



# STUDENT HANDBOOK

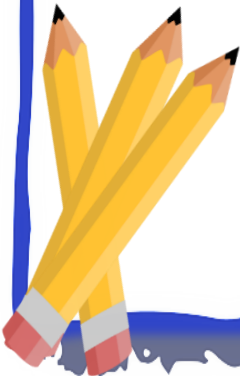
תשפ"ה ~ 2024/25

*Cheder Chabad of Monsey  
Elementary Boys' School*

**15 Widman Court  
Spring Valley, NY 10977**

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

חסיד, ירא שמים ולמדן



Dear Student 'שי,

Welcome to Cheder Chabad!

Cheder habad is where soldiers in Hashem's army train to develop their abilities and become the best soldier they can be. At Cheder, every day has a mission and you are given the knowledge, tools, and guidance to perform them with excellence.

There are procedures and guidelines that help you achieve your goals. This handbook presents them clearly. Following them will nurture the *chayol* in you.

Many chassidishe ideas are sprinkled along as well. The rules are sourced in מאמרי חז"ל and הוראות of the רבי. You are encouraged to reflect on them and to discuss any questions with your *melamed*.

Read this carefully and you will notice that many points are common sense. It is important though to keep in mind that the foundation of a Torah-education is קבלת עול. *Kabolas ol* means doing the right thing because it is right, without reasoning and without question, even when you aren't in the mood, like a soldier following a command.

Your success at Cheder will match your effort in following these guidelines and completing your work. Don't hesitate to speak to your *mechanchim* about anything you are unsure about. We are here for your success. May you be a source of חסידי'ישע נחת and may your learning and good מידות bring ממש צדקנו בקרוב ממש!

With wishes for הצלחה רבה,

Rabbi Levi Kaplan  
Rabbi Shaya Itkin  
Principals

# Table of Content

EFFORT = ACHIEVEMENT	4
ATTENDANCE – LATENESS	4
BAR MITZVAH	20
BIRTHDAYS	5
BRIEFCASE	5
BOOKS	5
BUSSING	6
CARING	7
CLASSROOM	7
CLASSROOM BEHAVIOR	8
DAVENING	8
DRESS CODE	9
FRIENDSHIP	10
GENEREL STUDIES	11
GOING OUT	11
HALLWAYS AND STAIRWELLS	11
HOMEWORK	12
LIBRARY	13
LIVING THE LIFE OF A CHOSSID	13
MEALTIME	14
NEATNESS	15
OFFICE	15
SAFETY AND SECURITY	17
RECESS TIME	15
RESPONSIBILITY	16
SCHOOL PROPERTY AND GROUNDS	17
SNACKS	18
SPEECH AND TALKING	18
TEACHERS	19
TV, VIDEO, INTERNET, READING	19
IN SUMMARY	20
HANHALA AND ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF	21

## EFFORT = ACHIEVEMENT

יְגַעְתִּי וּמָצָאתִי תְאֻמִּין

There is no substitute for hard work. Hashem created us to work hard אדם לעמל יולד. When faced with a difficult task, embrace it because you are putting effort into your own growth that will lead to your success. You are growing as a *chossid* and *oved Hashem*. Working hard is a Torah value, and *chassidus* describes effort *kabolas oil* and effort as the foundations of serving Hashem.

## ATTENDANCE – LATENESS

אם תעזבני יום יומיים אעזבך

Your success depends on your full attendance first and foremost. Every day, hour and minute, every class is precious and geared to a specific achievement. Your Rebbi grades your attendance and includes it in the report card. Being present every day helps strengthen your connection with your Rebbi and your class. Missing out on class events, stories and activities, makes you a stranger in your class.

In the event that you are absent:

**One full day:** bring a note signed by a parent addressed to your Rebbi explaining the circumstances. You are responsible for material missed due to unexcused absence.

**Multiple Days:** bring a note signed by a parent addressed to the principal and meet with him before returning to class. The principal will determine what needs to be done to make up for your absence.

**Extended periods:** If you are absent for several weeks without a serious cause, you will no longer be a cheder student.

If a student in grades five and up has 4 unexcused lateness 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 *minyán* for grades 7-8.

A student who is absent a week by choice will be required to reregister for cheder.

