



PARENT
HANDBOOK

5782

תשפ"ב



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Dear Parents שיחיו,

בכל יום ויום יהיו בעיניך כחדשים, our excitement in planning a new school year bring with it the hopes and aspirations we have for our precious *talmidim*. With the Rebbe's guidance, and influence, we look forward to deepening our partnership and improving the all-around experience for all the *talmidim*.

Our Rebbies are our most valued asset, dedicated to Torah and *yiras shomayim* and filled with *chassidishkeit* they imbue our children with the love for Torah that we all strive for. Under the competent leadership of Rabbi Brawer we are slated to have our greatest year.

The Cheder is excited to welcome Rabb Yisroel Goldberg, a veteran *mechanech* as the assistant principal for *limudei Kodesh* and principal of General Studies. We wish him much hatzlocho and expect full support in his initiation from the entire community.

Rabbi Sosover will focus exclusively on advocating for students who could benefit from additional services inside and outside of the classroom.

Open communication is a key to our success. We encourage you to keep an eye on what your children are learning, how they are behaving, on their behavior with *derech eretz*, and their social interactions. This will show them that you value their efforts and ensure that they live up to your expectations.

We encourage you to contact us with any and all questions or concerns at menahel@chedermonsey.org or by phone at 845-356-1213 Ex 2101.

This handbook is intended to serve as a year-round reference guide and to enhance your child's experience at Cheder.

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

Rabbi Levi Kaplan
Principal

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

Cheder Chabad of Monsey is a growing, vibrant school which strives to maximize the *Limudei Kodesh* and General Studies aspirations of each individual student. Established in 1999, our mission is to lay the proper foundation by training today's Chabad 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 comes from the *chassidishe melamdim* espousing the fervor and flavor of Chabad Chassidus, inspired by the teachings of the Lubavitcher Rebbe. There is a special emphasis on *ahavas Yisroel* and serving Hashem with *simchah* in all aspects of the school.

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

Our General Studies program interweaves Torah values into its program creating an integrated tapestry of an up-to-date secular education with 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.

ARRIVALS:

Grades 1-6

1. Monday through Friday, Cheder begins at 8:45 am. On Sundays, Cheder begins at 9:30. (year-round)
2. Breakfast is served within the first hour of the school day
3. Children should not be brought to Cheder prior to 8:30 am as there is no supervision. On Sundays, children should not be dropped off earlier than 9:15 am

Grades 7-8

1. Talmidim of grades 7-8 are required to attend *minyan* at Cheder daily
2. Minyan times: Monday-Friday 7:15 am, Sundays 8:30 am
3. Breakfast is served after minyan
4. Children who are carpooled to Cheder for minyan should not be dropped off before the doors open at 7:00 am Monday-Friday and on Sundays at 8:20 am.
5. Carpool students who don't daven with the cheder minyan, must daven before arriving at school. Students will not be allowed to daven *shacharis* in the building.

DISMISSAL:

Monday -Thursday – dismissal for Grades 1-5 is at 4:10 pm. Grades 6-8 are dismissed at 5:00 pm. On Sunday dismissal is at 1:30 pm dismissal for all grades. Friday dismissal is at 12:00 pm 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. On rare occasions when early pick up is necessary you must sign him out at the office. Students in grades 6-8 may be signed out via a call to the office. The secretary will arrange for your son to be called out of his classroom.

Special travel arrangements should be made before coming to cheder. Students will not be allowed to use the office phone to rearrange their transportation.

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 a first day back may cause a break in a link that is difficult to restore.

In the event that a student is late or has been absent, please send along a note to the Rebbi/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 addressed to his Rebbi. 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 all classes is mandatory.

BUS TRANSPORTATION:

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

Follow your districts protocol for enrollment of new students. Families residing in ERCSD need to complete a Transportation Request Form which can be found on the cheder website. All other districts, please contact the local district bussing office for information on how to apply.

A bus pass will be mailed to every student. Please have your child bring it to school attached to his knapsack.

Pursuant to 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 local districts may not use the buses at any time. Alternate transportation arrangements must be made in advance.

There is no bus transportation on Sundays or Public Holidays. For your

convenience, “No Transportation Dates” are marked 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 the busing district for misbehavior on busses.

In the case a student is cited by the district, 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 district. Students may be suspended for misconduct for days, weeks and even a month. Students should take warnings seriously and avoid issues that will lead to 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 of the bus driver
- Keep the bus clean and in good condition

SNOW DAYS

Inclement weather and hazardous conditions can interfere with getting your children to cheder safely. In person learning may be suspended and, on occasion, students are dismissed early. It is important that you lookout for a communication from the Cheder regarding changes due to the weather. Weather notifications regarding delays or cancelations are broadcast between 6:00-6:30 am on each snow day. Whether communication will be sent out as a WhatsApp, email and/or text message.

There are several factors and policies that guide our decision about delaying or closing the Cheder on snow days. We are sharing some of them with you to provide you with context and background:

1. Warning alerts by Hatzoloh
2. Decisions made by ERCSD
3. Coordination between school divisions
4. Anticipated whether conditions at pickup times

(On days with a possible early dismissal make sure you are able to pick up your children early before dropping them off)

During the weekdays, when ERCSD announces a two-hour delay, *talmidim* who join *minyana* 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 to in person learning.

