



Parent
Handbook

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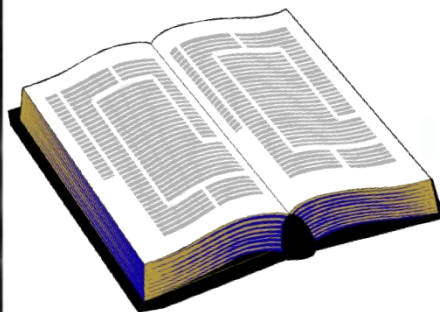


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Dear Parents שיחיו,

בכל יום ויום יהיו בעיניך כחדשים, our excitement in planning a new school year brings with it the aspirations we have for our precious *talmidim*. With the Rebbe's guidance and instruction, we look forward to deepening our partnership and raising our *talmidim* to new heights.

Our Rebbies are the engine of the cheder, their dedication to Torah, *yiras shomayim* and a *chassidische* lifestyle is what they imbue in our children. Under the competent leadership of Rabbi Brawer we are slated for great *hatzlochoh*.

The principals are committed to providing your children with a setting that is most conducive to their growth. This vision impacts every decision.

Open communication is critical to our success. Open communication means reaching out to us when you have a question and sharing with us things you observe that impact your child's chinuch. Keep an eye on what your child is learning, how they are behaving, and their social interactions. Showing interest in your child daily shows them that you value their effort and increases the odds that they live up to your expectations.

This handbook is intended to serve as a year-round reference guide.

Ksiva vachasima tova,

Rabbi Levi Kaplan

Rabbi Shaya Itkin

Principals

OUR PARTNERSHIP

The success of our children's *chinuch* hinges on open and welcome communication between cheder and parents. Presenting our children with one set of shared values is critical to developing whole, non-fragmented neshomos.

In addition, registering at cheder equals a commitment to following all cheder policies. The deliberation in developing cheder policies involves consultation with teams of experts and tens of hours on every article. The policies are carefully crafted to provide a framework for all students providing safety, accountability and love. Choosing cheder for your son is a great choice, now that he is registered allow us to implement and provide the *chinuch* we have been charged to do.

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

Cheder Chabad of Monsey is a growing and vibrant cheder with the mantra of raising chassidim, *yirei shomayim* and *lamdonim*. Established in 1999, our mission is to implement the Rebbe's *berochah* to the *hatzlochoh* of every child.

Our carefully chosen staff espouse the warmth, fervor and flavor of *yiras shomayim* as inspired by the teachings of the Lubavitcher Rebbe. There is a special emphasis on *ahavas Yisroel* and serving Hashem with *simchah* in all aspects of the cheder.

Our dedicated faculty create an atmosphere of excitement and motivation through their passion and dedication to Jewish life and learning, instilling a love of learning in our *talmidim*. Our *Limudei Kodesh* Program includes the highest level of learning in Chumash, Mishnah, *gemoro*, *Halacha*, *Novi*, *Tanya*, *Parshas Hashavuah*, *Yomim Tovim*, *Chassidus*, Tales of Tzaddikim, *Nigunim*, and more.

Our General Studies program focuses on literacy and competency in a way that supports Torah values and enhances *limudei kodesh*.

Our school is affiliated with the Board of Education of New York State. The East Ramapo Central School District (ERCSD) supervises our Universal Pre-Kindergarten program and administers the Federal Title I-V programs that fund many of the special services we receive: Bus Transportation, School Nurse, Tutor/Mentor Program, ESL Tutoring, Speech Therapist, Resource Room, etc.

ARRIVAL:

Grades 1-6

Please see the daily schedule on the last page for arrival times. Children should not be brought to Cheder more than 10 minutes before class time.

Grades 7-8

Talmidim of grades 7-8 must attend the cheder *minyan* daily. Please check the daily schedule for the correct times.

Shluchim who arrive after minyan must *daven shacharis* before entering the building. There is a shul and mikveh at 19 Widman Ct. where they can daven.

Talmidim of grades 7-8 who davened and arrive before breakfast time, must wait in their classroom until breakfast.

DISMISSAL:

Grades 1-5 are dismissed at 4:10 pm and grades 6-8 are dismissed at 5:00 pm. Students must attend all classes.

