

בס"ד



# STUDENT HANDBOOK

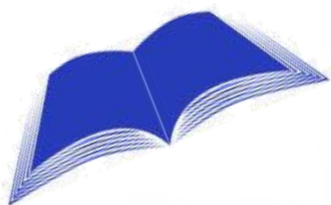
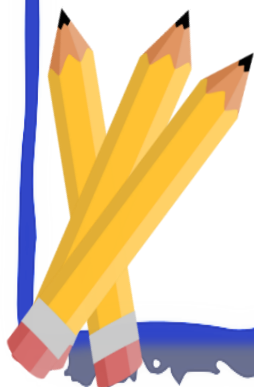
## תשפ"ב ~ 2021/22

Cheder Chabad of Monsey  
Elementary Boys' School

15 Widman Court  
Spring Valley, NY 10977

*Tel: 845-356-1213 ext.2000*  
*Fax: 845-290-9616*

To be a chossid



Dear Student 'שי,

Welcome to Cheder Chabad!

What is a chossid? A chossid is one whose life is inspired by three loves: love of Hashem, love of Torah and love of every Jew. The goal of the cheder is to nurture these three loves so that your life is driven by these principles. Every instruction at cheder is driven by this purpose.

There are various procedures and guidelines that help us get to our goal. The purpose of this handbook is to present you with clear guidelines which will nurture the *chossid* in you.

This handbook is sprinkled with ideas for you to think about. The ideas are sourced in *ל"ל מאמרי חז"ל* and *הוראות* of the *רבי* that serve as our guiding light.

Read through this booklet carefully, you will find many ideas to be common sense. However, it is important to keep in mind that the foundation of a Torah-education is *קבלת עול*. *Kabolas ol* means doing the right thing even when you don't understand it and even when you aren't in the mood.

Your success at cheder will match your effort in following these guidelines. May you be a source of *חסיד'ישע נחת* and may your learning and good *מידות* bring *מש"ח צדקנו בקרוב ממש*!

With wishes for *הצלחה רבה*,

Rabbi Levi Kaplan  
Principal

## Table of Content

ACHIEVEMENT / EFFORT	4
ATTENDANCE	4
BIRTHDAYS	4
BOOKBAGS	5
BOOKS	5
BUSING	6
OUT OF TOWN STUDENTS	7
CARING	7
CELL PHONES - ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT	8
CLASSROOM	8
CLASSROOM BEHAVIOR	9
DAVENING	9
DRESS CODE	10
FRIENDSHIP	11
GOING OUT	12
HALLWAYS AND STAIRWELLS	12
HOMEWORK	12
(MEALTIME TEMPORARILY SUSPENDED	14
NEATNESS	14
OFFICE	15
RECESS TIME	15
RESPONSIBILITY	16
SCHOOL PROPERTY AND GROUNDS	16
SNACKS	17
TALKING	17
TEACHERS	18
TV, VIDEO, INTERNET, READING	18
LIVING THE LIFE OF A CHOSSID	20
IN SUMMARY	20
BAR MITZVA	20
HANHALA AND ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF	21

## ACHIEVEMENT / EFFORT

## יְגַעְתִּי וּמָצָאתִי תְאֻמִּין

Our חכמים tell us that there is no substitute to hard work. Keep in mind that you are investing in yourself. Your success is equal to your effort. When you face a difficulty ask yourself: How much effort am I investing? Working hard is a Torah value and *chassidus* promotes it even further as a necessary key to serving Hashem.

## ATTENDANCE

## אם תַּעֲזֹבֵנִי יוֹם יוֹמִיִּים אֶעֱזֹבֶךָ

Regular attendance is necessary in order for you to succeed. Every minute of the day is precious. Your attendance is graded and will be included in your report card. Here is what you need to know about absence:

1. If you are absent for a full day or more, you must either bring a signed note for your Rebbi, or your parent can call the office to explain your absence.
2. You are responsible for material missed due to unexcused absences or lateness.

If a student in grades 5 and up has 4 unexcused lateness's over a four-week period, you will have to have a parent meeting and you may be required to make up the time at after school detention. This includes lateness to morning *minyan* for grades 7-8.

