

Yavneh Girls and Yavneh Boys Schools Policy

AIMS AND SCOPE OF THIS POLICY

This policy aims to: -

- Communicate the ethos of the Yavneh Girls and Yavneh Boys schools.
- Outline the leadership structure and key responsibilities.
- Ensure there is a strong collaboration by the Headteacher (of the whole school) with the Yavneh leadership teams to maintain and promote a religious, welcoming and caring environment, where both Yavneh Girls and Yavneh Boys can thrive both in *kodesh* and secular studies.
- Outline the religious Standards of the Yavneh Girls and Yavneh Boys.

Yavneh Girls and Yavneh Boys Schools - Core Principles

Yavneh's aim is to cultivate an environment where our students can flourish and live a happy and successful life of *Torah im derech erez*.

The emotional wellbeing of students is at the core of everything that we do. Our aspiration is to ensure that students are imbued with the love for *yiddishkiet*, inspiring them to live a Jewish life with commitment to *avodas Hashem* and *shemiras halacha*, whilst being respectful to others in the wider world they live in.

Our teachers treat each student as an individual, delivering the highest standards of religious and secular education with care and proficiency, to maximise each student's potential in achieving their own personal and professional goals in life.

Students are expected to support and act in accordance with the school's ethos at all times.

The schools exist for girls and boys who are strictly religiously observant and live in a religiously observant household.

All admissions to Yavneh are to be decided by governors

Any issues relating to Yavneh students' pastoral needs are to be addressed in the first place by Yavneh leaders, in accordance with school policy. Where applicable the Senior Leadership Team, Designated Safeguarding Lead and SENDCo should be consulted or informed.

Kodesh lessons should be viewed in line with secular studies and not seen as voluntary during any part of the students' time at school.

Any reduction to the time allocated to the kodesh curriculum must be checked with the Yavneh leadership and, if necessary, will require the approval of the governors.

High standards of religious observance (at school and out of school) must be maintained at all times.

All content of religious education in Yavneh schools should be set by the Yavneh leadership in collaboration with the Jewish Studies team and the designated governors. In addition, Yavneh leadership are to review specific content within the National Curriculum topics to ensure it is delivered in line with national requirements whilst taking account of the religious sensitivities of students and parents.

Yavneh lessons and lunches for years 7 - 11 will be separate in single-sex units and settings [unless the parent of a child requests for them to study a specialist subject that is not offered in Yavneh, or if their special needs cannot be catered for in Yavneh, in which case they will be allowed to attend class/es in King David (main school)]. Where there are sufficient numbers to justify (economically, for the whole school) separate classes, 6th form classes will also be run separately for Yavneh. Alternative solutions will also be explored to try to achieve single-sex classes for 6th form in Yavneh.

All Yavneh lessons should be located on the respective Yavneh campuses, unless it is required to utilise the facilities of King David (main school).

Assemblies and *tefillah* are to be held within the Yavneh buildings except in exceptional occasions [eg, when a Chief Rabbi or Ambassador attends] when there are whole school assemblies. Such rare occasions are to be decided in conjunction with the Yavneh leadership.

Yavneh Schools Leadership

Both Yavneh Girls' and Yavneh Boys' leadership are responsible and accountable for:

- Setting and maintaining religious standards within Yavneh Girls and Yavneh Boys.
- Setting and reviewing the religious education curriculum and teaching methodology.
- Ensuring that Yavneh Girls and Yavneh Boys uniform is in line with expected school standards and the Jewish laws of *tznius* (modest dress code) and that this is being adhered to by pupils within the whole school.
- Ensuring that the behaviour policy is adhered to and that behaviour policy is implemented and carried out.
- Ensuring that pastoral and educational needs are dealt with effectively on site within Yavneh in line with school policy.
- Ensure the well-being and safety of the Yavneh students is of the highest standard on site within the Yavneh campuses.

Yavneh leaders will collaborate closely with the headteacher and senior leaders to ensure the highest standards of education are maintained, so that the Yavneh students can thrive in both *kodesh* and secular studies.

Nothing in the above shall derogate from the law which requires that the ultimate authority lies with the governors and with the headteacher of the whole school.

Yavneh Girls and Yavneh Boys will not be treated differently in accordance with the Equality Act 2010 and will have separate lessons within their own respective buildings for years 7 - 11.

Admissions:

Applicants to Yavneh Girls and Yavneh Boys Schools will be considered from households that observe Orthodox Jewish *halacha*, including *kashrus*, *Shabbos* and *tznius*. Students and households are expected to maintain this standard and support the school ethos.

All admission requests for Yavneh Girls and Yavneh Boys will be vetted and dealt with by the governors in conjunction with Yavneh leadership.

As part of the application process for Yavneh Girls and Yavneh Boys schools all applicants and their parents/guardians will be required to attend an interview prior to offers being made.

Yavneh pupils always have the right to request to move to King David (main school)