Students may not be routinely picked up early. When necessary, they must be signed out at the office. Students in grades 5-8 may be signed out with a call to the office. The secretary will arrange for them to meet you. A student may never leave cheder without being signed out.

Special travel arrangements must be prearranged. Students will not be allowed to tie up the phones at a critical time to arrange for special transportation.

ATTENDANCE:

Learning is incremental with knowledge and skills compounding from day to day. Your child's academic success is dependent on full participation. Needless to say that missing a first day, whether the first day of school or the first day after a break is irreparable.

In the event that a student is late or absent, please send along a note addressed to his Rebbi or teacher explaining the circumstances.

A student who is out more than two days should bring a note addressed to the principal. He will have to set a plan in place to make sure he doesn't fall

behind in his learning. If student was ill, doctors note should be sent.

When possible, all doctors' appointments should be made after school hours. If it is necessary for your child to leave during school time, please send a detailed note with your child addressed to his teacher.

BUS TRANSPORTATION:

All children who are residents of the East Ramapo Central School District (ERCSD), Suffern Central School District (SCSD), North Rockland Central School District (NRCSD) or Clarkstown Central School District (CCSD) are eligible for free bus transportation. A bus pass is mailed to every student. Please have your child bring it to school attached to his knapsack.

Pursuant to district policies, children are permitted to ride only on their designated route. If a child will not be taking his regular bus, a temporary bus pass must be obtained from the Transportation office. Children not residing in the local districts may not use the buses at any time.

There is no bus transportation on Sundays and Public Holidays. For your convenience, "No Transportation Dates" are marked in the Cheder Calendar. Please arrange for timely pickup accordingly.

Safety is of utmost importance. It is your responsibility to make sure your children know and follow appropriate bus procedures. A misbehaving child will be cited by the driver to the principal. A misbehaving student will be docketed from the bus. Bus suspensions may last for days, weeks, or months. Take warnings seriously and avoid issues that will lead to not being allowed to take the bus to and from school. The cheder trusts the drivers and oversees bus suspensions and behavior management.

Please instill and reinforce the following procedures with your son/s:

- Be at the bus stop a few minutes early
- After the bus comes to a full stop board the bus quickly and find a seat
- Be courteous and obey the driver
- Remain seated at all times when the bus is moving
- Keep heads and arms inside the bus at all times
- No shouting or fighting on the bus
- When you arrive at cheder leave the bus in an orderly fashion; no pushing

- Keep the bus clean and in good condition

SNOW DAYS

Inclement weather can interfere with getting your children to cheder safely. On snow days you are responsible to lookout for a communication regarding changes due to the weather. Weather notifications regarding delays or cancelations are broadcast by 7:15 am. Whether communication will be sent out via WhatsApp.

Decisions about snow days involve a series of guiding principles including the importance of learning Torah every day, safety and the anticipation of pickup time conditions. On days with a possible early dismissal do not send your children to cheder if you won't be available to pick them up.

Minyan times will be posted by 6:30. On a snow day with delayed or no transportation, there will be one arrival time. Grades 7-8 should *daven* locally and come to yeshiva after *davening*.

CARPOOL

Arrivals: Students brought by car should be dropped off at the curb. Vehicles may never enter the fenced play area/driveway.

Dismissal: Cars should enter Bluefield Rd. and line up in a single file line alongside the curb. Do not use the Dorset Rd. route for carpool pickup as students may not cross the street. Drivers must remain in their vehicles. There is no parking directly across the street from the carpool area. U-Turns are not allowed at any time.

We urge you to pick up your children on time and to exercise extreme caution when driving through the pickup area. Children in grades 1-5 may not be left in Cheder to wait for grades 6-8 dismissal.

Carpooling students who are left at cheder more than 25 minutes after bell time will be charged a \$25 fee per instance.

If you have children in grades 7-8 please read the arrival section for more details about carpooling.