When cheder is closed due to inclement weather, we will have classes on Zoom or on a conference call with the Rebbe. Zoom classes will last 90 minutes on the first day and more extended hours from the second consecutive day and on.

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. There is no parking directly across the street of the carpool area. U-Turns are not allowed at any time.

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 5:15, a student who does so intentionally risks expulsion.

Parents who are more than 20 minutes late to pick up via carpool will be charged a fee. The fee will increase every 10 minutes. Children who are left at cheder for more than an hour may forfeit their position as cheder students.

THE SCHOOL DAY MEALS AND SNACKS

Breakfast is served to all students every morning. Students are encouraged to bring *pareve*, healthy snacks and bottled water each day. All snacks must be *bishul yisroel*, *cholv yisroel* and *pas yisroel*¹. Popcorn, pretzels, rice cakes, crackers, fruit and raw vegetables are recommended. Candy is not permitted and will be confiscated.

Lunch is served Sunday - Thursday. Should you choose to send along a lunch please send 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.

Nut Free Zone

The Cheder is a nut free zone. Please don't send along snacks containing nuts of any kind. Snacks with nuts will be disposed of outside of the building.

Please keep this in mind when planning a birthday event as well. Please notify the office of any allergies your son has. Students may not share, trade or sell food.

DRESS CODE

The way we dress reflects our values. The Cheder's values are that of a chassidish, Torah-led-life. Adherence to the dress code is mandatory. The following guidelines express 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

^{1 4} Excerpts From the Rebbe's Letter About Kashrus translated by Rabbi Tzvi Freeman

"...concerning how to deal with food that is not "kosher lemechadrin"...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 *neschama*, 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)

color is acceptable a black or dark navy yarmulka should be worn²

- Pants: Black or navy blue pants. Jeans are not allowed no matter the color. (oversized-cargo pockets, shorts, sweatpants, 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 *Chassidishe Yomim Tovim*

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 worn³.
- Shoes: No sandals, crocs or heelies 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.

if your son isn't dressed properly we will send you a notice as a courtesy. Upon second infraction, he will not be allowed into class and you will be required to pick him up promptly.

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.

² A Cheder yarmulka can be purchased at the office for \$10

³ [Link to order cheder sweater](#), enter school number 900120700

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 their physical or emotional safety or the safety of others they will be suspended. Behaviors such as: ignoring direct instructions of a cheder staff member, leaving school property or engaging in unsafe behavior.

If the cheder cannot take responsibility for your child, he is returned to your care. The number of days for which a child may be suspended depends on how long it takes for the cheder to establish that he will no longer be a risk to his safety or the safety of others.

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 a primary source of filth and corruption in our children today and it is often provided at home. Having unfiltered internet at home is prohibited.

We ask that you not allow your child to use the internet for entertainment or as a pastime.

The harm caused by negative internet exposure applies indiscriminately to children from all homes. It is wise to be overly cautious 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
- Students 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 account. If it is necessary for a student to have an email address, it must be constantly monitored by you
- When friends come over to play or to make a project on the computer, it is imperative that the internet is turned off
- Chat rooms and groups are an area where cyber bullying takes place and is discouraged.

The cheder recommends the K9 Web Filter and has commission with 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 forbidden⁴. TV programs include material that is halachically prohibited to be

⁴ **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

seen. Watching TV, videos and movies erodes our humanity, dulls the mind and creates insensitivity to issues of *tznius* and violence, destroying the *eidelkeit* of our children. This is in addition to *bittul* Torah and ignorance that follow.

All media messaging today are intentionally laced poisonous messages that undermine our core values as Yidden. Absolute truth of Torah, belief in G-d, gender roles, are a small list of the values under attack by every media outlet.

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, it must be a dumb phone, a contract must be signed with the *menahel*, and the phone kept at the office during the day.

Sanctifying Our Environment

Our shared goal is to provide consistent values to our students. A student who receives the same message at home and in school, will have a strong foundation to leading a *chassidishe* life. The world around us is filled with information and values that are contrary to ours.

Extra vigilance is required to make sure that the media and other content our children are exposed to don't undermine our shared efforts to raise a *chossid*.

1. Games:

Games may contain violence, inappropriate jokes, immodesty, promote celebrities who represent vulgarity, and so on. Exposure to inappropriate content may meet our children via secular reading material, game boy, DS, radio, cell phones, sports-cards, MP3 players, Ipods, toy guns, etc.

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 Litzlan". Therefore, it is of utmost importance that all of the above be immediately rectified and corrected."

Inappropriate content brought to cheder will be confiscated.

Fortnight has shown to have a negative effect on *talmidim*, instilling frivolity, sarcastic and sardonic disrespect, and encouraging them to dismiss important or significant messages.

2. Sales by students

Students may not buy or sell any articles or food at 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 at 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 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 full name.

Tzivos Hashem

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.

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 celebration promote positive, Torah'dik and *chassidishe* values. As you prepare for this event, here are some suggestions to help enhance your *simchah*.