All students are responsible to return to class right after recess. Students who are late after recess will forfeit their right to have outdoor recess and may be required to stay detention.

## BIRTHDAYS

## "וואס א חסידישער פארבריינגען קען

## אויפטאן, קען מלאך מיכאל ניט אויפטאן"

The Rebbe instructed us to celebrate birthdays with ten practices, one of which is hosting a *farbrengen*. Before your birthday, you can ask your parents to be in touch with your Rebbi to arrange a *farbrengen* in school. *Nosh* must be limited to a cake or cupcakes, one *nosh* and a drink. *Nosh* must be *bishul yisroel*, *pas yisroel* and *cholov yisroel*. No

homemade food may be brought to cheder. Food items that aren't approved will be sent home. We ask that in honor of your birthday, you donate a book, or educational DVD for use by your class.

When having a birthday *farbrengen* off premises, invite either the entire class or just two friends. Events in public facilities, (e.g., ice skating, bowling, etc.) must follow cheder guidelines and should be discussed with *hanhalah* before being scheduled.

A Birthday *farbrengen* is a time to strengthen ourselves in *kedusha* and *chassidishkeit*. Please make sure that all activities associated with the *farbrengen* are appropriate for *chosid*.

The office staff don't coordinate rides for private events. The district bus company does not allow us to make transportation changes to bus routes and drop offs. Arrangements must be made in advance by contacting the bus office. Out of district students may not use the bus.

Please do not schedule sleepovers for more than two friends on a school night.

## BOOKBAGS

Please make sure you bring your book bag to and from school every day. Give your parents all Cheder notes. Keep your book bag clean and orderly. You will receive a Homework Journal called a *yoman*. Make sure to sign your *yoman* (homework journal) daily. Book bags may be searched by *hanholoh* to review appropriateness of contents.

## BOOKS

ספרי קודש must be treated with care and respect. One may not write, draw, color, etc. in a ספר. General Studies books are loaned to you for learning purposes. Please care for the books as though they are your own. When you return the books at the end of the year they should be clean and neat for the next class can use them. Students who neglect to care for the books, resulting in damage, will be required to pay for them. The following constitute neglect:

1. Leaving it out. Not putting it away properly.

2. Defacing a book by writing or marking it; your name should appear only once in the designated space.
  3. Taking home a book that does not belong to you and losing it
- In any event, when you see a cheder book that isn't in its place, please return it to where it belongs.

## BUSING

## ובלכתך בדרך

Safety is number one. The cheder partners with your parents in ensuring that you are safe at all times. You are responsible to act safely at all times. Here are some rules and safety measures related to your bus ride:

1. Be at the bus stop 10 minutes early
2. Enter the bus quickly, find a seat and sit down
3. Remain seated while the bus is in motion
4. Always keep your head and arms inside the bus
5. Speak in a low voice; no shouting
6. When exiting the bus, do so in an orderly fashion; no pushing
7. Obey the bus driver's directions
8. Keep the bus clean and in good condition
9. Be courteous to other students and the driver
10. No fighting

Misbehavior on the bus is a serious offense. The bus driver will first warn you. After a second offense the driver may suspend you for one day, then five days and, if there is no improvement, you may be suspended permanently (Accumulation of incidents is within a four-week period). Please make a *kiddush Hashem* at all times.

As per district policies, you are permitted to ride only on your designated route. If you will not be taking your regular bus route, a temporary bus pass must be obtained from the bus Transportation Office. Children not residing in the ERCS D may not use the buses at any time. Alternate transportation arrangements must be made in advance.

To get permission to walk or ride your bike home, you must submit a signed note to the office which is kept on file. Arrangements for you to go home with friends after school via carpool must be submitted in writing to the school.

## OUT OF TOWN STUDENTS

## והוי גולה למקום תורה

The cheder is proud of our out of town talmidim who make the long trip every day to learn Torah. The same time, the adjustments made to accommodate out of town talmidim may negatively affect your class.

The *hanholoh* expects you to be a positive influence on your friends. If you leave early and make negative comments to your friends who stay on to learn you will be expelled.

Students who are picked up via carpool must fill out a form with the specific times and the phone number of the driver. Students who are picked up early must leave the property at the recess prior to their dismissal.

