

Talmud Torah V'Ha'arev Na Constitution

We stand at an unprecedented juncture in history. We are witnessing first-hand a world-wide explosion of Torah learning and dedication to Yiddishkeit. Yet, at the same time, we are observing challenges greater than ever before to live an inspired life, to see the beauty of a Torah lifestyle, and to appreciate the gift of living in Eretz Yisrael. This presents a unique challenge in the realm of chinuch; how do we inspire our children to pursue a life of meaning and fulfillment as proud members of Am Yisrael?

Our mission is to create a Talmud Torah that builds sincere bnei Torah, budding talmidei chachamim, and well-rounded individuals who aspire to live a life dedicated to Torah, Avodah, and Gemilus Chasadim; to fulfill their tafkid with pride and be Mekadesh Sheim Shamayim in all their endeavors. Our children will be imbued with the sweetness and joy of Torah as a wellspring for an inspired life. Our school will serve the broad, diverse community of Ramat Beit Shemesh and align itself within the Chareidi sphere.

At our core, we seek to create an establishment that accentuates Torah as the central axis of our lives and gives our students the tools to develop a lifelong relationship with Hashem, His laws, and His land. We accomplish this mission through an educational program that delivers academic excellence, social-emotional development, and character refinement. The school aims to inculcate each student with a foundational sense of trust in himself, awareness of his inherent abilities, and enthusiasm for Torah that will guide his learning, decisions, and interactions throughout life. We focus on developing the child as an individual while broadening his identity as a valuable part of Klal Yisrael and contributing member of greater society.

Our Vision:

An *education* which provides students with the knowledge and skills that will enable them to excel in their continued educational path and advance in their lives beyond.

A *school* which nurtures each child's personal connection to Hashem, lifelong commitment to Torah and kiyum mitzvos, and pride in his place in Klal Yisrael and society.

A *community* which embraces a mindset of collaboration, encourages appreciation of others, and engenders a sense of belonging.

Institutional Infrastructure:

Strong leadership is the cornerstone of a successful institution. Our leadership model takes a three-pillared approach: educational, executive, and spiritual.

At our inception, we bring together three powerhouse individuals to form our leadership umbrella. Our Principal, R' Daniel Myers, has over 10 years of experience as principal of a local Talmud Torah, coupled with decades of experience in chinuch and as a Morah D'asra. His

unparalleled passion for chinuch and genuine love of Klal Yisrael will be essential elements in the **אווירה** of the school. Our Head of School, R' Ron-Ami Meyer, brings decades of experience in formal and informal education at all levels in both Eretz Yisrael and Chutz La'Aretz. Finally, R' Avishai David, our Posek and Rabbinic Authority, is a world renowned Rosh Yeshiva with decades of experience as a communal Rav, Principal, and Dayan in both E"Y and Chu"l.

These individuals fulfill our vision of institutional leaders who embody the ideals and values of our nascent institution. They will maintain the highest of standards and lay the groundwork of our institution in line with principles of proper governance and organizational integrity.

Our leadership will seek a dedicated staff of educators aligned with our stated mission; together they will convert the ideals of our establishment into real-life applications for our students.

Educational Philosophy:

Chanoch l'naar al pi darcho is the core creed of our approach. By placing the best interests of the individual child at the center of our educational blueprint, we pave the way for each student to thrive in school and succeed in the future.

We aim to instill every child with a foundation of knowledge, skills, and strength of character that will propel growth and achievement throughout life. Our curriculum is designed to address the diversity of learning styles, talents, abilities, and interests. Teaching methods will actively engage each student in his learning process, while also facilitating lessons in essential life skills. Beyond academic excellence, our educational approach will foster the development of an inspired child, possessed of an internal simcha that stems from a secure sense of self and confidence in his purpose in life.

Environment:

A school is more than its physical space. We seek to create a warm and nurturing environment where feelings of simcha and passion for learning permeate the premises. Lessons will transcend the walls of the classroom and promote a visceral relationship with Torah as relevant and meaningful to daily life. The internalization of Torah values will be aided by a perceptible sense of mutual respect and support.

Our dedicated staff will project an attitude of pride and diligence which motivates students to strive for personal excellence, both inside and outside of the classroom. Teachers will foster relationships with each student, demonstrating care for his personal success and concern for his welfare. Parental input is an essential element to understanding and supporting children; teachers will maintain regular open communication with parents to help students flourish.

