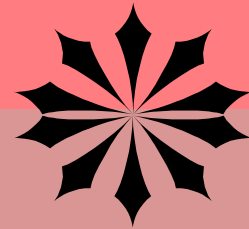




תשפ"ד

2023-2024

Cheder Chabad Girls Parent Handbook



**Cheder Chabad of Monsey
Elementary Girls**

**25 South Monsey Road
Airmont, NY 10952
P.O. Box 1164**

**Office Tel: 845-356-1213 ext 3
Office Fax: 845-503-2322
E-mail: girls@chedermonsey.org**

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School Contact Information

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Pre1A- Grade 8**
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25-27 South Monsey Road
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Dear Parents, עמו"ש

Welcome to another new year at Cheder Chabad of Monsey! As always, our Cheder strives to provide for your child a quality, well-rounded *Chabad Chassidishe* education. On the following pages, you will find the guidelines and procedures that help unite students, teachers, parents and administrators in our efforts to provide our children with a secure and happy environment in which they will learn to “navigate the seas” of childhood.

Cheder Chabad strives to educate Chassidishe children with proper middos, dedicated to Torah and Mitzvos. This obviously requires a strong partnership between home and school. It is therefore our goal to uphold a respectful and cooperative relationship between both. It is imperative that our children receive a clear and unified message. We trust that the standards and expectations in the home reflect that of a Chabad mosad.

Please review the manual carefully to familiarize yourself with Cheder’s procedures, standards and expectations.

We look forward to a meaningful and productive year.

With wishes for הצלחה רבה,

Mrs. C. Rosenbluh
Limudei Kodesh Principal

CHEDER CHABAD STANDARDS

The dress of students must reflect a Torah environment. The following guidelines clearly identify the decorum and essential Chassidishe standards.

According to the *Shulchan Aruch*, a girl must dress in accordance with the *Halachas of Tznius* from the age of three (*Likutei Sichos, Vol. 18, p. 448*).

Additionally, as the Rebbe says “*what one sees leaves lasting impressions, especially on young children, the toys that a child plays with, and the pictures that he looks at, should not be of impure animals.*” In line with this, we ask that students of Cheder Chabad should be careful with this directive.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

Students in Cheder must dress in a way that mirrors the atmosphere in a classroom where Torah is being taught. The following guidelines are in place to help maintain the decorum and Chassidishe standards that are essential in Cheder.

PRE₁A – GRADE 5

SHIRT: Hunter green or white; button-down blouse or polo shirt with collar.

SWEATERS: Blue velour zipper sweater with the logo from Uniform Headquarters. You can call or text Uniform Headquarters at 845-445-8856 for their hours and location.

SKIRTS/JUMPERS:*

***Grades Pre 1a -Grade 2 - Navy blue jumpers only. Jumpers must cover the knees fully.**

***Grades 3 - Grades 5 -Navy blue pleated skirts. Skirts must cover the knees fully.**

Jumpers are optional as long as it covers the knees fully.

TIGHTS: Only black, navy, gray or white solid-colored tights. **Leggings may not be worn.** Please purchase tights for your daughter that she will be comfortable wearing.

SHOES : Solid color shoes only. No sneakers including converse/bulky high-top sneakers.

HAIR: Hair needs to be pulled back in a pony or braid. Short hair (above shoulder) may be worn down if pulled back with a headband or pin.

EARRINGS: Earrings should be close to the ear. No hoops, and no dangling earrings.

No Nail Polish may be worn to school.

GRADES 6 – 8 UNIFORM

SHIRT: White polo or white button-down blouse only. (No green polo shirts)

SWEATERS: New for this year- Exclusive middle school sweater-

A maroon pullover knit or fleece sweater with the Cheder logo available from Uniform Headquarters. The new uniform policy will go into effect at the beginning of the 5784 school year. Middle school students can continue to wear their navy Cheder sweater until they naturally outgrow it or until the end of this upcoming 5784 school year.