## CARING

## וְכִי יִמּוֹךְ אֶחֶיד וּמָטָה יָדוֹ... וְהִחֲזַקְתָּ בּוֹ

Concern for your fellow is equal to love of Torah and love of Hashem. You cannot have one without the other. Show that you care by:

1. Helping a friend with a problem
2. Helping a classmate learn something he missed in a lesson
3. Compliment a friend about something nice
4. Call a classmate who is not well to wish him a **רפואה שלימה**
5. Be careful not to say hurtful things, and much more

You may be asked to leave the room if you make an inconsiderate remark to another student.

We are committed to assuring that every student is safe. As the Rebbe's *chassidim* we expect students to care about each other's feelings, and create an environment that is safe for learning and filled with **טובות מדות**. The Rebbe emphasized that the reason Hashem created weaker and stronger people is for the strong to help the weak, not **ח"ו** to take advantage of him. At the cheder, all of us should strive

to embody the *posuk*: דְּרָכָי-הָ דְרָכֵי נֹעַם וְכָל נְתִיבוֹתֶיהָ שְׁלוֹם - “the ways of pleasantness and peace.”

In this spirit, the Cheder does not allow any bullying to go unchecked. Bullying means repeatedly bothering another student with the intent of harassing them. Bothering may include name calling, touching their things, excluding them from a game, speaking to others about them and all forms of physical interactions. A student who bullies others will be expelled.

## CELL PHONES - ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT

Students who carpool and need a phone to coordinate transportation all three of the following must happen:

1. A contract must be drawn up with the *menahel* that outlines.
2. The phone will be kept in the office during the day
3. Any phone found on a student without a contract will be confiscated

This policy will be strongly enforced-no exceptions.

## CLASSROOM

## דִּירָה נְאֻמָּה מְרַחֵבָה דַּעְתּוֹ שֶׁל אָדָם

An attractive classroom is a nice place to spend the day; a dirty one is not. The classrooms are cleaned daily, nevertheless it is incumbent on you to maintain order and cleanliness within the classroom during the school day.

Before the end of a learning period, students must spend a moment tidying the room, discarding litter and straightening out your desk.

Should you damage Cheder property intentionally or even unintentionally, you will have to reimburse the Cheder for the damage and labor involved in repairs. In the event of intentional damage to school property, a security deposit will also be required. The security deposit will be returned at the end of the year provided that no further damage has been done.



## CLASSROOM BEHAVIOR

## דָּרֵךְ אֶרֶץ קְדָמָה לַתּוֹרָה

*Derech erez* is expected of all students. It precedes any learning and preempts academics. You must speak properly to all teachers, your classmates and all cheder staff. Don't interrupt your teacher or a fellow student. In general, conduct yourself as a *chosid*. Students may be subject to serious consequences for exhibiting a lack of *derech erez*.

By the time you reach fourth grade, you should already know the behaviors that are appropriate in a classroom and the behaviors that aren't. In the interest of brevity, only some very general rules follow. You are expected to:

1. Give a teacher your full attention. Don't be distracted and don't distract others.
2. Speak only when called upon and indicate a wish to be heard by raising a hand. A student must not interrupt the teacher or another student at any time.
3. Do only assigned work and be diligent in completing it.
4. Be courteous to the teacher and your fellow students.

If the above rules are not adhered to, consequences will follow. A student in grades 1-5 who will be sent to the principal's office more than twice a month will have to stay after school detention between 4:15-5:15.

## DAVENING

## וְאֵהָיָה לָהֶם מִקְדָּשׁ מְעַט

1. Talmidim grades 7 and 8 are required to attend daily minyan at cheder.
2. **Times:** Mon-Fri 7:30 am, Sunday 8:30 am
3. **Breakfast:** Following *minyan*, you will be served breakfast
4. Periodic trips will be planned as a reward for consistent attendance and good behavior.

Boys of grades 6 and below are encouraged to *daven* with a *minayn* whenever possible.

כּוֹנוּנָה תפילה. דַּע לִפְנֵי מִי אַתָּה עוֹמֵד - Know before Whom you stand. demands attention to what is being said and an awareness of to Whom it is being said. During *davening* it is not appropriate to chat nor walk around.