All students are responsible to return to class right after recess. Students who are late after recess will lose the privilege to have outdoor recess and may receive detention.

Special emphasis will be placed on making sure students return from the afternoon recess on time. We have setup two bells for the end of recess, one to tell you when recess is over and the second, three minutes later, to let you mark when class begins. You should be seated in your desk with your books out by the time the second bell rings.

## **BIRTHDAYS**      וואָס אַ חסידישער פאַרבריינגען קען אויפֿטאָן

Your birthday is a special opportunity for your Rabbi to *farbrenge* with your class in fulfilling the Rebbe's *horo'oh*. Ask your parents to be in touch with your Rabbi before your birthday to schedule a *farbrenge*. You may want to donate a book to your class or the library in honor of your birthday. Surprise parties aren't allowed for students or staff.

Fire hazards are never allowed. Colored hats or other *shtick* will be confiscated and not returned.

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

The office staff don't coordinate rides, and the district bus company does not allow transportation changes to bus routes and drop-offs. Out-of-district students may not use the bus.

## **BRIEFCASE**      אַ חסיד'ס פּעקל

Make sure you bring your briefcase to and from cheder every day and keep it clean. Give your parents all Cheder notes. You will receive a Homework Journal, a *yoman*, make sure to sign it daily. *Hanholoh* reserves the right to review everything you bring into the building. Your locker, briefcase, etc.

## **BOOKS**      בֵּית מְלֵא סֵפָרִים

שפּרי קודש must be treated with care and respect. Do not write, or draw in a ספר. You are responsible to care for and hold on to your workbooks. All books are on loan to you. You may not write on or damage books and will have to buy a new one if you do.

You must have your books, with your name clearly marked on them, in your possession at all times. Accusing someone else of taking your books will not be an acceptable excuse. Students who are negligent with Cheder books, will have to pay a security deposit of \$50 for cheder workbooks.

Upon completing a book, return it in good condition to the office. Workbooks may be taken home by your teacher's instruction. When you see a Cheder book that isn't in its place, fulfil the mitzvah of *hashovas aveidah* by returning it to the owner or office.

## **BUSSING**

וּבְלִכְתּוֹתָ בְדָרְךָ

Safety is number one. The Cheder is responsible for your safety at all times and set in place guidelines to make sure you are safe even on the bus.

- Be at the bus stop 5 minutes early
- Once the bus comes to a full stop, enter quickly, don't push and find a seat and sit down
- Try to sit in the same seat every day
- Remain seated while the bus is moving
- Always keep your head and arms inside the bus
- Don't shout
- When exiting the bus, don't push
- Obey the bus driver's directions and be courteous
- Don't bother other kids, don't nudge them for anything, and speak nicely to everyone.
- Keep the bus clean and in good condition
- No fighting
- When you arrive at cheder, go off without touching the person in front of you.

Misbehavior on the bus will not be ignored. The bus driver will first warn you and notify the principal. After a second offense, the Cheder will suspend you from the bus for a day. If negative behavior continues, your suspension will be extended for days, weeks or months. Please make a *kiddush Hashem* at all times.

As per district policies, you are permitted to ride only on your route. Children not residing in the ERCSD 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 bring a note signed by a parents to the office citing permission. Carpool arrangements must be made before coming to Cheder. Electric scooters may not be parked or charged at Cheder.

## CARING

וכי ימוך אָחִיךָ וּמָטָה יָדוֹ... וְהִיזְקַתְּ בּוֹ

The Baal Shem Tov said that a *neshamah* comes down to this world for 70-80 years for the purpose of helping another Yid. Put this into action by always looking out to see if someone can use a helping hand.

- Help someone who has fallen get up, hand someone a tissue, cup, or fork, etc. let someone go ahead of you in a line
- Include a student from the sidelines in a game
- Help a classmate learn something he didn't fully understand or that he missed
- Say nice things and compliment others
- Call a classmate who was absent to hear how he is doing
- Be very careful not to say something hurtful

Pay attention to your surroundings, notice distress on a friend's face and be helpful.

All the staff are devoted to making sure every student is safe. As the Rebbe's *chassidim* you are expected to care about other's feelings, and create a safe environment conducive to learning and filled with מדות טובות. The Rebbe taught us that everyone has something to contribute and has an opportunity to help and be helped by others.