Academics:

Our academic program will set the standard for a comprehensive, well-balanced elementary school education. High-level limudei kodesh coupled with uncompromising standards in limudei

chol will elevate our students' educational experience. In all areas of learning, we aim to transmit breadth and depth of knowledge and autonomous learning competence.

Our kodesh curriculum will deliver foundational knowledge in TaNaCh, Mishna, and Gemara at age-appropriate stages. Practical halacha, *parshas hashavua*, and *toras hamoadim* will enrich the learning experience with readily applicable concepts. Fundamentally, our goal is to prepare each boy for lifelong Torah study; to that end we will strive to impart the necessary skills and challenge students to develop proficiency in independent learning.

Our culture of excellence extends to limudei chol. Students will develop logic and reasoning through math and science, broadened perspective through history and social studies, and written and oral communication skills through language arts education.

Our staff will consist of qualified professional leaders and educators who are committed to their own continued educational development. Periodic internal assessments will supplement misrad hachinuch testing to ensure that our students are meeting appropriate benchmarks in all subjects. Supplementary assistance will be available for students who can benefit from private instruction outside of the classroom.

Social-Emotional Learning:

Healthy self esteem and a strong sense of self efficacy are trademarks of a well balanced child. Our school community will provide the backdrop for the social and emotional growth of our students to complement their cognitive academic skills and prepare them for success.

Interactive classrooms and intraschool mentoring will promote feelings of mutuality and build interpersonal relationship skills. Students will be given opportunities to practice cooperative problem solving, consideration, and acceptance of the limitations of themselves and others. Recess and co-curricular programming are an integral part of our educational model; children will learn essential skills of teamwork, sportsmanship, and self-discipline through supervised play and activities.

We will employ a collaborative, student based approach to discipline with an emphasis on healthy communication and effective conflict resolution to develop self management and self awareness. Our students will learn to express themselves while maintaining a sense of boundaries and respect for authority. Consistency and clarity of expectations will help children understand their place and recognize their value within the structure of the school.

Middos / Character Development:

Derech erez kadma l'Torah; conducting oneself with derech erez is deeply ingrained within the culture of our school. In service of this ideal, we strive to cultivate positive character traits in each child. Through programming and curriculum, we will highlight specific middos and provide tangible opportunities for internalization and reinforcement.

Students will acquire a genuine appreciation for various expressions of Avodas Hashem through emphasis on celebrating individual and collective netiyos. We aim to inspire both Yiras Shamayim and Ahavas Yisrael through strengthening the middah of Hakaras Hatov toward Hashem and fellow man. We will teach our students to value integrity, empathy, and compassion, while giving them the confidence and desire to contribute to Am Yisrael.

We will educate our students to recognize that difficult middos are opportunities for growth while working to develop strategies for navigating the challenges these middos may present in their lives.

Eretz Yisrael:

Raising our children in Eretz Yisrael is a gift not to be taken for granted. We are inextricably connected to our avos and imahos who walked this land before us, and our children represent the continuity of Am Yisrael in Eretz Yisrael. Pride in our ancestral homeland and connection to our rich Jewish history will be strengthened by tiyulim to mekomos hakedoshim and sites from TaNa"Ch. Through learning about the nissim Hashem performs to allow us to live securely in Artzeinu HaKedosha, our students will develop a genuine love for our land. Understanding the myriad of brachot to which we are *zoche* in our country will give our students an appreciation for the special time and place in which we live.

School/Parent Partnership:

We recognize that chinuch extends beyond the hours spent in school. Consistency between school and home provides stability and clarity for our children. The environment at home should promote and reinforce the messages conveyed at school each day.

Parents are expected to be invested in their children's academic and hashkafic chinuch. Partnership between staff and parents propels student progress and is a critical component of our children's success. We encourage parents to engage staff directly regarding their children's development.

Research shows that indiscriminate exposure to media and technology has a deleterious effect on a student's ability to succeed academically, socially, emotionally, and spiritually. Therefore, we expect parents to work alongside the school in our efforts to facilitate holistic student achievement.

Conclusion:

We understand that the greatest nachas for parents is derived from seeing their child experience the joy in actualizing their innate potentials. We look forward to partnering with you in building the next generation of fulfilled ovdei Hashem, a generation guided by our beautiful mesorah and driven by an inner strength as each child navigates his personal path in life.