DRESS CODE

The way we dress reflects our values. The Cheder's values are that of a *chassidish*, Torah-led-life. Adherence to the dress code is mandatory. The

following guidelines express our values:

- A yarmulke and *tzitzis* must be worn at all times (off-hours as well). A black or dark navy yarmulka should be worn.¹ No leather, knitted, or bright-colored *yarmulkes*.
- Pants: Black or navy blue pants. Jeans are not allowed, no matter the color. No oversized-cargo pockets, shorts, sweatpants, or skin-tight pants.
- Shirts: Light blue or white button down shirts. No striped shirts, t-shirts, polo shirts or collarless shirts. Shirts may be untucked during recess.
- White shirts should be worn on *Chassidische Yomim Tovim*
- Once talmidim begin putting on tefillin they wear white shirts and a plain dark yarmulka without any writing and must come to Cheder every day with a hat and a dark colored suit jacket or blazer for *davening* and *bentching*. Zippered jackets, sweatshirts or sport jackets are not acceptable.
- No feathers in hats
- No wristbands may be worn
- Sweaters: The Cheder sweater, a Chidon sweatshirt or a plain navy-blue sweater may be worn². No Tzahal sweatshirt. No sports or company insignia is allowed.
- Shoes: No sandals, crocs or hee-lies allowed. Shoes need to be dark colored and conservative looking. No white or bright colors on them.
- Socks: socks must cover the ankles. No bobby socks or ankle-less socks.
- Hygiene: Students are expected to bathe/shower, brush their teeth and dress in clean clothes
- Hair: students are expected to take short haircuts and maintain short hair. *Payos* should at least reach the ear lobe.

If your son isn't dressed properly, we will send you a courtesy reminder. Upon second infraction, he will not be allowed into class. He will not be allowed to class on first offense if egregious. This is determined by the menahel.

Visitors: in respect of our shared values parents participating in any school function, on or off Cheder premises, including carpool, must dress according

¹ A Cheder *yarmulka* can be purchased at the office for \$10

² [Link to order cheder sweater](#), enter school number 900120700

to halachah.

Men: yarmulkas, tzitzis, sleeved shirts and full-length pants and socks

Women: skirt length below the knee (even when seated), closed necklines, and sleeves covering the elbow. Married women must cover all their hair. Friends or relatives participating in school functions are expected to follow our guidelines.

DETENTION

Students who are sent to the *menahel* for repeated behavior issues are placed on probation for a four-week period, if they are sent again, they will need to serve detention. The office staff will notify you after the first instance so that you can speak to your son and be on alert for a possible detention. Detention is for up to 50 minutes Monday-Thursday for grades 1-5 from 4:10-5:00 pm. Grades six and up serve detention on Sundays between 1:30-2:30.

Detention may be given to students for skipping class.

SUSPENSION

The cheder may suspend a student. It is our experience that when parents openly support a suspension the need to use them in the future are reduced.

The cheder is responsible for the well-being of every student. We cannot undertake this responsibility if a child is noncommunicative, violent, or leaves the property.

If the cheder cannot take responsibility for your child, he is returned to your care. The length of suspension is determined by the cheder establishing that we are able to take responsibility for your child and provide him and his classmates with a safe environment.

A condition for a student enrolling at cheder is that he is able to communicate verbally with cheder staff. This applies to any staff member under whose care he may be.

MEALS AND SNACKS

Breakfast is served in the first hour of the day. Students are encouraged to bring healthy snacks and bottled water. All snacks must be *bishul yisroel*, *cholov yisroel* and *pas yisroel*³. Popcorn, pretzels, rice cakes, crackers, fruit and

³ Excerpts From the Rebbe's Letter About Kashrus translated by Rabbi Tzvi Freeman

raw vegetables are recommended. Candy is not permitted and will be confiscated. No sugar drinks are allowed.

Lunch is served Sunday - Thursday. Should you send along a lunch please send a food that corresponds with the cheder menu. *Fleishigs* is served on Tuesdays. On a day that *Fleishigs* is served, do not send a *milchig* snack for the afternoon.

INTERNET/MEDIA

The *Torah* says, “Do not place a stumbling block before the blind.” The prohibition to place anything harmful in the way of the unknowing is a *lo taseh*. The internet is the primary source of filth and corruption in our children and parents are often the providers. Having unfiltered internet is prohibited.

The harm caused by negative internet exposure applies indiscriminately to children from all homes. It is wise to be overly cautious rather than risk any dangerous exposure.