In this spirit, the Cheder dedicates time and effort to the mitzvah of *Ahavas Yisroel*. We care and step in to stop kids from bothering each other. Bothering includes: name calling, touching their things, excluding them from a game, speaking about others and all forms of physical aggression. A student who purposely bothers or hurts others will not be able to continue at cheder.

## CLASSROOM

דִּירָה נְאֻה מְרַחֵיבָה דַעְתּוֹ שֶׁל אָדָם

A clean and organized classroom make learning easier and make the day pleasant. As part of the classroom, you are responsible to keep your things organized and to keep your desk and the area around it clean.

Your desk is on loan to you for this school year, you may not color or write on it. A student who makes a carving in a desk will have to pay for a new desk.

Before leaving to a break clean up around yourself, throw away garbage and straighten up your desk this will make your classroom a welcoming place for the next learning period.

## **CLASSROOM BEHAVIOR**

דָּרֵךְ אֶרֶץ קְדֻמָּה לַתּוֹרָה

*Derech erez* is the foundation of learning. Speak respectfully to all cheder staff and your classmates. Don't interrupt your teacher or a fellow student. In general, conduct yourself as a *chosid*. A student who isn't respectful will be returned to his parents until he is ready to be respectful.

Until the fourth grade, we teach and remind you of the basics, beyond that you already know what proper behavior should be. We are sharing a short list of some main ways to be respectful:

1. Give your teachers your full attention. Clear away distractions.
2. You must have your books open for every class. Non participation is not an option.
3. Speak only when called upon after raising a hand. Don't interrupt a teacher or student
4. Do all your work diligently and completely
5. Be nice to your teachers, cheder staff, and fellow students

If the above rules are not followed, reeducation will be introduced. 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 4:15-5:00 that day. Students in grades 6-8 will have to stay on Sunday between 1:30-2:30. Students of the older grades who carpool and cannot stay, will have to give a \$10 deposit instead.

## **DAVENING**

וְאָהֳלֵי לָהֶם מִקִּדְשׁ מְעַט



Talmidim grades Seven and Eight are required to attend daily minyan at Cheder. **Times:** Mon-Fri 7:30 am, Sunday 8:30 am

**Breakfast:** breakfast is served after *tehilim*

דַע לִפְנֵי מִי אַתָּה עוֹמֵד demands כוונה to what is being said and an awareness of to Whom it is being said. There is no talking or walking around during *davening*. There is a booklet dedicated to the *halochos* and procedures of cheder *minyan* that each student will receive.

**Shabbos** – Talmidim, grades 5 and up, are expected to *daven* with a *minyan* all of the *Shabbos tefillos* including following *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 *daven* as much as they are able.

## DRESS CODE

## תלמיד תחכם ויפרך בלבבושו

Cheder students are expected to dress in a way that reflects the atmosphere and values of a chabad *chossid*. This means that we follow *Shulchan Aruch*. we don't show off clothes, or wear flashy clothes, and we are modest. The following guidelines express our standards

1. A yarmulke and *tzitzis* must be worn at all times
2. **Yarlmuka:** only Black or dark navy yarmulkas may be worn. No leather, knit, bright colors, writing or logos. First time - warning; second time – not allowed into class until a new yarmulka is brought to school.
3. **Pants:** Black or navy blue pants (no jeans, shorts, sweatpants, oversized-cargo pockets, or skin-tight pants allowed). No lines or colors.
4. **Shirts:** Collared button-down shirts (light blue or white). No t-shirts or polo shirts. Shirts should be tucked in (except during recess). The second button on the front of your shirt must be closed always.
5. White shirts should be worn on *chassidische Yomim Tovim*.
6. **Sweaters:** Only a Cheder, chidon, or a plain navy or black sweater may be worn. Sweaters that aren't within guidelines will be confiscated and require a \$10 payment to be claimed. Tzahal insignia may not be work on any clothes.

