

בס"ד



STUDENT HANDBOOK

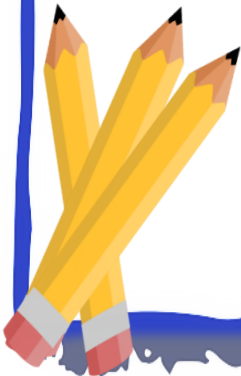
2023/24 ~ תשפ"ד

*Cheder Chabad of Monsey
Elementary Boys' School*

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To be a Chossid



Dear Student 'שי,

Welcome to Cheder Chabad!

Welcome to Cheder Chabad of Monsey! The cheder is a place where soldiers in Hashem's army expand their abilities to become the best soldiers they can be. At the cheder, each and every day we are met with our mission of the day and we are given the knowledge, the tools and the guidance to be able to perform them with excellence.

There are various procedures and guidelines that help us achieve our goal. The purpose of this handbook is to present you with clear guidelines which will nurture the *chayol* in you.

In addition to instructions many chassidishe ideas are sprinkled into the handbook as well. The ideas are sourced in מאמרי חז"ל and הוראות of the רבי. You are encouraged to reflect on them and to discuss them with your Rebbi if you have any questions about them.

Read through this booklet carefully, you will see that many points are common sense. However, it is important to keep in mind that the foundation of a Torah-education is קבלת עול. *Kabolos ol* means doing the right thing even when you don't understand it and even when you aren't in the mood. A soldier receives orders, not suggestions.

Your success at Cheder will match your effort in following these guidelines and completing your work. Don't hesitate to speak to your *mechanchim* about something you are unsure about. We are here for your success. May you be a source of חסידי'ישע נחת and may your learning and good מידות bring ממש בקרוב משיח צדקנו!

With wishes for הצלחה רבה,

Rabbi Levi Kaplan
Rabbi Yeshaya Itkin
Principals

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EFFORT = ACHIEVEMENT

יְגַעְתִּי וּמְצָאתִי תַאֲמִין

Our חכמים tell us that there is no substitute for hard work. When you are faced with a difficult task, embrace it because your efforts are invested in you. You are becoming a chossid and *oved Hashem*. Your success will equal your effort. Working hard is a Torah value, and *chassidus* describes effort as a key to serving Hashem.

ATTENDANCE

אִם תִּעְזְבֵנִי יוֹם יוֹמִים אֶעֱזָבְךָ

In order for you to succeed, you must attend every day of cheder. Every class is precious and intended to a specific achievement. Attendance is tracked and included in your report card. In the event that you are absent:

One full day: bring a note signed by a parent addressed to your Rabbi explaining the circumstances. You are responsible for material missed due to unexcused absence.

Multiple Days: bring a note signed by a parent addressed to the principal and meet with him before returning to class. The principal will determine the course of action for your absence.

When taken out of class for one-on-one learning, you are responsible for the material learned during that time.

Talmidim in grades 5-8 who miss four days in a week not due to illness, have to meet with a parent and the principal to assess their progress and participation in learning and classwork.

All students are responsible to return to class right after recess in a timely fashion. Students who are late will forfeit their right to have outdoor recess and may receive detention.

BIRTHDAYS

וְאִסָּא חֲסִידֵי שְׁעָר פֶּאָרְבֵּרֵי יִנְגַעַן קָען

אויִפֿטאַן

Your birthday is a special opportunity for your Rabbi to *farbrenge* with your class in fulfilling the Rebbe's *horo'oh*. Before your birthday, ask your parents to be in touch with your Rabbi to schedule a farbrengen. You may want to donate a book to your class or the library in honor of your birthday. No surprise parties allowed for students or staff.

A Birthday *farbrengen* is a time to strengthen ourselves in *kedusha* and *chassidishkeit*. *Nosh* should be appropriate and the location and activities should match our Rebbe's vision.

Fire hazards are never allowed. Colored hats or other *shtick* will be confiscated and not returned.

When having a birthday *farbrengen* off premises, invite the entire class or only two friends. Events in public facilities (e.g., ice skating, bowling, etc.) should follow cheder guidelines and should be discussed with *hanhalah* before being scheduled.

The office staff don't coordinate rides, and the district bus company does not allow transportation changes to bus routes and drop-offs. Out-of-district students may not use the bus.