Shabbos – Talmidim, grades 5 and up, are expected to *daven* with a *minyán* all of the *Shabbos tefilos* including *krias hatorah*. You should conduct yourself in shul according to *halachah* (e.g. not talking during *davening*, etc.). Boys of grades 4 and below should try to *daven* as much as they are able.

## DRESS CODE

## תלמיד חכם ניכר בלבושו

Cheder students are expected to dress in a way that reflects the atmosphere and values of a chabad *chossid* in a Torah setting. The following guidelines express our *chassidishe* standards reflecting our values:

1. A yarmulke and *tzitzis* must be worn at all times.
2. No leather, knitted or bright colored *yarmulkes* allowed.
3. **Pants:** Black or navy blue pants (no jeans, shorts, sweatpants, oversized-cargo pockets or skin-tight pants allowed).
4. **Shirts:** Button down shirts (white, blue or light. No t-shirts, polo shirts or collarless shirts). Shirts should be tucked in at all times (except during recess).
5. White shirts should be worn on *chassidishe Yomim Tovim*.
6. Sweaters: The Cheder sweater, chidon sweater or a plain navy blue or black sweater may be worn.
7. **Shoes:** No sandals, crocs or heelies allowed. Shoes need to be dark colored and conservative looking. No white or bright colors on shoes.
8. Boys who are in 7th & 8th grade may wear only white shirts, and plain dark *yarmulkas* without any writing. Boys who are *Bar Mitzvah* must come to Cheder every day with a hat and a dark colored suit jacket or blazer. A hat and jacket are worn by

*davening* and *bentching*. Zippered jackets or sport jackets are not acceptable.

9. Hygiene: Students are expected to bath/shower daily, brush their teeth and dress in clean clothing. As *chassidim* who represent the Rebbe, we dress to be *mekadesh shem shomayim* always.

10. 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 brought to school.

## FRIENDSHIP

## קִנְיָה לִף תִּכְרַר

The mitzvah of *ahavas Yisroel* is the most central mitzvah. Friends made during the early years of school frequently last a lifetime. Cherish and cultivate your friendship with your classmates, they may last a lifetime.

1. Friends can disagree, but must not allow a verbal "fight" to become a fight. Being a good friend is more important than the topic at hand
2. Friends don't always see things the same way, but shouldn't permit differences to get in the way of their friendship
3. Friends know each other's strengths and weaknesses and try to bring out the best in each other; they must not encourage the worst
4. Friends help each other, but also allow each other to shoulder separate responsibilities
5. When choosing a partner to work with, choose the person who is the best working partner it may not always be your best friend
6. Friends who know the value of friendship don't allow unimportant issues to spoil a good relationship
7. Cliques and choosing of sides interferes with true friendship. Students should try to refrain from this behavior. Although you may have a "best friend" or group of friends, it is important not to

exclude yourself or others. Leaving someone out can hurt their feelings, and is the opposite of *ahavas Yisroel*

## GOING OUT

## א חסיד מאכט א סביבה

You should only attend events with a *מחיצה*. Students should not partake in “mixed” functions or activities, i.e. parties, ice skating, professional ball games, shows, etc. with boxes and aisles without a *mechitzah*.

Shopping malls contain many stumbling blocks to a *chassidische bochur*. Malls should not be visited as a pastime and should only be visited with an adult for a specific purpose.

Students should dress in a dignified and modest manner at all times.

## HALLWAYS AND STAIRWELLS

## בְּכָל דְּרָכָיִךְ דָּעָהוּ

School hallways and corridors are intended to lead people from one place to another efficiently. We decorate hallway walls to celebrate special days and students’ work. We must keep hallways clean so they are safe for passage like the Torah says “Do not place a stumbling block before. . .” Students may not play, shout or speak noisily in a hallway or stairwell at any time. Running or playing tag in the hallways or stairwell will not be tolerated. Ball playing indoors is not allowed because it can be dangerous. Cheder will confiscate any ball being played within the building.

Hallway and staircase etiquette is to walk on the right side of the hallway or staircase. This allows for the flow of two-way traffic and minimizes the risk of anyone getting hurt by bumping in to someone walking towards them.