Even when filtered, do not use the internet to entertain your child or as a pastime.

If you have internet at home, please follow these guidelines:

- Devices with access should be in a public area and password protected.
- All internet use must be supervised.
- Students may not have a social media account; Snapchat, Instagram, Facebook, etc. Having such an account is grounds for expulsion.
- Students younger than 11 should not have an email account. Once they do, you should receive a copy of your children’s emails.
- When friends come over to play or to make a project on the computer, it is imperative that the internet is turned off.
- Chat rooms and groups should be monitored by a parent to avoid

“...concerning how to deal with food that is not “kosher lemehadrin”...but this food can give a child a better appetite:

In general, it is explained in many places that *hiddur* in kosher food is not just a matter of keeping a mitzvah. Rather, since every food becomes the blood and flesh of the body, and the body is connected with the *neshama*, so the kashrus and purity of the food affects the character and good *midos* of whoever uses this food. Therefore, any contribution we can make to the *hiddur* and purity of the food should also be seen as a contribution to the development of a refined and pure human character. And if this is so by adults, it is much more so by children whose character is still in its formative stages. With children we must be very concerned about the direction we are taking them.

According to this, you can certainly understand my opinion that since we are not dealing, chas v'shalom, with a matter that a child's entire health is dependent upon--it's only a matter of adding more flavor and strength [?]-so we don't have to diminish the *hiddur* of the food. Certainly, we can find other ideas and ways to strengthen a child's appetite and make a child healthier that do not compromise the kashrus and *hidur*.” (תריאו'ו מכתב ח"י קודש אגרות)

bullying, foul language, and inappropriate content. Experience has shown that Google chat is used to bully children and to share inappropriate content.

The cheder recommends Cisco Umbrella or other filters that are router based rather than device based.

Exposing your child to movies TV and/or secular videos is in defiance of our values⁴. In addition, TV programs include material that is halachically prohibited to view. Watching TV, videos and movies erodes our humanity, dulls the mind and creates insensitivity to *tznius*, and violence, destroying the *eidelkeit* of our children. This is in addition to *bittul* Torah and the ignorance that follow.

Parents send their children to our cheder to nurture their *neshomos* with Torah and Yiddishkeit not to expose them to secular filth. The principals are mandated by your charge to make sure the cheder is a place where holiness is shared.

All media messaging are intentionally laced with poisonous messages that undermine our core values as Yidden. The veracity of Torah, belief in G-d, gender roles, family values, are a short list of the values under direct attack by every media outlet.

A special letter from the principal is available on our blog relating to healthy

⁴ Excerpts From the Rebbe's Sichas about T.V.

Free translation by Sichot in English --Adapted from Likkutei Sichos Volume 18 (e. 459)

“Television is an agent of moral breakdown like no other. We are at a point where non-Jews are speaking up strongly against television because they recognize its destructive influence on children. We often hear of violence and murder cases as a result of the television and movies programs that influence these kinds of acts. Even if someone might think they will watch the educational programs, but how can the parents be guaranteed that their children will not watch the other programs.

Moreover, the children can say “If my parents watch television why shouldn't I?” Furthermore, who is guaranteeing the parents themselves that they will not fail? Today they watch “kosher” programs and tomorrow they catch a glimpse of another program and slowly they can reach the point that “all is acceptable”.

*Some people claim that there are good religious Jews that have a TV in their house and why can't we learn from them? This can be compared to someone who says, since so and so has an eye infection I also want to be like him! So too spiritually – nobody is perfect, so why copy the **faults** of another person?*

Among all those who have a television, you cannot find even one that will claim that they bought it –out of being G-d fearing, or because of good character traits that they acquired from it. Rather each person has their own “excuse” for it, either in order to furnish their house better or for their spouse, or they received it as a gift – therefore how could they throw it out?

Once people were careful not to pass by a church and preferred to go around it. Mothers would warn their children not to come close to a church and not to look at crosses- and today by means of a television they are bringing the church, the priest and the cross into their home “Rachmana Litzlan”. Therefore, it is of utmost importance that all of the above be immediately rectified and corrected.”

and unhealthy engagement with Professional Sports.