Please check the Cheder Calendar before setting a date for the formal Bar Mitzvah celebration to assure that it does not conflict with a school event. Please notify the Cheder office of the said date. Having advance knowledge helps us avoid scheduling 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, but does not undertake such training. The Cheder looks forward to taking part in the student's *bar mitzvah*. We invite you and your parents to join the Cheder *minyan* 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. 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 tefillin* will take place outside of the cheder may not invite his classmates.

When planning a *Bar Mitzvah* celebration, please make sure all 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. 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 time 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 *cholov 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

- 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.
- The Cheder nurse will do a cursory examination of all students once a year.
- If it becomes necessary for your child to have medication during the school day, do not send medication with your child to take 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 may not come to school.

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 permanently undermines our ability to educate your child. Grievance should be directed toward the teacher and/or principal privately and respectfully.

Experience shows that many grievances are rooted in misunderstanding and are easily resolved when cleared up. True grievances are better and properly resolved via direct, non-accusatory communication. When you are upset about something at the school speak to the school directly. Putting down the cheder puts down your son's school.

WhatsApp can be a great tool and can also be utilized negatively. Spreading accusations or negative energy about the cheder or judging someone on a group hurts all involved parties. Keep in mind that *lashon harah*, even if true, hurts all three parties. There is a community that is cheder centered that gives

you access to other parents, taking a grievance public should not be the first option.

If you have an issue, please bring it to the school and give the school a day or two to respond.

GOING OUT

Students should not partake in a mixed function or activities, i.e. parties, ice skating, ballgames, shows, etc. being that this is an area that may require judgment, we encourage you to ask the community Rov about a specific function or to call the *menahel* ahead of the function. Students should dress in a dignified, modest and *chassidishe* manner even while not in school.

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

COMMUNICATION

On Orientation Day, you will have the opportunity to meet your son's Rebbi 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. Two Parent-Teacher Conferences are 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 your 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 and keep conversations brief.

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. Inquire rather than accuse, support rather than judging. This leads to a positive outcome for your child, the Rebbi/teacher and the Cheder. The Rebbi is supported and your

child understood.

TEXTBOOKS – GENERAL STUDIES

The School Districts provide General Studies text books for their students, through a program of government grants. It is expected that books issued to a student are 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 no further damage is done.

VITAL INFORMATION

Change of address, telephone numbers, employment details, medical conditions, allergies or any other important information must be given to the school as soon as possible. Please notify us about changes that may affect your child's ability to succeed. Traveling parents, moving your residence, illness, a birth etc. should be shared with the school so that we can support your child.

Please do not send your child to Cheder on when he isn't ready or able to learn. Sending a child who hasn't slept to Cheder reduces his long-term success.

HOMEWORK

Homework is an important link between school and home and 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 an opportunity for you to become involved in your children's learning, and an ideal avenue for communication with the Rebbi or teacher.

Homework assignments are intended to be a quick review. The average times *Limudei Kodesh* and General Studies subjects should take are 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 be safe at Cheder. The Cheder has adopted a zero-tolerance policy concerning bullying. This means that there are no second chances and bullying isn't given a pass. Bullying includes intimidation, name calling, fighting, excluding others, not respecting a student's privacy, threatening others or any other type of behavior that is intended to bother another student and is repeated. A student who bullies other students will be removed from Cheder.

LOST & FOUND

Please label clothing, books and other personal articles sent to Cheder. Unmarked articles, including: jackets, coats, sweatshirts, briefcases, gloves and the like will be placed on the lost & found rack. Unclaimed articles are 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 *Rebbi*, teacher or the principal, whenever there is a concern about your child. Please call the Cheder office to

arrange an appointment.

Daily Schedule

	Grade 1 - 2	Grade 3 – 5	Grade 6	Grade 7 - 8
<i>Sunday</i>				Minyan 8:30
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		1:45	3:00	3:00
Mincha		1:35	2:45	2:45
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	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
Services Coordinator	Rabbi M. Sosover	ext. 2119 msosover@chedermonsey.org
Girl's Principal, General Studies	Mrs. P. Friedland	ext. 1102 pfriedland@chedermonsey.org
Preschool Director	Mrs. Light	ext. 1103 clight@chedermonsey.org
Professional Development GS	Mrs. A Altein	aaltein@chedermonsey.org
Registrar	Mrs. Mendlowitz	ext. 2121 tmendlowitz@chedermonsey.org
Administrative Assistant	Mrs. Roth	ext. 2104 sroth@chedermonsey.org
Bookkeeper	Mrs. Paskes	ext. 2105 kpaskes@chedermonsey.org
CCB Administrative Assistant	Mrs. Mandel	ext. 2000 boys@chedermonsey.org
Girls Secretary	Mrs. C. Browd	ext. 1105 cbrowd@chedermonsey.org
Girls Secretary	Miss Fischer	ext. 1000 girls@chedermonsey.org
Administrative Assistant	Mrs. E. Markowitz	ext. 1104 emarkowitz@chedermonsey.org
School Nurse	Mrs. Kamensky	ext. 1106 nurse@chedermonsey.org