## HOMEWORK

## וְהָגִיתָ בּוֹ יוֹמָם וּלְיָלָה

1. You can expect your teachers to explain assignments clearly, so that you know what is expected of you

2. Homework assignments will not require neither the use of books or materials that you don't have at home, or the internet.
3. Homework will be at the ability level of your ability, to promote independent work.
4. Completed homework will be graded or otherwise marked in a timely fashion

Teacher's expectations from you:

5. Homework will be done neatly, (so that the teacher does not need to strain to read it or cannot read it at all.)
6. Homework will be completed and turned in on time without your teacher needing to ask you for it
7. You will put forth your best effort.
8. You will not "borrow" a classmate's or friend's completed homework assignment, transcribe it and misrepresent it as your own.

Homework assignments will be kept to no more than the following in both the *Limudei Kodesh* and General Studies subjects:

Grade 1-2: 15-20 minutes per teacher

Grade 3-4: 25-30 minutes per teacher

Grade 5-6: 30 minutes per teacher

Grade 7-8: 30 minutes in each subject (not more than 2 hours a night)

Homework books/sheets must be signed each night by one of your parents. Unsigned homework may be marked "incomplete." If your homework is not complete because either you did not have time or it was too difficult, a note must be sent in by your parents.

## MEALTIME

## זֶה הַשְּׁלָחַן אֲשֶׁר לִפְנֵי ה'

Mealtimes are meant for eating and no other activity. A student is expected to:

1. Upon entering the lunchroom, gather three components
2. Stay in the lunchroom. No bathroom breaks during lunch
3. Sit only at the table designated for your class
4. Sit with your feet facing the table and eat your meal
5. Be ready to *bentch* at the proper time
6. Wait to be dismissed
7. Keep the eating area clean. Deliberate littering or misbehavior will not be tolerated
8. Do not deface food or the table cloth.

Making a mess in the lunchroom will require you to stay during recess to clean up. The *cheder* will not warm up any food sent from home. You may bring a thermos to *cheder*.)

## NEATNESS

## נְקִיּוֹת מִבִּיאָה לַיָּדִי טָהֳרָה

Part of your education is to learn to be neat and organized, so that you can learn better and function better as adults. Unkempt appearances, a messy notebook, and papers, prevent you from reaching your full potential. Therefore, the cheder requires students to dress neatly and maintain an aura of organization.

Teachers will require students to tuck in their shirt, button shirts or lace their shoes. They will require students to clean up a mess in their immediate classroom environment, so as to help them function better.

Teachers will not accept papers that are not neatly written and neatly presented.

## SAFETY AND SECURITY

1. No hard baseballs or metal baseball bats allowed. These items will be confiscated on second offense and will not be returned.
2. A student may never leave the cheder grounds. Leaving the grounds is grounds for suspension.
3. Except for a few coins for *tzedakah* or trip money, don't bring money or other valuables to school. Cheder takes no responsibility for lost money, valuables or other items.
4. No trading or selling toys, food, etc.
5. Sports cards, such as baseball cards, etc. are inappropriate for the cheder.

## OFFICE

## איזהו חכם המכיר את מקומו

It is never appropriate for a student to be in the office without permission. Unless sent by a teacher or invited in by one of the office personnel, no student may enter the Office.

If you feel that you must call home due to an emergency, you must get a written note from your Rebbi/teacher or the principal. You may not ask the Office staff to use the phone without permission. When coming to the office, keep your hands out of the reception window and speak respectfully.

## RECESS TIME

## היות הגוף פריא מנרכי' הוא

Recess is an opportunity for you to relax, exercise, and get fresh air. Students may be in the playground only with teacher supervision. Children's play must be civilized; fighting is never allowed. If an argument occurs, the teacher should be called before it escalates into a fight. If a child is hurt *c"v*, call a teacher immediately. Don't rely on anyone else!

Play-fighting isn't an activity for a *chassidische bochur* and often leads to someone getting hurt. Play-fighting is never allowed.

Students who wish to stay inside during recess must stay in the stairwell area, not in the hallway near the classes that are in session.