TECHNOLOGY POLICY

- Cameras, electronic games, music players, I-pods, MP3/4 players, flash drives, walkie-talkies, voice recorders, etc. may not be brought to cheder or used on the bus.
- Students may not have a smartphone
- Students may not bring a dumb phone to Cheder. In the unique event that a student needs a phone for carpool purposes, a contract can be drawn up with the menahel for a dumb phone. The phone must be kept at the office during the day.

As an aside, electronics are often used to intimidate, exclude or cause emotional pain to other students. Students have used gadgets to tease kids about videoing, or taking pictures of them. These behaviors are a form of bullying and are not tolerated at cheder.

SANCTIFYING OUR ENVIRONMENT

Our shared goal is to provide consistent values to our students. A student who receives the same message at home and in school, will have a strong foundation to leading a *chassidische* life. The world around us is filled with information and values that are contrary to ours.

Extra vigilance is required to make sure that the media and other content our children are exposed to don't undermine our shared efforts to raise a *chossid*.

1. Games: Games may contain violence, inappropriate jokes, immodesty, promote celebrities who represent vulgarity, and so on. Exposure to inappropriate content happens via secular reading material, game boy, DS, radio, cell phones, sports-cards, MP3 players, Ipods, toy guns, etc. Inappropriate content brought to cheder will be confiscated.
2. Selling: Students may not buy or sell anything at cheder or on the bus. All goods and proceeds will be confiscated. Different homes have different kashrus standards and parents work on building varying health habits choosing specific snacks. This is why students may not trade, sell or share snacks.
3. Reading material: Carefully screen what your children read. Only reading material provided by Cheder may be read at Cheder. The Cheder library is a great resource for approved reading material.

4. Propriety of students' possessions: All lunchboxes, school bags, loose-leaf folders, etc. should feature pictures and writing that are in good taste and modest. Sports, TV, movie or cartoon characters are not permitted. All possessions belonging to students should be clearly labeled with their full name.
5. Smartwatches: Smartwatches with or without calling capacity are not allowed.

Tzivos Hashem

The cheder runs a Tzivos Hashem Program. Rabbi Blotner is our base commander. Students receive points for completing their missions and go up in rank. Students are recognized for rising in rank. We encourage you to register your son in Tzivos Hashem on www.Mashpia.com.

OFFICE STAFF

Our dedicated office staff work hard supporting the students (band aids, cleaning up a wound), staff (with copies and supplies), and the parents (answering your questions, and phones and sending an occasional message). In addition, they manage the communication designing newsletters, bulletin boards and ordering equipment.

Please respect their time and position by being respectful and not tying them up on the phone. It is important to teach your older boys about appropriate ways of referring to a secretary (not to call them by their first names or speak about personal matters unrelated to cheder).

BIRTHDAY FARBRENGENS

The Rebbe instructs us to make a farbrengen on our birthday. When your son's birthday approaches, speak to your son's Rebbi to arrange a time and discuss appropriate refreshments. Birthday *farbrengens* are only allowed during *limudei kodesh*. A cake or cupcakes, one nosh and a drink are appropriate. Please make sure all nosh is *bishul Yisroel, pas Yisroel* and *cholov Yisroel*. Any additional or inappropriate items will be sent home. No home-baked items may be brought to school and no *nosh* bags, please! No sugar sodas are allowed.

If you host the birthday *farbrengen* at your home or at a public facility, please

be considerate of all the boys in the class. A small party with two classmates is appropriate, otherwise every classmate needs to be included.

HEALTH

New York state law mandates that any child not in compliance with the required immunizations be excluded from school until the immunizations are brought up to date.

State law mandates that all new students in 2nd, 4th and 7th grades must have a Physical within a year of the start of the school year. If you do not send proof of a private physical, your child will automatically be examined by a school district appointed physician.

The Cheder nurse will do a cursory examination of all students once a year. If it becomes necessary for your child to have medication during the school day, do not send medication with your child to take on his own. It is to be brought to the office by an adult with a note from a doctor instructing how to administer it.