7. **Shoes:** No sandals, crocs or hee-lies allowed. Shoes need to be dark colored and conservative looking. No white, bright colors or high gloss shoes.
8. **Accessories:** No wristbands, necklaces or any other accessories allowed
9. Boys who are in 7th & 8th grade may wear only white shirts, and plain dark *yarmulkas* without any writing.
10. *Bar Mitzvah bochorim* must come to Cheder 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. No feathers, pins or other ornaments on Jackets or hats.
11. **Hygiene:** You are expected to bath/shower daily, brush your teeth and dress in clean clothing. As *chassidim* who represent the Rebbe, we always dress to be *mekadesh shem shomayim*.
12. **Hair:** Haircuts must be of the same length all around, no bangs. The minimum length of *peios* is to the bottom of the earlobe. Haircuts should be short.

A student who isn't dressed according to the Cheder dress code will be asked to wait by the office to go home or change.

## FRIENDSHIP

## קְנִיָּה לְךָ חֵבֵר

The mitzvah of *ahavas Yisroel* is the most central mitzvah. Friends made during your early years frequently last a lifetime. Cherish and cultivate your friendships.

1. Friends can disagree, but words should never turn into a physical fight. Being a good friend is more important than winning an argument
2. Friends don't always see things the same way, but don't allow differences to get in the way of your friendship
3. As a friend, try to focus on your friend's strengths and stay away from their weaknesses.
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. Stay away from cliquishness or choosing sides which interferes with true friendship. Although you may have a “best friend” or group of friends, it is important not to exclude others. Leaving someone out hurts their feelings, and isn't *ahavas Yisroel*.

## GENERAL STUDIES

## לֹא עִם הָאָרֶץ תִּסְיָד

English literacy and math are included in our curriculum. The purpose of these studies are to improve your ability to learn Torah.

You are responsible to participate and complete all classes. The *vaad hachinuch* and local *Rabbonim* have reviewed and approved our curriculum and every cheder student is required to do his best to master all subjects.

The cheder offers extra support for students in need. One-on-one tutors or smaller group learning, are ways we try to help. We offer you help but is your responsibility. If you are having a hard time with a subject discuss it with your Rebbi or teacher and ask for a suggestion on how you should approach a difficult subject.

## GOING OUT

## אַ תִּסְיָד מֵאֲכָט אַ סְבִיבָה

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

Shopping malls contain many stumbling blocks to a *chassidische bochur*. Malls should not be visited for entertainment. Go only with adult supervision for a specific purpose. Dress in a dignified and modest manner at all times.

## HALLWAYS AND STAIRWELLS

## בְּכָל דְרָכָךָ דְעֵהוּ

School hallways and corridors are meant for getting from one place to another, not as a hangout. We decorate hallway walls to celebrate your work and mark special days. Hallways should be clean and clear so they are safe for passage. 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 in the hallway is the cause for the most injuries and *hatzolah* calls. No running. Playing tag in the building is not allowed because it is a safety risk. 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 bumping in to someone walking towards you.

## **HOMEWORK**

וְהִגִּיתָ בּוֹ יוֹמָם וְלַיְלָה

You can expect:

1. Your Rebbies and teachers explain assignments clearly, pay attention so that you know what is expected of you
2. Homework assignments will not require the use of the internet, or books, materials that you don't have at home.
3. Homework will be at the level of your ability, to promote independent work
4. Completed homework is graded in a timely fashion

Teacher's expectations from you:

1. Your homework will be written neatly and legibly
2. Homework will be completed and turned in on time without your teacher needing to ask for it
3. You will put forth your best effort
4. You will not use someone else's assignments 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 parent. Unsigned homework may be marked "incomplete." If your homework was too difficult or you didn't have time, please have your parents write a note to your teacher explaining the circumstances.

## **INTERNET – VERY IMPORTANT!**      לִפְנֵי עוֹר לֹא תָתֵן מְכֻשׁוֹל

The Torah says, “Do not place a stumbling block in front of the blind.” The internet is a great stumbling block and it is hard to protect oneself from its harm. It is *halachically* forbidden to have unfiltered internet.

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

1. Before using the device make sure it has a filter
2. It should be used only for a focused purpose, not to randomly look around
3. Only use the internet with adult supervision in a central room
4. Your parents must have access to your email account
5. Limit your time on the computer by setting an alarm and going off when you meet the limit no matter what (30 minutes is recommended as a maximum)

You may not have social media or movie account. Netflix, Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, snapchat, or any other social network account are forbidden. A student who has such an account will be asked to leave cheder until it is closed and we meet with his parents.