## RESPONSIBILITY

## אדם מועד לעולם

In a school environment, responsibilities are divided among many people: your Rebbi, the office staff, English teachers, janitorial staff, etc. Your Rebbeim carry most of the responsibility but you have an area of responsibility as well. Here is a list of some of your responsibilities:

1. When arriving at school, go straight to class
2. You may not enter a classroom other than your own
3. Bring all necessary items: ספרים, books, papers, notebooks, pencils, etc.
4. Pay attention. Ask questions and to make sure understand what is being learnt. Your Rebbi shouldn't have to keep drawing you in to the learning.
5. Do all assigned work (class work, homework, etc.) and do so in the manner prescribed. Your Rebbi should not have to pursue you to submit your work, you should eagerly hand it in. If you miss an assignment, talk to your Rebbi and get an extension, if possible.
6. You are responsible for YOUR behavior; it is never acceptable for a student to say, "Someone else told to do that...", "I didn't know the rules ..." or "he also did it..."
7. Participate in student activities such as: plays, trips, *chesed*, choir, and other special events which are responsibilities shared between teachers and students. Student activities function as a partnership between faculty and students.
8. If you miss or fail a test, you will be held responsible to make it up either during recess or by staying in cheder after school is over to take the test.

## SCHOOL PROPERTY AND GROUNDS

## ממון הקדש

The cheder is designed with your safety in mind. The specific position of every object on the cheder property is carefully thought about to



make sure it is safe. Students may not rearrange anything on the cheder property, desks, tables, basketball hoops, garbage cans or the like should remain where they are.

In taking responsibility for your safety, students must remain visible at all times. You may not go behind a dumpster or hide in a locker or closet c"v. You may not enter the teacher's room or any class other than your own.

All paper goods at the washing stations and in the lunchroom are intended only for normal use. Abuse of these items will result in a fine on first offense.

Light switches, locks, plumbing, water supply pipes, fire extinguishers, etc. may not be switched on or off. Students who touch these items will have to pay a penalty to assure that they don't do it again.

## SNACKS

## היות הגוף כרי ושלם מדרכי ה'

Students are encouraged to bring healthy snacks and bottled water each day. All snacks must be *bishul yisroel*, *cholov yisroel* and *pas yisroel*. Popcorn, pretzels, rice cakes, crackers, fruit and raw vegetables are appropriate. No candies, chocolate, sugary snacks or soft drinks are allowed. Candy brought to cheder will be confiscated. No nuts or nut snacks may be brought to cheder.

Due to food allergies and different levels of *kashrus* observance students may not share or trade food. An allergy is when a person may not eat a certain food and those foods put them at great risk.

## TALKING

## יהא דבורך בנחת עם הכריות

The Torah tells us that a person should always speak in a pleasant manner. Our words are a reflection of our thoughts. You should use a respectful, natural tone of voice referred to "an indoor voice". Just because you are screaming doesn't mean you are being listened to.

It is appropriate for a student to speak only when no one else is speaking. Students are expected to address teachers and adults respectfully. Foul language will not be tolerated at any time. Serious consequences will be applied for the use of inappropriate language, including suspension.

## TEACHERS

## עֲשֵׂה לְךָ רַב - מוֹרָא רַבָּךְ כְּמוֹרָא שְׁמַיִם

Your Rebbeim and teachers care deeply about your success. They teach you valuable life-lessons and connect you to Hashem and your *Yiddishkeit*. Chazal tell us that respecting our Rebbei trumps respecting our parents.

1. A teacher may be friendly but is not your friend
2. A teacher can be a trusted confidante, but doesn't share in your gossip.
3. A teacher can help, guide, prod, probe or chastise, depending upon what the situation requires, but always has your best interest in mind.

It is wise to seek the advice of your teacher as a *mashpia*, and carefully follow their that advice.

Most successful adults are fortunate to have had a teacher or two who inspired them and helped them believe in themselves. Our school has outstanding *Rebbeim* and teachers who are eager to help students shape their lives successfully.