Uniform Headquarters will provide the new uniform sweater. To make the process as simple as possible, there will be one bulk order that we will place directly with Uniform Headquarters before the school year begins. Please find the order form in the additional attachment.

On August 23rd we will have sample sizes in school if you would like your daughter/s to try on for sizing. Please send in the order forms by August 23rd.

SKIRT: Navy blue pleated skirt. **Skirts must reach 4 inches below the knee.** (Skirts can be purchased at uniform headquarters. You can call or text Uniform Headquarters at 845-445-8856 for their hours and location.)

TIGHTS: Only black, navy, gray or white solid-colored tights. **Leggings may not be worn.** Please purchase tights for your daughter that she will be comfortable wearing.

SHOES: Solid color shoes only. No sneakers including converse/bulky high-top sneakers.

HAIR: Hair needs to be pulled back in a pony or braid. Short hair (above shoulder) may be worn down if pulled back with a headband or pin.

EARRINGS: Earrings should be close to the ear. No hoops, and no dangling earrings.

No Nail Polish may be worn to school.

OUT OF SCHOOL STUDENT DRESS CODE

The following are guidelines for after school hours. At all times a student's dress, which may reflect personal style, must be tznius according to Halacha. As such, our students will reflect the inner dignity and refinement of a Bas Chabad and a student of Cheder Chabad.

1. Elbows and knees should be covered at all times.
2. An appropriate neckline, one in which the collar bone, sides and back of the neck are properly covered.
3. Skirts must cover the knees at all times.
4. The entire leg should be covered with appropriate leg wear. Ankle socks or leggings with socks are inappropriate and may not be worn.
5. Form fitting or tight clothing are not appropriate.
6. Slits may not be worn.
7. No attention-drawing or improper graphics on the shirt or bold lettering across the front of shirt should be worn.

8. Hair should be refined and pulled together.

If it comes to our attention that a student is not conforming to these standards outside of school, Parents will be asked to meet with the principal to discuss and rectify the situation.

PARENT DRESS CODE

All parents are expected to adhere to the following Halachic standards at all times.

- **Necklines need to cover the collarbone.**
- Sleeves need to be **covering the elbow.**
- Skirts needs to **cover the knee at all times.**
- **Stockings or tights need to be worn.** Leggings and socks are not acceptable.
- Married women must have their hair **completely** covered.
- Men must wear *yarmulkas*, a shirt and pants (*No shorts*).

All parents participating in any school function, including carpool, whether on or off Cheder premises, **must be properly dressed according to Halacha. Please do not enter Cheder if you do not adhere to the standards outlined above.**

VISITOR DRESS CODE

Friends or relatives who wish to participate in school functions should respectfully comply with our Parent dress code.

STUDENT TECHNOLOGY POLICY

Electronic Devices, Cameras, electronic games, smart watches, music players, MP3/4 players, etc. may not be brought on the bus or to school. Any of the above devices brought to Cheder will be confiscated. They will not be returned until the end of the semester and will need to be picked up by a parent.

Ipods, I pads & Tablets are fully accessible to the internet. As such, Cheder deems it inappropriate for a student to own an I-pod, I-pad or smartphone.

Cell Phone Students may not own a cell phone. They may not bring a cell phone to school (such as a parent's phone or other) regardless if it's a smart phone or not.

Please note: A cell phone/I-pod/I-pad/Tablet may never be brought to school and is grounds for suspension. If a device is brought on the bus or school, it will not be returned to your daughter.

INTERNET/MEDIA/TV

Technology advancements in the past decade are a permanent part of our lives and bring us unimagined convenience. The dangers they bring along can also be horrifying and life shattering. With this in mind, our school policy is:

1. Internet should never be used to randomly "surf the web" or to "kill time."

2. Students who use the internet should do so only when supervised by a responsible adult.
3. A computer that has internet access should be in a public area of the home and must be password protected. (e.g., the kitchen, family room, etc.) Passwords should be changed regularly.
4. Parents **must** install filters and monitoring software on all devices that have access to the internet.
5. Email – Parents need to be aware of their children’s email accounts and read them regularly.
6. Limit your child’s time on the computer.
7. Students may not have access to any social media accounts such as Facebook, WhatsApp, YouTube, Instagram, snapchat, Instagram, tiktok or the like. Having such may be reason for dismissal from Cheder.
8. When friends come over to play with your child or work on a project, it is imperative that the internet is off.