Please do not schedule sleepovers for more than two friends on a school night.

BRIEFCASE

א חסיד'ס פעקל

Please make sure you bring your book bag to and from cheder every day and keep it clean. Give your parents all cheder notes. You will receive a Homework Journal called a *yoman*, make sure to sign it daily. *Hanholoh* reserves the right to review everything brought into the building. Your locker, briefcase, etc.

BOOKS

בית מלא ספריים

ספרי קודש must be treated with care and respect. Do not write, draw, color, etc. in a ספר. You are responsible to care for and hold on to your workbooks. Some books may be loaned to you for the purpose of learning, care for them as though they were your own cherished possessions. Upon completing their use, return them in good condition, clean and neat for the incoming students. Students who neglect to care for their books, resulting in damage, will be required to pay for them. The following constitute neglect:

1. Leaving them around
2. Tearing them or scribbling on them. Your name should be written only once in the designated space.
3. Taking it home

When you see a Cheder book that isn't in its place, fulfil the mitzvah of *hashovas aveidah* by returning it to the owner or the office.

Students who are negligent with cheder books, will have to pay a security deposit of \$50 for cheder workbooks .

BUSING

וּבְלִקְתָּהּ בְּדֶרֶךְ

Safety is number one. The Cheder partners with your parents in ensuring that you are safe at all times and you are responsible to act safely. Here are some safety measures related to your bus ride:

- Be at the bus stop 5 minutes early
- Enter the bus quickly, find a seat and sit down
- Remain seated while the bus is moving
- Always keep your head and arms inside the bus
- Speak in a low voice; no shouting
- When exiting the bus, do so in an orderly fashion; no pushing
- Obey the bus driver's directions and be courteous
- Keep the bus clean and in good condition
- No fighting

Misbehavior on the bus is a serious offense. The bus driver will first warn you and notify the principal. After a second offense, the cheder will suspend you for a day. If negative behavior continues, you may be suspended for days, weeks or months. Please make a *kiddush Hashem* at all times.

As per district policies, you are permitted to ride only on your route. If you are not taking your regular bus route, a temporary bus pass must be obtained from the Office. Children not residing in the ERCSD may not use the buses at any time. Alternate transportation arrangements must be made in advance.

To get permission to walk or ride your bike home, you must submit a signed note to the office, which is kept on file. Arrangements for you to go home with friends after school via carpool must be submitted in writing to the school. Electric scooters may not be parked or charged at cheder.

OUT OF TOWN STUDENTS

יְהוּי גוֹלָה לְמָקוֹם תּוֹרָה

The Cheder is proud of our out-of-town *talmidim* who travel daily to learn. We recognize that they may not be able to participate in all aspects of cheder and therefore ask that as we accommodate you, you reciprocate with exemplary behavior.

Students who are picked up via carpool should wait in the carpool area and lookout for their rides. The phone number of your driver should be on file at the office.

If you need a phone to coordinate your carpool ride, you must meet the following requirements.

1. Only a flip phone
2. You must show it to the menahel to receive clearance
3. The phone must be kept in the office during the school day
4. Bluetooth must be turned off
5. Any phone found on a student without a contract will be confiscated

CARING

יְכִי יְמוּדָה אֶחָיִף וּמִטָּה יָדוּ... וְהִחֲזַקְתָּ בּוֹ

As chassidim, concern for a fellow Yid is the most important thing. Look out to see if someone is in pain and show that you care by:

- Helping them get up, giving them a tissue, cup, fork, etc. letting them go ahead of you in line
- Include a student from the sidelines into your game
- Help a classmate learn material he missed or didn't fully understand
- Complement another Yid
- Call a classmate who isn't well and wish him a רפואה שלימה
- Be careful not to say something hurtful even by mistake

Most importantly, pay attention to your surroundings, look at your friend and notice if there is distress on his face. Be helpful.

We are committed to assuring that every student is safe. As the Rebbe's *chassidim* we expect students to care about each other's feelings, and create safe environment conducive to learning and filled with טובות מדות. The Rebbe taught us everyone is stronger than

someone in some areas and weaker in other areas. The reason for this is for the strong to help the weak.

In this spirit, the Cheder dedicates much time and effort to the mitzvah of Ahavas Yisroel. We care and step in to stop kids from bothering each other. Bothering includes: name calling, touching their things, excluding them from a game, speaking to others about them and all forms of physical aggression. A student who purposely bothers or hurts others will not be able to continue at cheder.