## **LIBRARY**      בֵּית מִלָּא סִפְרִים

Our library offers you an opportunity to borrow approved books to read. You are responsible to return the books after two weeks. The cost to replace a lost or damaged book is \$35.

Library books aren't intended for use during class. Using the books during class will forfeit your privilege to borrow books. If students share each other's books for reading during class, the entire class will forfeit access to the library.

## **LIVING THE LIFE OF A CHOSSID**      דִּירָה בְּתַחְתּוֹנִים

As *chassidim* of the Rebbe we strive to dedicate our lives to learning Torah with *yiras shomayim* while excelling in *ahavas Yisroel*. Set for yourself goals to do *chazorah* and take on *hachlotos* to learn more on your own.

You should always be learning something *baal peh*, Tanya, *mishnayos* or *gemoro*. Participate once a week in *mitzvaim*, join an older *bochur* or call another Yid on the phone and encourage them to do a mitzvah. Try to complete your missions in Tzivos Hashem and to be a living example for your classmates, family members and others.

The cheder offers various learning programs to encourage and reward you for extra learning. We do this because the Rebbe encouraged us to offer you incentives to add in learning on your own time. Participate in Gemoro or Chumash champ, and get tested *baal peh* when the program is running and look opportunities beyond cheder to add in learning.

## LOCKER USE

Some classrooms have lockers for your use. The lockers are your personal space where you can keep your things. You may not place a lock, stickers or write your name on the lockers. You may not open a locker belonging to another student. Do not give anyone permission to open your locker. A \$10 deposit is requested in specific grades to guarantee that the lockers aren't damaged. The \$10 will be returned at the end of the year.

## MEALTIME

זֶה הַשִּׁלְחָן אֲשֶׁר לְפָנֵי ה'

Mealtimes are meant for eating. You are expected to:

1. Upon entering the lunchroom, get three components, one should be a fruit or vegetable.
2. Stay in the lunchroom. No breaks.
3. Sit only at your table, in your designated place
4. Your feet should be under the table in front of you
5. When called upon, get ready to join *bentching* with everyone
6. Help the custodian with clean up
7. Wait to be dismissed, upon dismissal leave the lunchroom promptly and go to class
8. Do not deface food or the table cloth.
9. Making a mess in the lunchroom will require you to clean up
10. The cheder offers hot water for soup. Soups may only be filled in the first five minutes of lunch

11. The *Cheder* will not warm up any food sent from home. You may bring a thermos to *Cheder*.

## **NEATNESS**

## **נְקִיּוֹת מְבִיאָה לַיָּדֵי טְהָרָה**

Learning to be neat and organized is part of the cheder curriculum. Unkempt appearances, a messy notebook, and papers, prevent you from reaching your full potential. Therefore, the Cheder requires students to dress neatly and practice being organized.

Teachers will require you to tuck in your shirt, button up, and tie your laces. Teachers will not accept papers that are not neatly written and neatly presented.

## **OFFICE**

## **אֵינְזֵהוּ תְּכֶם הַמְּכִיר אֶת מְקוֹמוֹ**

You may not enter the office without permission. Office staff should not be referred to by their first names and discussions with staff may only be cheder focused.

If you must call home due to an emergency, get a written note from your Rebbi/teacher. When standing by the office don't lean into the window. Remember to always speak respectfully and show appreciation. No shouting.

## **RECESS TIME**

## **הַיּוֹת הַגּוֹף בְּרִיא מְדַרְכֵי ה' הוּא**

Recess is an opportunity for you to relax, exercise, and get fresh air. Students may be in the playground only with staff supervision. Children's play must be civilized; fighting is never allowed. If an argument occurs, the recess Rebbi should be called to settle it. If a child is hurt *c"v*, call a teacher immediately. Don't rely on anyone else! No play-fighting.

The large courtyard area around the cheder building is available for you to use during recess. It is a shared space and each class is given a designated area. The courtyard is only for playing sports. A student who interferes with games, causes mischief, or leaves the play area described below, will lose the privilege to go outside for a week.

