

YAVNEH Jewish Ethos Policy

The Yavneh Schools are Modern Orthodox, co-educational, Jewish schools, under the religious auspices of the Chief Rabbi. The schools celebrate the existence of the State of Israel as being central to Jewish life.

At Yavneh, Jewish values and pride pervade every aspect of the life of the school. We stress the values and traditions of our rich Jewish heritage while preparing our pupils to play an active role within the Jewish and wider British community.

The Yavneh schools aspire to develop pupils' ethical and moral character using Jewish values as an all encompassing guide for life.

The pupils of the Yavneh Schools are taught to behave and live by the concepts of the *Yavneh Way of kindness, politeness, courtesy and Respect* based on the teachings of the school motto of Olam Chesed Yibaneh – A World Built on Kindness.

We are proud to call ourselves a Modern Orthodox school, as reflected in our ethos and curriculum. Yavneh, however welcomes all Jews and is built upon a culture of respect for all members of the school community.

The Yavneh schools are at the centre of the community and we work closely with Rabbis, synagogues and other organisations to promote community involvement and leadership

The Limudei Kodesh (Jewish Studies) and Informal Jewish Education (IJE) curricula are designed to give pupils skills, knowledge and passion that will enable them to have a continuing positive and active relationship to Jewish learning and Jewish life.

Our formal Jewish curriculum is enhanced by a stimulating programme of IJE, activities, Tzedakah (charity) and communal activities. Pupils perform Chesed (acts of kindness), discover Judaism by experiencing it first hand and grow into valued members and contributors to their Jewish communities.

We aim for all of our pupils to leave as Hebrew readers who can navigate the Siddur, through our commitment to daily services and who are able to participate when attending prayer and Shul services and Jewish events.

At the Yavneh schools we aim for pupils to be comfortable with and able to use Hebrew to access classical Jewish texts. Hebrew is also central to our identity as Jews in the modern world and our identification with the people and State of Israel, this is reflected in the significance of Ivrit in our curriculum

In LK we aim to stretch pupils academically, nurture their independent learning skills and enable them to appreciate the richness of Torah by engaging with texts first-hand.

The establishment of the State of Israel is something of great religious and spiritual significance and the existence of a Jewish state in the contemporary world is something we celebrate in our formal and informal curricula. It is not, however, Yavneh policy to advocate any particular political stance on contemporary Israeli politics.

We educate our pupils about other major world religions and cultures as well as traditional British values. Consequently, a pupil will leave YC with attributes of respect, empathy, good citizenship and an appreciation of democracy.

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