SECULAR READING

1. Secular reading material must be carefully checked by the parent for appropriateness (clean language, *tzniusdik* pictures, etc.).
2. **Secular books should not be brought to school. Any secular books brought to Cheder will be confiscated.**

KASHRUS

All food sent to school must have a chassidishe hechsher or an (K). Food needs to be Pas Yisroel, Bishul Yisroel, and Cholov Yisroel.

All drinks, with natural or artificial flavoring must have kosher supervision. Home baked goods may never be shared with classmates.

WHATSAPP GROUPS

Whatsapp groups can be an accessible means for parents to stay updated on happenings and events in your daughter/s classroom. **Beyond that, a public WhatsApp group is not the forum to resolve a personal issue or air a grievance.** It causes unnecessary loshon hora and damage that could have otherwise been dealt with in an appropriate manner.

MIDDOS TOVOS AND DERECH ERETZ

Midos Tovos are the foundation of a good chinuch. Spending every day in an environment of positivity and respect benefits everyone in the school.

Students are required to speak and act with respect to all faculty and students.

A level of refinement in speech and conduct will be expected from students in Cheder Chabad. Students excelling in Midos Tovos will be acknowledged while lack of basic "menschlichkeit" will be addressed in the strictest manner.

OUR SCHOOL DAY

ATTENDANCE

The continuity of a child's learning is disturbed as a result of a child's tardiness or absence and therefore grades suffer. Below are important guidelines to ensure proper attendance.

- Parents are expected to make sure that children are in school each and every school day.
- Family vacations **should not** be scheduled during school days. Please keep the school calendar handy and use it to help you plan vacations, so that your child's education is not disrupted.
- If your child is absent, please inform the school via email at achrayus@chedermonsey.org stating the reason of her absence.
- In the event that a student is absent due to a simcha or other event, she will be held responsible for the class material missed.
- Permission from a principal is required before a planned absence from Cheder, especially for an extended period of time.

EARLY PICKUP/CARPOOL CHANGES

- If it is absolutely necessary for your child to leave during school time, **please send a note with your child addressed to the office, with the time your child will be leaving.**
- If your child will be picked up by any means other than the child's regular transportation, (I.E. she is going in carpool instead of the bus) a **written note to the office with the carpool changes must be sent.**
- When picking up early, please proceed directly to the office to sign out your child. The secretary will call your child out from class. Please make sure to fill out the "sign out sheet" in the Cheder Office.
- Parents are not to enter the classroom at any time to pick up their child.
- **All carpool changes and transportation arrangements should be taken care of before school. It is extremely difficult for messages to be conveyed to so many students. The office will not assume responsibility for messages that do not get delivered.**

- **Please avoid calling the office to have messages delivered to your children except in a genuine emergency.**

LATENESS

Children who arrive late disturb the routine of the entire class. They miss out on the important morning structure in the class, as well social interactions with classmates before class begins. Please ensure your daughters on time arrival and refrain from lateness that can be avoided.

- In the event of lateness, **a note from the parent must be presented.** All students who arrive late must sign themselves in late and then proceed to their class with a late note.
- Students in grades 6-8 who arrive after the completion of shacharis must complete davening before they come to Cheder.
- **Parents are not permitted to enter any of the classrooms at any time, unless they receive permission from the Cheder Office.**

MIDDLE SCHOOL ACHRAYUS

Our Middle School Students – Grades 6, 7 and 8 must show their responsibility by being diligent about school attendance and class work.