The law requires that any medication, prescription and over the counter, i.e., Tylenol, Benadryl, etc. found with a child be confiscated and thrown away. Children entering Cheder from out of the country must be checked for lice and nits before admission to school. The Cheder may check students for nits if there is reason to suspect that they have nits. Students with lice must stay home. A child with fever may not be sent to cheder.

GOSSIP AND NEGATIVE TALK

Encourage your children to adhere to the *derech erez* standards enumerated in the handbook. Under no circumstances should a parent criticize any member of the Cheder staff in front of a child. Doing so permanently undermines our ability to educate your child. Grievance should be brought to the teacher and/or principal privately and respectfully.

Many grievances are rooted in misunderstanding and easily resolved with communication. True grievances are better and properly resolved via direct, non-accusatory communication. When you are upset about something at the school speak to the school directly rather than sending out an insinuating negative message on a class WhatsApp chat thread.

Remember that putting down the cheder puts down your son's school, putting down your child.

WhatsApp chat groups are a source of relentless negativity. Spreading accusations or negative energy about the cheder or judging someone on a group hurts all involved parties. Keep in mind that *lashon harah*, even if true, hurts all three parties. The cheder provides you with access to other parents, taking a grievance public should not be your first option.

The cheder faculty are always aimed at helping you. Give them the benefit of the doubt before making a negative assumption. If you have an issue, please bring it to the school and give the school a day or two to work it out.

GOING OUT

Students should not partake in an event without a *mechitza*: i.e. parties, ice skating, ballgames, shows, etc. being that this is an area that may require discretion, we encourage you to ask your Rov about specific functions or to call the *menahelim* ahead of time. Students should dress in a dignified, modest and *chassidische* manner even when not in cheder.

Shopping malls aren't a place for a *chassidische bochur*. Students may go only with parental approval and with an adult. Malls should not be visited as a pastime.

COMMUNICATION

On Orientation Day, you will have the opportunity to meet your son's Rebbi. The Cheder hosts a Back-to-School Night in the first two weeks of the school year. Rebbis and Teachers will present what to expect for the coming year.

To facilitate communication between school and home, Student Progress Reports are sent. Report cards will be presented at the end of each semester. Two Parent-Teacher Conferences are scheduled throughout the year. Please make sure to participate in PTC for the benefit of your child. Good communication with your son's rebbi and school benefit your child more than anything.

As soon as school begins, our teachers give their undivided and uninterrupted attention to your children. All conversations between parents and teachers must be reserved for after-school hours, except in cases of emergency. Please be considerate when calling teachers and call at a reasonable hour and keep conversations brief.

When you have a concern about something going on in school and you reach

out to any of the cheder staff, it is recommended that use a win/win model in your communication. Inquire rather than accuse, support rather than judge. Avoid put downs and accusations. This leads to a positive outcome for your child, the Rebbi/teacher and you. The Rebbi is supported and your child understood.

The cheder has a blog on which many ideas and issues regarding cheder are explained at length providing you with the thought process behind our policies. If there is something you would like to learn about, share it with us and give us the opportunity to treat it comprehensibly in a future article.

TEXTBOOKS – GENERAL STUDIES

Your child receives new text books free of charge. Students are responsible to treat them properly. Workbooks becomes his personal property while text books are returned to cheder at the end of the year. Books that are damaged or lost will have to be repurchased by you. It is the responsibility of the student to safeguard his books and have them ready for class daily.

Occasionally, the cheder may ask students to provide a *mashkon* (collateral) to make sure books are returned in good condition.

DAMAGES

Should your son damage cheder property intentionally or unintentionally, you will be required to pay for the repair.

In the event of intentional damage to school property, a security deposit in equal amount will be required as well. The security deposit will be returned at the end of the school year provided no further damage is done.

A student who damages cheder property repeatedly will have to provide an increased security deposit.

A student who intentionally stuffs a drain at cheder will no longer be welcome as a cheder student. The cheder may ask several students to remain at home for a few days as part of an investigation as to who stuffed a toilet or urinal.

VITAL INFORMATION

Change of address, telephone numbers, employment details, medical conditions, allergies or any other important information must be given to the school as soon as possible. Please notify us about changes that may affect

your child's ability to succeed. Traveling parents, moving place of residence, illness, a birth, etc. should be shared with the school so that we can support your child through it.