CLASSROOM

דִּירָה נְאֻהָ מִרְחִיבָה דַעְתּוֹ שֶׁל אָדָם

An attractive classroom is a nice place to learn and spend your day; a dirty one is not. The classrooms are cleaned daily, nevertheless, it is incumbent on you to maintain order and cleanliness around your desk during the school day.

Before the end of a learning period, spend a moment tidying the room, throw away any garbage and straighten up your desk.

CLASSROOM BEHAVIOR

דָּרָה אֲרִיץ קְדָמָה לַתּוֹרָה

Derech erez is expected of all students and is the foundation of learning. Speak respectfully to all cheder staff and your classmates. Don't interrupt your teacher or a fellow student. In general, conduct yourself as a *chosid*. Lack of *derech erez* isn't tolerated and will require us to hand your *chinuch* back to your parents.

By the time you reach fourth grade, you already know the behaviors that are and aren't appropriate in a classroom. Here is a select few rules to follow:

1. Give your Rebbi and teacher your full attention. Avoid distractions.
2. Speak only when called upon after raising a hand. A student must never interrupt the teacher or another student.
3. Do all assigned work diligently and completely.
4. Be courteous to your Rebbi/teacher and your fellow students.

If the above rules are not followed, consequences will follow. A student in grades 1-5 who will be sent to the principal's office more than twice a month will have to stay after school detention between

4:15-5:00 that day. Students in grades 6-8 will have to stay detention on Sunday between 1:30-2:30.

DAVENING

וְאָהֲרָ' לָהֶם מְקוֹדֵשׁ מְעַט

Talmidim grades 7 and 8 are required to attend daily *minyan* at Cheder.

Times: Mon-Fri 7:30 am, Sunday 8:30 am

Breakfast: Following *minyan*, breakfast is served

דַּע לִפְנֵי מִי אַתָּה עוֹמֵד - Know before Whom you stand. תפילה demands attention to what is being said and an awareness of to whom it is being said. During *davening* it is not appropriate to chat or walk around.

Shabbos – Talmidim, grades 5 and up, are expected to *daven* with a *minyan* all of the *Shabbos tefillos* including following *krias haTorah*. You should conduct yourself in shul according to *halachah* (e.g. not talking during *davening*, etc.). Boys of grades 4 and below should *daven* as much as they are able.

DRESS CODE

תְּלַמֵּיד חֲכָם נִיכָר בְּלְבוּשׁוֹ

Cheder students are expected to dress in a way that reflects the atmosphere and values of a chabad *chossid* in a Torah setting. The following guidelines express our *chassidische* standards reflecting our values:

1. A yarmulke and *tzitzis* must be worn at all times
2. No leather, knitted or light-colored *yarmulkes*
3. **Pants:** Black or navy blue pants (no jeans, shorts, sweatpants, oversized-cargo pockets, or skin-tight pants allowed).
4. **Shirts:** Button-down shirts (white, blue or light. No t-shirts, polo shirts or collarless shirts). Shirts should be tucked in at all times (except during recess).
5. White shirts should be worn on *chassidische Yomim Tovim*.
6. **Sweaters:** The Cheder sweater, chidon sweater or a plain navy blue or black sweater may be worn.
7. **Shoes:** No sandals, crocs or hee-lies allowed. Shoes need to be dark colored and conservative looking. No white or bright colors on shoes.

8. **Accessories:** no wristbands or necklaces
9. Boys who are in 7th & 8th grade may wear only white shirts, and plain dark *yarmulkas* without any writing.
10. *Bar Mitzvah bochurim* must come to Cheder with a hat and a dark colored suit jacket or blazer. A hat and jacket are worn by *davening* and *bentching*. Zippered jackets or sport jackets are not acceptable. No feathers, pins or other ornaments on Jackets or hats.
11. **Hygiene:** Students are expected to bath/shower daily, brush their teeth and dress in clean clothing. As *chassidim* who represent the Rebbe, we dress to be *mekadesh shem shomayim* always.
12. **Hair:** students are expected to take short haircuts and maintain short hair. *Payos* should reach the ear lobe.