There are recess Rebbies who supervise every recess session. As a condition to playing outside you are required to follow all their instructions. Students may not walk outside of the sports courts and playground. Students may not enter the area designated for Pupa (kitchen or *kita Tes*), go behind the trailer, shed or dumpster.

Between 2:00-3:00 PM the courtyard is used only by Pupa students. Under no circumstance should any student ever go to the courtyard during that time.

Cheder students may not speak or interact with students of the other schools. You are instructed to completely ignore any comments and not to respond to any questions or comments at all. No conversations. No excuses.

Talmdim may not play inside the building during recess. Hallways are to be respected at all times, no tag, running or hanging out in the hallway.

On rainy days, you must stay inside during recess. You may play board-games in the stairwell and football in the hallway. No basketball in the building at any time.

## **RESPONSIBILITY**

## **אדם מועד לעולם**

There are many adults who are responsible for different areas of your chinuch. You also have an area of responsibility in your *chinuch*. Here is a basic list outlining your area:

1. Enter your classroom as soon as the bell rings or as soon as you arrive. Never linger in the hallway
2. You may not enter someone else's classroom
3. Bring all necessary items: ספרים, books, papers, notebooks, pencils, etc.
4. Pay attention. Ask questions and to make sure you understand what is being taught. Your Rebbi shouldn't have to keep calling your attention.
5. Do all assigned work properly. Your Rebbi shouldn't have to run after you for your work. If you miss an assignment ask how to make it up.



6. You are responsible for your behavior; never blame anyone else for your behavior
7. Participate in student activities such as: trips, outings, *chesed*, and other special events. Skipping an outing is a missed bonding opportunity
8. If you miss or fail a test, you will be held responsible to make it up during recess or by staying in Cheder after school to take the test.

## **SAFETY AND SECURITY**

## **וְנִשְׁמְרָתָם מְאֹד לְנַפְשׁוֹתֵיכֶם**

1. Metal bats and hard balls may not be brought to Cheder. These items will be confiscated and not returned. If you bring a hardball again, you will have to pay a \$20 deposit.
2. Metal bats may be used at a park when going on an outing.
3. Private sports equipment may be brought to cheder as long as you don't exclude from the games.
4. You may never leave the Cheder grounds without direct permission. Leaving the grounds results in suspension.
5. Except for a few coins for *tzedakah* or trip money, don't bring money or valuables to school. Cheder takes no responsibility for lost money, valuables or other items.
6. You may not sell or trade<sup>1</sup> anything at Cheder. Items and profits will be permanently confiscated.
7. A student may not make up a rule that effects other students. Any rule made by a student is void. I.e. if you say "anyone who touches by ball has to pay me \$10", it isn't valid. You don't have the power to make up rules.

Sports cards, such as baseball cards, etc. don't belong in Cheder. Poker cards aren't allowed in Cheder and may not be played by a *frum* yid.

## **SCHOOL PROPERTY AND GROUNDS**

## **מְמוֹן הַקְדָּשׁ**

The Cheder is designed with your safety in mind. The specific position of every object is calculated to make sure you are safe. Do not move or rearrange anything at cheder. Desks, tables, basketball hoops,

---

<sup>1</sup> 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 because he will have a negative reaction which can even be life-threatening.

garbage cans or anything else aren't your to be moved. Paper, pens, pencils and other office supplies are intended for the office and cheder staff, not for personal use.

In taking responsibility for your safety, students must remain visible at all times. You may not hide. You should only be in designated spaces. You may not wonder around the building in the lunchroom, hallway, or library area. The teacher's room is off limits. Light switches, locks, plumbing, water supply pipes, fire extinguishers, etc. may not be touched. Students who touch these items will have to pay a penalty as a security deposit.

If you damage cheder property by mistake you are required to pay for the repair. If you break something intentionally, in addition to paying for the damage, you will have to provide a security deposit of \$20 for the first instance, \$50 for a second instance. The security deposit will be returned at the end of the year if no further damage was done.

A student who intentionally stuffs a toilet is not welcome at cheder. The cheder may ask a group of students being investigated for a bathroom incident to remain home until it is clear who is responsible for stuffing a urinal or toilet.