Please do not send your child to cheder when he isn't ready or able to learn. Sending a child who hasn't slept to cheder may have a negative long-term impact.

HOMEWORK

Homework is an important link between school and home and deepens the interrelationship between Rebbi/teachers and parents. It is an opportunity for you to become involved in your children's learning, and an ideal avenue for communication with the Rebbi or teacher.

Homework reinforces material learned in class; *limudei kodesh* homework emphasizes the importance of learning Torah at school and at home. Homework assignments are intended to be a quick review. Here is a list of the average time *Limudei Kodesh* and General Studies subjects should take:

Grade 1-2: Not more than 15 minutes. Grade 3-4: Not more than 20 minutes. Grade 5-8: Not more than 30 minutes.

If your child spends more time on homework than indicated, or needs extensive help in completing his assignments, please discuss this with his Rebbi/teacher.

Please sign the homework book/sheets each night after ascertaining that the assignments were completed. Unsigned homework will be marked "incomplete." The homework book/sheets may be used to record any comments or questions you may have for the teacher or *rebbe*. If your child was unable to complete the homework, please explain the reason on the homework sheet.

INTERPERSONAL RELATIONSHIPS

Students should be safe at Cheder. There are no bullies at cheder, there are students who struggle socially and we teach them how to relate to others appropriately. Students who are not open to learning respectful and kind ways of social interactions have made it clear that they aren't ready to be students at cheder. A student who continues to hurt other students after clear instructions of what is and isn't appropriate will be removed from

Cheder.

LOST & FOUND

Please label clothing, books and other personal articles sent to Cheder. Unmarked articles, including: jackets, coats, sweatshirts, briefcases, gloves and the like will be placed on the lost & found rack. Unclaimed articles are disposed of. Please note that tens of jackets and sweaters are disposed of due to lack of labeling.

BAR MITZVAH CELEBRATIONS

The Bar Mitzvah and its celebration set a foundation for the life of a young *bochur* and his classmates. It is critical that the atmosphere of the celebration promote positive, Torah'dik and *chassidishe* values. As you prepare for this event, here are some suggestions to help enhance your *simchah*.

Please check the cheder Calendar before setting a date for the formal Bar Mitzvah celebration to assure that it does not conflict with a school event. Please notify the Cheder office of the date to avoid conflicts with school activities still in the planning stages and other bar mitzvos.

We invite you to join the Cheder *minyán* on the first day that your son puts on *tefillin*. Nothing is expected of you beyond participation as we honor your son. You may offer the students a light treat at breakfast such as cake/doughnuts and juice. Please do not plan a lavish breakfast for this event. Parents should check with the *menahel* concerning what is appropriate. On a school day, classmates may not participate in a *hanochas tefillin* event taking place outside of the cheder.

When planning a *Bar Mitzvah* celebration, please make sure all classmates are invited. If the *Bar Mitzvah* celebration is on a school night, schedule it so that the children can leave by 10:00 PM as mandated by cheder. Please make sure that the atmosphere is within parameters set by *halacha* and in a *chassidishe ruach*; including a proper *mechitzah* and appropriate music.

Party hats and other *shtick* are not approved. They lead to a wild atmosphere which often cause an upset rather the intended *simchah*. Our experience time and time again, is that a little misguided allowance for frivolousness, leads to extended and long-term pain.

IN CONCLUSION

Remember, Cheder Chabad is an extension of your home. Your child will be in the able care of experienced and loving 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 happiness and wellbeing of your child, therefore, cooperation and communication between parents and staff are vital. We encourage you to feel free to arrange an appointment to speak to your child's *Rebbi*, teacher or the principal, whenever there is a concern about your child. Please call the Cheder office to arrange an appointment.

Addendum 2023/24

THE CHEDER LIBRARY

The cheder library offers students an opportunity to borrow approved books to read at their leisure. Students are responsible to return the books after two weeks. A charge of \$35 dollars is issued for a lost or damaged library book.

Students who read library books during class will lose their ability to borrow books. If students share each other's books for reading during class, an entire class may forfeit their use of the library.