A student who isn't dressed according to the Cheder dress code will wait by the office until he is taken home or proper clothing is brought to school.

FRIENDSHIP

קְנֵה לְךָ חֵבֵר

The mitzvah of *ahavas Yisroel* is the most central mitzvah. Friends made during the early years of school frequently last a lifetime. Cherish and cultivate your friendship with your classmates, they may last a lifetime.

1. Friends can disagree, but must not allow a verbal “fight” to become a physical fight. Being a good friend is more important than something you disagree about
2. Friends don't always see things the same way, but shouldn't permit differences to get in the way of their friendship
3. Friends know each other's strengths and weaknesses and try to bring out the best in each other
4. Friends help each other, but also allow each other to shoulder separate responsibilities
5. When choosing a partner to work with, choose the person who is the best working partner it may not always be your best friend
6. Cliques and choosing of sides interfere with true friendship. Students should try to refrain from this behavior. Although you may have a “best friend” or group of friends, it is important not to

exclude yourself or others. Leaving someone out can hurt their feelings, and is the opposite of *ahavas Yisroel*

GENERAL STUDIES

לא עם הארץ תסיד

The cheder includes English literacy in its classes as well as limited math and science studies. The purpose of our studies is to make sure we are literate and can better communicate and comprehend the Torah we learn.

You are responsible to complete all classes at cheder and may not opt out of any subject. The hanholoh has worked with the vaad hachinuch and Rabbonim to establish our curriculum and every cheder student is necessarily required to do his best to master all subjects.

The cheder offers support in various ways for students who need it, from one on one tutors to smaller group learning, the cheder tries to accommodate the needs of our talmidim to the best of our ability. We are here to help, but it is your responsibility. If you are having a hard time with a subject in class discuss it with your Rebbi and ask him for a suggestion on how you can have more success mastering it. Keep to it. יגעת ומצאת תאמין.

GOING OUT

א תסיד מאכט א סביבה

You should only attend events with a מחיצה. Students should not partake in “mixed” functions or activities, i.e. parties, ice skating, professional ball games, shows, etc. with boxes and aisles without a *mechitzah*.

Shopping malls contain many stumbling blocks to a *chassidische bochur*. Malls should not be visited as a pastime and should only be visited with an adult for a specific purpose.

Students should dress in a dignified and modest manner at all times.

HALLWAYS AND STAIRWELLS

בכל דרך דעהו

School hallways and corridors are intended to lead people from one place to another efficiently. We decorate hallway walls to celebrate special days and students’ work. We must keep hallways clean so they are safe for passage like the Torah says “Do not place a stumbling

block before. . ." Students may not play, shout or speak noisily in a hallway or stairwell at any time. Running or playing tag in the hallways or stairwell will not be tolerated. Ball playing indoors is not allowed because it can be dangerous. Cheder will confiscate any ball being played within the building.

Hallway and staircase etiquette is to walk on the right side of the hallway or staircase. This allows for the flow of two-way traffic and minimizes the risk of anyone getting hurt by bumping in to someone walking towards them.

HOMEWORK

וְהִגִּיתָ בוּ יוֹמָם וְלַיְלָה

1. You can expect your teachers to explain assignments clearly, so that you know what is expected of you.
2. Homework assignments will not require neither the use of books or materials that you don't have at home, or the internet.
3. Homework will be at the ability level of your ability, to promote independent work.
4. Completed homework will be graded or otherwise marked in a timely fashion.

Teacher's expectations from you:

5. Homework will be done neatly, (so that the teacher does not need to strain to read it or cannot read it at all.)
6. Homework will be completed and turned in on time without your teacher needing to ask you for it
7. You will put forth your best effort.
8. You will not "borrow" a classmate's or friend's completed homework assignment, transcribe it and misrepresent it as your own.

Homework assignments will be kept to no more than the following in both the *Limudei Kodesh* and General Studies subjects:

Grade 1-2: 15-20 minutes per teacher

Grade 3-4: 25-30 minutes per teacher

Grade 5-6: 30 minutes per teacher

Grade 7-8: 30 minutes in each subject (not more than 2 hours a night)

Homework books/sheets must be signed each night by one of your parents. Unsigned homework may be marked "incomplete." If your

homework is not complete because either you did not have time or it was too difficult, a note must be sent in by your parents.

