45	8:45	8:35 (M&T 8:50)
First recess	10:20	10:40	11:05	11:05
Second recess	11:35	12:15	1:00	1:00
Lunch	12:00	12:40	1:25	1:25
Third recess		Grade 3-5 1:45	3:00	3:00
Mincha		1:35	2:40	2:40
General studies	2:05	2:05	3:25	3:25
Dismissal	4:10	4:10	5:15	5:15
<i>Friday</i>				Minyan 7:15
Start of class	8:45	8:45	8:45	8:35
Recess	10:20	Grade 3-5 10:40	11:05	11:05
Dismissal	12:05	12:05	12:05	12:05

Cheder Contact Information

Elementary Boys

Cheder Chabad Boys' School
 15 Widman Ct.
 Spring Valley, NY 10977
Office Tel: 845-356-1213 ext. 2000
Office Fax: 845-503-2322
Office e-mail:
chederchabadboys@chedermonsey.org

Pre-School and Elementary Girls

Cheder Chabad Girls' School
 25 South Monsey Road
 Airmont, NY 10952
Office Tel: 845-356-1213 ext. 1105
Office Fax: 845-503-2322
Office e-mail:
Chederchabadgirls@chedermonsey.org

Founder	Rabbi Y. Shusterman	ext. 2124	yshusterman@chedermonsey.org
Executive Director	Rabbi D. Brawer	ext 2100	rabbibrawer@chedermonsey.org
Boys Principal, Kodesh	Rabbi. L. Kaplan	ext. 2101	menahel@chedermonsey.org
Girl's Principal, Kodesh	Mrs. C. Rosenbluh	ext. 1101	crosenbluh@chedermonsey.org
Assistant Principal	Rabbi M. Sosover	ext. 2119	msosover@chedermonsey.org
Boy's English Curriculum Director	Mrs. A. Karash	ext. 2102	akarash@chedermonsey.org
Girl's Principal, General Studies	Mrs. P. Friedland	ext. 1102	pfriedland@chedermonsey.org
Preschool Director	Mrs. Light	ext. 1103	clight@chedermonsey.org
Registrar	Mrs. Mendlowitz	ext. 2121	tmendlowitz@chedermonsey.org
Administrative Assistant	Mrs. Roth	ext. 2104	sroth@chedermonsey.org
Bookkeeper	Mrs. Katz		zkatz@chedermonsey.org
Boys Secretary	Mrs. Mandel	ext. 2000	boys@chedermonsey.org
Girls Secretary	Miss. C. Browd	ext. 1105	cgancz@chedermonsey.org
Girls Secretary	Miss Fischer	ext. 1000	girls@chedermonsey.org
Administrative Assistant	Mrs. E. Markowitz	ext. 1104	emarkowitz@chedermonsey.org
School Nurse	Mrs. Kaminsky	ext. 1106	nurse@chedermonsey.org