## **SNACKS**

## **כְּאֶכְלֵתְכֶם כֵּן תוֹרְתְכֶם**

You are encouraged to bring healthy snacks and bottled water. Popcorn, pretzels, rice cakes, crackers, fruit and raw vegetables are healthy choices. No candies, chocolate, sugary snacks or soft drinks are allowed. Candy will be confiscated. No gum allowed. All snacks must be *bishul yisroel*, *cholorv yisroel* and *pas yisroel*.

## **SPEECH AND TALKING**

## **יְהִי דְבוּרְךָ בְּנֶחֱת עִם הַבְּרִיּוֹת**

The Torah tells us that a person should always speak in a pleasant manner. Our words are a reflection of our character. Always speak respectfully in an indoor voice. When you scream others won't listen.

The Rebbe showed us by example how careful we should be with the way we speak. Foul language I"n should never be heard from a cheder talmid, regardless of where he is.

We are proud of the many cheder talmidim who are committed to living the life of a tomim, always careful to the right things and to be involved in good things. The majority of talmidim make sure not to listen to absorb *goyishe* things. It is our responsibility to make sure that they aren't exposed to any inappropriate things at cheder, the place where they come to *daven* and learn *nigleh* and *chassidus*.

This is why students may not discuss movies, TV shows, *goyishe* music or politics *c"v*. These things should not be on the mind of a chassidishe *bochur*. Our speech has a deep impact on our *neshomoh* and should be kept clean and pure.

## **TEACHERS** עֲשֵׂה לְךָ רַב - מוֹרָא רַבָּךְ כְּמוֹרָא שְׁמַיִם

Your teachers you to succeed. They teach you valuable life-lessons and connect you to Hashem and your *Yiddishkeit*. Chazal tell us that respecting our Rebbe trumps respecting our parents.

1. Remember that your teacher may be friendly but isn't your friend
2. A teacher can be a trusted confidante, but doesn't share in your gossip
3. A teacher may help, guide, prod, probe or chastise, depending on the situation, but has your best interest in mind

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

Most successful adults are fortunate to have had a teacher who inspired them and helped them believe in themselves. Our school has outstanding *Rebbeim* and teachers who are eager to help you shape your life successfully and establish a strong belief in your capability.

## **TV, VIDEO, INTERNET, READING** וְנִשְׁמַרְתָּ מִכָּל דְּבַר רָע

1. Watching television and/or גוֹאִישׁע videos is forbidden. All TV programs include material that is *halachically* prohibited, wastes time, dulls the mind and creates insensitivity to *tznius* and violence, destroying your pure *neshomoh*. As a result, students relate disrespectfully to their peers and their elders and become distant from Hashem, the Rebbe and their true selves.

2. We recognize that it is a test, a נסיון and we want to help you overcome it by offering positive activities and outlets that are filled with purpose and meaning, connecting you to Hashem.
3. Electronic devices are not allowed in Cheder (cell phones, iPods, Game boys, Cameras, MP3 players, smartwatches with or without calling capacity, etc.). Any inappropriate item will be confiscated for a short period upon first offense, and confiscated for good upon second offense.
4. Owning an unfiltered internet device will result in expulsion
5. You may not share or exchange media (pictures or videos)
6. Secular books may not be brought to cheder. Before reading a book at home, it must be approved by your parents.
7. Unapproved material will be confiscated

## BAR MITZVAH

## וְחֻזְקָתָּ וְהֵייתָ לְאִישׁ

For your *hanochas tefilin*, invite your parents and grandparents to celebrate at Cheder with you. If your *hanochas tefilin* is at another location, you may not invite your Cheder friends.

For your Bar Mitzva *aliyah*, our *minhag* is not to have it on Shabbos day. When planning your *Bar Mitzvah* celebration, invite all your classmates. Make sure to learn the maimer by heart and don't include with shtick. Party hats and light-up gadgets bring a spirit of *vildkeit* that often leads to regretful behavior.

## IN SUMMARY

We look forward to an exciting and productive school year. With your cooperation and participation, 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*

Rabbi Shaya Itkin, Principal – *Mechinah*

Mrs. Safrin, *Bookkeeper*

Rabbi Moshe Kuperman, *Junior Controller*

Mrs. Breindy Farkas, *Administrative Assistant*