MEALTIME

זֶה הַשְּׁלָחַן אֲשֶׁר לְפָנֵי ה'

Mealtimes are meant for eating and no other activity. A student is expected to:

1. Upon entering the lunchroom, gather three components
2. Stay in the lunchroom. No bathroom breaks during lunch
3. Sit only at the table designated for your class
4. Sit with your feet facing the table and eat your meal
5. Be ready to *bentch* at the proper time
6. Wait to be dismissed
7. Keep the eating area clean. Deliberate littering or misbehavior will not be tolerated
8. Do not deface food or the table cloth.

Making a mess in the lunchroom will require you to stay during recess to clean up. The *Cheder* will not warm up any food sent from home. You may bring a thermos to *Cheder*.)

NEATNESS

נְקִיּוֹת מְבִיָּאָה לְיַדֵּי טְהוֹרָה

Part of your education is to learn to be neat and organized, so that you can learn better and function better as adults. Unkempt appearances, a messy notebook, and papers, prevent you from reaching your full potential. Therefore, the *Cheder* requires students to dress neatly and maintain an aura of organization.

Teachers will require students to tuck in their shirt, button shirts or lace their shoes. They will require students to clean up a mess in their immediate classroom environment, so as to help them function better.

Teachers will not accept papers that are not neatly written and neatly presented.

SAFETY AND SECURITY

וְנִשְׁמְרָתָם מְאֹד לְנַפְשׁוֹתֵיכֶם

1. No hard baseballs or metal baseball bats allowed. These items will be confiscated on second offense and not be returned.

2. You may never leave the Cheder grounds without explicit permission. Leaving the grounds results in suspension.
3. Except for a few coins for *tzedakah* or trip money, don't bring money or valuables to school. Cheder takes no responsibility for lost money, valuables or other items.
4. No trading or selling toys, food, or anything else. Items that are sold will be taken away and not returned.
5. Sports cards, such as baseball cards, etc. are inappropriate for Cheder.

OFFICE

אִיזְהוּ חֶכֶם הַמְּכִיר אֶת מְקוֹמוֹ

A student should not be in the office without permission. The office personal should not be referred to by their first names and all discussions with office staff may only be cheder focused.

If you must call home due to an emergency, get a written note from your Rabbi/teacher or the principal. When standing by the office don't lean into the reception window. Remember to always speak respectfully and show appreciation.

RECESS TIME

הַיּוֹת הַגּוֹף בְּרִיא מְדַרְכֵי ה' הוּא

Recess is an opportunity for you to relax, exercise, and get fresh air. Students may be in the playground only with staff supervision. Children's play must be civilized; fighting is never allowed. If an argument occurs, the teacher should be called before it escalates into a fight. If a child is hurt *c"v*, call a teacher immediately. Don't rely on anyone else! Play-fighting is not allowed.

If a student interferes a game or annoys other students, approach the supervising Rabbi and don't take the law into your own hands.

Talmdim may not play inside the building during recess. Hallways are to be respected at all times, no tag, running or hanging out in the hallway.

On rainy days, you are required to stay inside the building during recess. You may play board-games in the stairwell and hallway. No basketball in the building at any time.

RESPONSIBILITY

אדם מועד לעולם

At cheder there is a large team of staff members who are each responsible for different areas of your chinuch. You also have an area of responsibility. Here is a basic list outlining your area:

1. Enter your classroom right as soon as class begins, don't linger
2. You may not enter any other classroom without permission from a Rabbi
3. Bring all necessary items: ספרים, books, papers, notebooks, pencils, etc.
4. Pay attention. Ask questions and to make sure you understand what is being taught. Your Rabbi shouldn't have to keep drawing you in.
5. Do all assigned work (class work, homework, etc.) properly. Your Rabbi shouldn't have to pursue you to submit your work, you should hand it in eagerly. If you miss an assignment, discuss how to make it up.
6. You are responsible for your behavior; it is never acceptable for a student to blame their behavior on someone else or on ignorance.
7. Participate in student activities such as: trips, outings, *chesed*, and other special events. Skipping an outing, changes the atmosphere of the event and disconnects you from the group.
8. If you miss or fail a test, you will be held responsible to make it up during recess or by staying in Cheder after school to take the test.

