



The Temple Beth David Religious School



Parent/Guardian Handbook

Revised 8/10/2022



LETTER FROM THE TBD RELIGIOUS SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Dear Parents/Guardians,

We are thrilled that you have chosen to share your children with us. By joining our Religious School, you are making a commitment to Jewish Education and have become part of our Temple family. We, the faculty and the entire TBD family, will help students in making informed choices, so they can develop a sense of faith in their lives through love of God, study of Torah and identification with the Jewish people. A graduate of our program does not just have the ability to recall content knowledge, but also the heart and soul of a “*mensch*,” or person with honor. Education at Temple Beth David is considered to be a life-long process that emphasizes the partnership between parents, synagogue and school. We believe that the success of our students depends upon parental support and participation.

In addition to educating our children, we offer many opportunities to expand Jewish education to all members of the family through our Adult Education programs and services. We hope that you will participate in these offerings during the year. The Religious School is here to be your partner and offer support as you strive to give your child a Jewish education through living and learning.

This handbook has been compiled to assist you in making your children’s Religious School education a meaningful and fun experience. Please review the information in this handbook carefully. There are many important policies. We’ve also included a sheet for you to sign and return that indicates that you and your child have reviewed and understand these policies. Should you have any questions, comments or suggestions, please call the Temple office at 352-686-7034 or you may email us at tbdflschool@gmail.com.

Religious School classes are held on Sunday mornings from 9:30am to 12:00pm unless otherwise noted on the school calendar. We ask that you accompany your child(ren) into the Temple and come inside to pick them up at noon as well.

Last year, we began using ShalomLearning, a values-based curriculum that stresses the richness of Jewish customs and holidays taught in the context of Jewish values. This program also has the benefit of including the entire family in meaningful discussions and activities at home. Each teacher, student and parent is given a username and password to be able to follow along with each lesson presented. If your child is sick, you can also see what is being taught on that day and present it from home. This is in addition to our excellent Hebrew program, which prepares your child individually for his/her Bar/Bat Mitzvah.



For any further information and/or questions, please feel free to TEXT our Principal, Heidi Shilensky at 561-310-4370 or email at tbdflschool@gmail.com

L'dor V'dor - from generation to generation...thank you for protecting the chain! We look forward to a wonderful year of learning as we delve into the treasured teachings of our heritage and unveil the beauty and joy of Judaism!

L'Shalom,
The TBD Religious School Committee
Karen Moore, Chair





CODE OF CONDUCT

RESPECT FOR OTHERS AND OURSELVES

We do not hit, tease or hurt others in any way. We have a zero-tolerance policy for any physical altercations as well as for verbal and/or physical bullying. If such an event occurs, parents will be called immediately to pick up the involved students. Students will not be allowed to return to class until a conference has been set up with the parents and the Education Administrator and/or the Rabbi. We allow everyone to express their opinions in a safe environment, without any negative attitude toward one another. This type of respect includes caring for the emotional well being of classmates. One must also respect the possessions of others.

RESPECT FOR EDUCATORS

The Rabbi, Cantorial Soloists, teachers and school administrators provide students with a rich Jewish education. They are devoted to teaching the students, have much to offer, and hold a respected place in Jewish life and history. Inappropriate language and actions towards the educators will not be tolerated.

RESPECT FOR SUBJECT MATTER

Torah is at the heart of all we teach. Within every subject, we study Jewish heritage, culture, beliefs and values. These are essential for conveying Judaism from generation to generation. Textbooks and all educational materials must be treated with care, and assignments must be taken seriously; all are Kadosh - Holy at the core.

RESPECT FOR OUR SURROUNDINGS

Temple Beth David is a sacred space and should be treated with dignity. We pray in the sanctuary, learn in the classrooms and socialize in the social hall. It is inappropriate to misuse these facilities in any way. If our students abide by these basic rules, then the Religious School experience, both individually and as a community, will be rich with opportunities for learning and friendship.

DRESS CODE

Children should never wear clothing or accessories to Religious School that would be unacceptable at public school—no short shorts, spaghetti straps, or bare midriffs. In addition, because ours is a religious school, students often go into the Sanctuary. They should refrain from wearing t-shirts or other items that might have inappropriate language or be otherwise disruptive or inappropriate in a synagogue environment.

CELL PHONE POLICY

All cell phones need to be in a backpack or pocket and turned off unless used as a resource by the teacher. If they are taken out at inappropriate times after the student has been warned, the teacher has the right to take it from the student and give it to the parent/guardian at dismissal.



SCHOOL POLICIES

For our school to succeed, parents to be actively involved in their child's education. Therefore, we ask your cooperation with the following school policies.

ATTENDANCE

Consistent attendance is critical to learning. Therefore, we encourage students to be in class each week and attend every session. Please help by having your children arrive on time. If your child will be absent, please **TEXT** the principal, Heidi Shilensky at 561-310-4370.