SPORTS EQUIPMENT

Metal bats and hard balls may not be brought to cheder. Hardballs will be confiscated and not returned and on second offense students will have to pay a \$50 deposit to make sure they don't bring a hardball to cheder.

Metal bats may be used at a park when going on an outing.

Private sports equipment may be brought to cheder as long as students aren't excluded from the games.

MESIVTAH READINESS / MECHINA

The cheder vision includes transitioning our talmidim to a Chabad *mesivta* program. We cater to families who want to enroll their children in a *mesivta*. This vision impacts cheder policy and our overall approach to learning *nigleh* and *chassidus*.

Throughout the year, we implement various programs to help with the transition to *mesivta*. A weekly shiur with Rabbi Lustig from the Monsey *mesivta*, a chavrusa learning event, *shiurim* by visiting *magidei shiur* from

various *mesivtas* as well as farhers by *mesivta* principals are some of the activities we bring to create a *mechinah* setting.

Daily Schedule

	Grade 1 - 2	Grade 3 – 5	Grade 6	Grade 7 - 8
<i>Sunday</i>				Minyan 8:30
Start of class	9:30	9:30	9:30	9:45
First Recess	10:30	10:55	11:20	11:20
Second Recess	11:50	12:20		
Lunch	12:15	12:45	11:45	11:45
Back to class	12:40	1:00	12:00	12:00
Mincha - <i>bizmano</i>			1:15	1:15
Dismissal	1:30			
<i>Monday – Thursday</i>				Minyan 7:30
Start of class	8:45	8:45	8:45	8:55 (M&T 9:05)
First recess	10:20	10:40	11:05	11:05
Second recess	11:35	12:15	1:00	1:00
Lunch	12:00	12:40	1:25	1:25
Third recess		1:45	3:00	3:00
Mincha		1:35	2:45	2:45
General studies	2:05	2:05	3:25	3:25
Dismissal	4:10	4:10	5:15	5:15
<i>Friday</i>				Minyan 7:30
Start of class	8:45	8:45	8:45	8:35
Recess	10:20	10:40	11:05	11:05
Dismissal	12:05	12:05	12:05	12:05

Cheder Contact Information

Elementary Boys

Cheder Chabad Boys' School
15 Widman Ct.
Spring Valley, NY 10977

Office Tel: 845-356-1213 ext. 2000

Office Fax: 845-503-2322

Office e-mail:

chederchabadboys@chedermonsey.org

Elementary Girls Cheder

Chabad Girls' School
25 South Monsey Road
Airmont, NY 10952

Office Tel: 845-356-1213 ext. 1105

Office Fax: 845-503-2322

Office e-mail:

Chederchabadgirls@chedermonsey.org

Founder	Rabbi Y. Shusterman	ext. 2124 yshusterman@chedermonsey.org
Executive Director	Rabbi D. Brawer	ext 2100 rabbibrawer@chedermonsey.org
Boys Principal, Kodesh	Rabbi. L. Kaplan	ext. 2101 menahel@chedermonsey.org
Boys Assistant Principal, Kodesh	Rabbi. S. Itkin	ext. 2102 principala@chedermonsey.org
Girl's Principal, Kodesh	Mrs. C. Rosenbluh	ext. 1101 crosenbluh@chedermonsey.org
Girl's Principal, General Studies	Mrs. P. Friedland	ext. 1102 pfriedland@chedermonsey.org
Preschool Director	Mrs. Light	ext. 1103 clight@chedermonsey.org
Registrar	Mrs. Mendelowitz	ext. 2121 tmendlowitz@chedermonsey.org
Administrative Assistant	Mrs. Roth	ext. 2104 sroth@chedermonsey.org
Bookkeeper	Ms. Fuchs	ext. 2105 rfuchs@chedermonsey.org
CCB Administrative Assistant	Mrs. Mandel	ext. 2000 boys@chedermonsey.org
Girls Secretary	Mrs. C. Browd	ext. 1105 cbrowd@chedermonsey.org
Girls Secretary	Miss Fischer	ext. 1000 girls@chedermonsey.org
Administrative Assistant	Mrs. E. Markowitz	ext. 1104 emarkowitz@chedermonsey.org
School Nurse	Mrs. Kamensky	ext. 1106 nurse@chedermonsey.org