SCHOOL PROPERTY AND GROUNDS

ממון הקדש

The Cheder is designed with your safety in mind. The specific position of every object is calculated to make sure you are safe. Do not move or rearrange desks, tables, basketball hoops, garbage cans or anything else. Paper, pens, pencils and other office supplies are intended for the office and cheder staff, not for personal use. All paper goods are for normal use. Ruining these items will result in a fine on first offense.

In taking responsibility for your safety, students must remain visible at all times. You may not hide or go behind a dumpster.

Throughout the day, students should only be in designated spaces. You may not wander in the lunchroom, hallways, or library area. The

teacher's room is off limits. Light switches, locks, plumbing, water supply pipes, fire extinguishers, etc. may not be touched. Students who touch these items will have to pay a penalty as a security deposit.

If you damage cheder property by mistake you are required to pay for the repair. If you break something intentionally, in addition to paying for the damage, you will have to provide a security deposit of \$20 for the first instance, \$50 for a second. The security deposit will be returned at the end of the year provided that no further damage has been done.

A student who intentionally stuffs a toilet is not welcome at cheder. The cheder may ask a group of students being investigated to remain home until it is clear who is responsible for stuffing a urinal or toilet.

SNACKS

כאכלתכם כן תורתכם

You are encouraged to bring healthy snacks and bottled water each day. All snacks must be *bishul yisroel*, *cholov yisroel* and *pas yisroel*. Popcorn, pretzels, rice cakes, crackers, fruit and raw vegetables are appropriate. No candies, chocolate, sugary snacks or soft drinks are allowed. Candy brought to Cheder will be confiscated. No gum allowed.

Due to food allergies and different levels of *kashrus* observance students may not share or trade food. An allergy is when a person may not eat a certain food and those foods put them at great risk.

Students may not sell anything in cheder. Products who are sold will be confiscated and monies not returned. Students should not bring more than a few dollars to cheder.

SPEECH AND TALKING

יְהִי דְבוֹרְךָ בְּנֵהֶת עִם הַבְּרִיּוֹת

The Torah tells us that a person should always speak in a pleasant manner. Our words are a reflection of our thoughts. You should use a respectful, natural tone of voice referred to as "an indoor voice". Screaming loudly doesn't improve others listening to you.

One voice should be heard at a time. Address all cheder staff respectfully. Foul language isn't tolerated. We learn and emulate our Rebbe to speak in the most refined way.

Discussions about movies, TV shows, goyishe music or political ideas of the day should not be on the mind of any chassidische bochur. They may not be discussed at cheder. Chassidus teaches us that speaking is equal to action. It has a deep impact on our *neshomoh* and should be kept pure.

TEACHERS

עֲשֵׂה לְךָ רַב - מוֹרָא רַבָּךְ כְּמוֹרָא שְׁמַיִם

Your *Rebbeim* and teachers care deeply about your success. They teach you valuable life-lessons and connect you to Hashem and your *Yiddishkeit*. Chazal tell us that respecting our Rabbi even trumps respecting our parents.

1. A teacher may be friendly but is not your friend
2. A teacher can be a trusted confidante, but doesn't share in your gossip
3. A teacher can help, guide, prod, probe or chastise, depending upon what the situation requires, but always has your best interest in mind

It is wise to seek the advice of your teacher as *mashpia*, and carefully follow their advice.

Most successful adults are fortunate to have had a teacher or two who inspired them and helped them believe in themselves. Our school has outstanding *Rebbeim* and teachers who are eager to help students shape their lives successfully and establish a strong belief in their capability.

TV, VIDEO, INTERNET, READING

וְנִשְׁמְרֵת מִכָּל דְּבַר רָע

1. Watching television and/or גוֹאִישׁע videos is forbidden. All TV programs include material that is halachically prohibited, wastes time, dulls the mind and creates insensitivity to *tznius* and violence, destroying your pure *neshomoh*. What reaches deep into our hearts, affecting our behavior. As a result, students relate disrespectfully to their peers and their elders. Not watching these things is a *nisayon*. We are here to help you overcome this test

- by offering you activities and outlets that are filled with purpose and meaning, connecting you to Hashem.
2. No electronic devices are allowed in Cheder (cell phones, iPods, Game boys, Cameras, MP3 players, etc.). Any item deemed inappropriate will be confiscated for a short period upon first offense, and confiscated for good upon second offense.
 3. You should not own a device with internet access. Owning a device with unfiltered internet will result in expulsion from cheder
 4. You should not share or exchange videos or pictures with anyone
 5. Before you read a secular book it should be reviewed by your parents for appropriate content (clean language, *tzniusdik* pictures, etc.). All secular books brought to Cheder must be approved by your Rebbi.
 6. Unapproved material will be confiscated