COMMUNICATIONS

Notices and forms will periodically be sent home for you to review. Be sure to ask your child, and look through your child's school papers, to see if there are any notices. Other important papers will be sent directly to your home or email address. Please make sure you have updated your contact information and we have your correct email address and phone number on file. The Education Administrator and teachers are available to hear your concerns and/or discuss your child's progress with you. Please call to schedule an appointment to ensure your privacy and to permit the staff members enough time to discuss your concerns.

EARLY DISMISSAL

Taking students out of class early is disruptive and detrimental to the student's learning. Therefore, please use restraint in determining what occasions may necessitate early dismissal. If your child does need to leave early, we will need a note from you, and you must show your I.D. and sign out your child.

EMERGENCY CONTACT DURING SCHOOL HOURS

In case of emergency, please be sure to **TEXT** the Education Administrator at 561-310-4370. Due to the fact that the students and teachers may be in the Sanctuary during parts of the Shabbat service, texting will allow for communication without disrupting the service.

FAMILY INVOLVEMENT

Religious School is a partnership between parents, students, teachers and the entire temple family. Therefore, we encourage families to attend as many temple functions as possible. We realize schedules can get busy however, following the Jewish calendar and participating in the many beautiful observances at the temple will prove to be a rewarding and spiritually fulfilling endeavor. You will be creating memories for your child(ren) that will be cherished for a lifetime!

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HOMEWORK

Homework is given as needed per the curriculum. If your child has homework, he or she should be encouraged to complete it before attending class. As your child progresses to a more intense study of Hebrew and prayers, practice and review are mandatory for your child to attain any mastery of the language, even if a specific assignment was not given. Encourage your child to review Hebrew assignments or prayers several times during the week. If you are not familiar with Hebrew or the prayers yourself, this is a wonderful opportunity to ask your child to teach you! Show your child that you have an interest in their Judaic development and that you place great value on what they are learning.

SPECIAL NEEDS

Special education accommodations will be made for special needs students on an individual basis. Any IEPs or 504 plans must be brought to the Education Administrator's attention. Accommodations are made at the discretion of the Education Administrator and Rabbi.

TEXTBOOKS AND SUPPLIES

Textbooks and educational supplies are provided at the beginning of the school year. These educational supplies are your child's property. Your child must have his/her books, any needed educational supplies, and pencils at every class session. If a book, booklet or workbook is misplaced or lost, the student will be required to pay for the replacement.

TZEDAKAH AND MITZVOT

Judaism is a living, practicing religion. The concepts of tzedakah (righteousness through charity/justice) and mitzvot (commandments) encourage the ethical behavior we cherish. Any monies for tzedakah that may be collected during Religious School is donated each year to various charities. Any amount is welcome. This allows the children to learn that giving is an essential part of Judaism. From time to time, your child's class may be asked to participate in a class mitzvah project such as collecting food for the needy. Children should also be encouraged at home and through any other organizations to which they belong to perform these acts of kindness.

VOLUNTEERING

The cornerstone of Judaism is doing mitzvot. We are commanded to do good deeds. Therefore, our hope and expectation is that every family will opt to volunteer in the Religious School and/or the temple in some way. There are many opportunities to volunteer: serving on the Religious School Committee, helping out in the Religious School office, and many more opportunities.



RELIGIOUS SCHOOL REGISTRATION FORM

Annual Tuition: \$300 for first child, \$200 for each sibling.

DATE _____

Please list the child / children being registered in our religious school starting with the eldest.

CHILD'S NAME _____	HEBREW NAME _____
GRADE ____ SEX ____ DOB _____	SCHOOL _____
CHILD'S NAME _____	HEBREW NAME _____
GRADE ____ SEX ____ DOB _____	SCHOOL _____
CHILD'S NAME _____	HEBREW NAME _____
GRADE ____ SEX ____ DOB _____	SCHOOL _____

CHILD'S / CHILDREN'S ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP CODE _____

PARENTS INFORMATION:

MOTHER'S NAME _____ CELL PHONE _____

HOME PHONE _____ WORK PHONE _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____

FATHER'S NAME _____ CELL PHONE _____

HOME PHONE _____ WORK PHONE _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____



MEDICAL CONSENT FORM

In case of an emergency, the teachers and administrators of Temple Beth David and/or their agents have my consent to authorize medical care for my child(ren) listed below:

Family physician: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

Our hospital preference is: _____

Allergies: _____

If unable to contact me, please call:

_____ at _____
(Name) (Phone Number)

_____ at _____
(Name) (Phone Number)

Parent or guardian's name _____
(Please print)

Parent or guardian's signature _____ Date _____



PARENT HANDBOOK AND CODE OF CONDUCT SIGNATURE PAGE

- I have read and I understand the contents of the Parent Handbook.

Parent's/Guardian Signature: _____

- I have read and discussed the Code of Conduct section of this handbook with my child(ren), and we agree to abide by it.

Parent's/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

Student's Name (Print): _____

Student's Signature: _____

Student's Name (Print): _____

Student's Signature: _____