- If a student has 3 lateness to class, including morning lateness, she will be given an assignment to be completed by the next morning. Following three assignments, parents will be called into school for a meeting.
- In order for a morning lateness to be excused, a note written and signed by a parent must be brought to the office.
- If a student misses or fails a test, she will be held responsible to make it up in school, after school hours.

HOMEWORK

Homework is an important link between school and home. It helps our children recognize the inter-relationship between teachers and parents. Homework reinforces material learned in class; particularly *Limudei Kodesh* homework emphasizes the importance of *Limud Torah* throughout the day, **at school and at home.** It is also an opportunity for parents to become involved in their children's learning, as well as a vehicle for communication with the classroom Teacher.

IMMUNIZATION

Up-to-date immunization records must be submitted for **every** child. Children entering Pre-1a, 2nd, 4th and 6th Grades must have a **complete** physical. The School Nurse is available for consultation on any health-related issues. Eye tests, hearing tests and weight checks will be done by the School Nurse during the school year, as per the county health dept.

guidelines. If your medical records are not up to date or complete your child will not be allowed to attend school until this has been corrected.

MEDICATION

No student should be administering her own medication. If medication is necessary during the school day (I.E. epipen, antibiotic), it will only be administered with written instruction from a physician.

Please note that the school is not authorized to administer over the counter medicine such as Tylenol or Motrin.

NUT FREE POLICY

Please be aware that Cheder Chabad is a NUT-FREE ZONE. There are children that are severely allergic and Cheder accommodates their needs. **ITEMS MADE OF TREE NUTS (walnuts, pecans, hazelnuts, etc.), PEANUTS, OR PEANUT BUTTER ARE NOT ALLOWED AT ANY TIME.**

INTERPERSONAL RELATIONSHIPS- NO BULLYING AT CHEDER CHABAD

Every student wishes to feel safe from any form of harm when in school. The Cheder has therefore adopted a **zero tolerance policy concerning bullying**. Bullying can include fighting, hurting another student's feelings, lacking respect for a student's privacy, threatening others or any other type of behavior that may bother another student. The Cheder will deal with bullying in a very strict manner including suspension. Repeated bullying will cause the Cheder to remove the bully from Cheder.

If your child is dealing with a bully, help her figure out what to do by giving her the tools of TLC:

T: TELL PEOPLE ABOUT IT. A trusted adult can intervene, friends can rally around you, and parents and teachers can protect you in the future.

L: LOOK CONFIDENT. Stay calm and don't let the bully know that you are mad or sad. Instead, walk away.

C: CHANGE THE COMMUNITY. Work with others to stop the bully behavior.

This method will be implemented, discussed and encouraged by teachers and staff across the school.

SCHOOL GROUNDS

The School Grounds are private property over which the school exercises full authority in addition to full responsibility for all students. **Leaving the school premises without written permission is a serious infraction for which a student may be suspended from school.**

LOST AND FOUND

Please label clothing, books and other personal articles brought to Cheder. It is unfortunate how many unmarked articles are placed in the Lost & Found box. Items left unclaimed will be deemed "Hefker", not owned by anyone, and will be given away after 30 days.

TEXTBOOKS – GENERAL STUDIES

The East Ramapo Central School District provides General Studies text books for its students, through a program of government grants. It is expected that every book issued to a student will be returned in good condition. In the event a book is damaged or lost, the student will be charged for the book.

VITAL INFORMATION

Changes of address, telephone numbers, e-mail addresses, employment details, medical conditions, allergies or any other important information must **be given to the school, as soon as possible**. Parents going on vacation, moving to a new home, illness of a family member, birth of a sibling, or any other changes in the household can impact on your child's behavior and ability to concentrate in class. Please inform the teacher or the Office of any changes at home.

IN CONCLUSION

Remember, Cheder Chabad is an extension of your home. Your child will be in the hands of experienced 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 well-being of your child. Therefore, cooperation and communication between parents and staff are vital. We encourage you to feel free to schedule an appointment to speak to your child's *Morah* or Teacher, to the Pre-School Director, or the Principals, whenever there is a concern about your child. Please call the Office to arrange an appointment.