INTERNET – VERY IMPORTANT! לְפָנַי עֵוֶר לֹא תָתֵן מְכֻשׁוֹל

The Torah says, “Do not place a stumbling block in front of the blind.” The internet is one of the greatest stumbling blocks there are and it is hard to protect oneself from its negativity. It is *halachically* forbidden to have unfiltered internet.

Your parents help you limit your use of the internet for your benefit. Follow their instructions closely. If you must use a computer that has internet access, follow these important guidelines:

1. Before using the device make sure it has a filter
2. It should be used only for a focused purpose, never to just randomly browse or look around.
3. Only use the internet with adult supervision
4. A computer with internet access should be in a public area of the home (e.g., the kitchen, family room, etc.).
5. Email – Your parents need to be aware of your email accounts and passwords and read them regularly
6. Limit your time on the computer by setting an alarm and going off when you meet the limit no matter what
7. You may not have a Netflix account or an Facebook, Instagram, Twitter or any other social network account. If you are found to have a Facebook or other social media account, your return to

cheder will depend on a parent meeting and permanent changes made.

LIVING THE LIFE OF A CHOSSID

As *chassidim* of the Rebbe we strive to dedicate our lives to learning Torah with *yiras shomayim* while excelling in love for our fellows. Set for yourself learning goals that involve *chazorah* and take on *hachlotos* to learn more on your own.

You should always be learning something *baal peh*, Tanya, *mishnah* or *gemoro*. Participate once a week in *mitvoim*, join an older *bochur* or call another yid on the phone and encourage them to do a mitzvah. Remember that a *neshomoh* comes down to this world 70-80 years in order to do a favor to another Yid. Try to complete your missions in Tzivos Hashem and to be a living example to your classmates, family members and others.

BAR MITZVAH

וְחֻקָּהּ וְהֵייתָ לְאִישׁ

As you celebrate your Bar Mitzvah, we encourage you to invite your parents and grandparents to the cheder to celebrate your *hanochas tefilin* and on the day of your Bar Mitzvah. The Chabad *minhag* is to be called to the *Torah* for the first time at either Shabbos *mincha*, or on the first Monday, or Thursday immediately following your 13th birthday. When planning your *Bar Mitzvah* celebration, please invite all your classmates. If you plan your *hanochas tefilin* at a location other than cheder, you may not invite your friends.

Bar Mitva's are a serious time and should not be celebrated with shtick and frivolousness. Party hats and light-shoes bring a spirit of *vildkeit* that often leads to regretful behavior.

IN SUMMARY

We look forward to an exciting and productive school year. With your cooperation and participation in following the guidelines set forth in this Handbook, you will grow in learning, *yiras shomayim*, *mentshlichkeit* and *chassidishkeit*

ADDENDUM 2024

LOCKER USE

Select classes are outfitted with lockers meant for students' use. The lockers are your personal space where you can keep your things. You may not place a lock, stickers or write your name on the lockers. You may not open a locker belonging to another student. Do not give anyone permission to open your locker.

SMARTWATCHES

Smartwatches, with or without calling capacity, may not be brought to cheder.

THE CHEDER LIBRARY

The cheder library offers you an opportunity to borrow approved books to read. You are responsible to return the books after 2 weeks. The cost to replace a lost, or damaged book is \$35.

If you read library books during class, you will lose your ability to borrow books. If you share each other's books for reading during class, your entire class may forfeit access to 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 you will have to pay a \$20 deposit to make sure you don't bring a hardball again.

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

Private sports equipment may be brought to cheder as long as you don't exclude from the games.



HANHALA AND ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Rabbi Yisroel Shusterman, *Dean*

Rabbi Dovid Brawer, *Executive Director*

Rabbi Levi Kaplan, *Menahel*

Rabbi Yeshaya Itkin, *Assistant Principal*

Ms. Templer, *Finance*

Mrs. Sury Roth, *Administrative Assistant*

Mrs. Breindy Mandel, *Administrative Assistant*