## TV, VIDEO, INTERNET, READING

## וְנִשְׁמְרֶת מִכָּל דְּבַר רָע

1. Watching television and/or secular videos is absolutely forbidden. Most TV programs include material that is *halchicaly* prohibited, wastes time, dulls the mind and creates insensitivity to issues of *tznius* and violence, destroying your pure *neshomoh*. What we see finds its way deep into our hearts, affecting our behavior. As a result, students relate disrespectfully to their peers and their elders. Not watching these things is a big *nisayon*. We are here to help you overcome this challenge by offering you activities and

outlets that are filled with purpose and meaning, connecting you to Hashem.

2. No electronic devices are allowed in cheder (cell phones, iPods, Game boys, Cameras, MP3 players, etc.). Any item deemed inappropriate will be confiscated for a short period upon first offense, and confiscated for good upon second offense.
3. You should not own a device with internet access. Owning such a device can result in your expulsion from the cheder.
4. You should not share or exchange digital media via any means
5. Before you read a secular book it should be reviewed by your parents for appropriate content (clean language, *tzniusdik* pictures, etc.). All secular books brought to cheder must be approved by your Rebbi.
6. Unapproved material will be confiscated

### INTERNET – VERY IMPORTANT!      לִפְנֵי עוֹר לֹא תִתֵּן מְכֻשׁוֹל

The Torah says, “Do not place a stumbling block before the blind.” The internet is one of the greatest stumbling there are and it is hard to protect oneself from it. It is *halachically* forbidden to have unfiltered internet in a *frum* home.

Your parents help you limit your use of the internet for your benefit. Follow their instructions meticulously. If you must use a computer that has internet access follow these important guidelines:

1. Before using the device make sure it has a filter
2. It should be used only for a focused purpose, never to just randomly browse or look around.
3. Only use the internet with adult supervision
4. A computer with internet access should be in a public area of the home (e.g., the kitchen, family room, etc.).
5. Email – Your parents need to be aware of your email accounts and passwords and read them regularly.
6. Limit your time on the computer by setting an alarm and going off when you meet the limit no matter what
7. You may not have an account on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter or any other social networking sites. If you are found to have a

Facebook or other social media account, your return to cheder will depend on a parent meeting and the necessary changes made.

## LIVING THE LIFE OF A CHOSSID

As Chosid of the Rebbe we strive to dedicate our lives to learning Torah with *yiras shomayim* while excelling in *ahavas Yisroel*. Set for yourself learning goals that involve *chazorah* of what you learned in the past and take on *hachlotos* to learn more on your own.

You should always be learning something *baal peh*, Tanya, *mishnoh* or *gemoro*. Participate once a week in *mivtsoim*, join an older *bochur* or call another yid on the phone and encourage them to do a mitzvah. Remember that a *neshomoh* comes down to this world 70-80 years in order to do a favor to another Yid. Try to complete your missions in Tzivos Hashem and to be a living example to your classmates, family members and others.

## BAR MITZVAH

As you celebrate your Bar Mitzvah, we encourage you to invite your parents and grandparents to the cheder to celebrate your *hanochas teffilin* and on the day of your Bar Mitzvah. The Chabad *minhag* is to be called to the *Torah* for the first time at either Shabbos *mincha*, or on the first Monday, or Thursday immediately following your 13<sup>th</sup> birthday. When planning your *Bar Mitzvah* celebration, please invite all your classmates. If you plan your *hanochas tefilin* at a location other than cheder, you may not invite your friends.

## IN SUMMARY

We look forward to an exciting and productive school year. With your cooperation and participation in following the guidelines set forth in this Handbook, you will grow in learning, *yiras shomayim*, *mentshlichkeit* and *chassidishkeit*.



## **HANHALA AND ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF**

**Rabbi Yisroel Shusterman, *Dean***

**Rabbi Dovid Brawer, *Executive Director***

**Rabbi Levi Kaplan, *Menahel***

**Mrs. Adina Altein, Professional Development GS**

**Rabbi Moshe Sosover, *Services Coordinator***

**Rabbi Shaya Margareten, *Principal's Assistant***

**Mrs. Pashkez, *Finance***

**Mrs. Sury Roth, *Administrative Assistant***

**Mrs. Tranny Mendelowitz, *Registrar***

**Mrs. Breindy Mandel, *Administrative Assistant***

