



LEIBLER
YAVNEH
COLLEGE

בסד

Primary Parent Handbook



Welcome

Yavneh is described fondly as a small school with a big heart and students, parents and staff consider themselves to be a part of one big family. All students from Prep to Year 6 experience both Jewish and General Studies in each school day and this is key to the Yavneh experience. Your child will build strong foundations in Numeracy, Literacy and Jewish Studies, while developing a love for Yahadut and Tziyonut. Just as importantly, your child's wellbeing will be warmly nurtured by our team of caring educators.

No matter what age a child joins our College, our goal is to foster a fine character imbued with integrity and compassion. We know that each child is an individual in ability and maturity in regard to emotional and learning needs, and also in motivation and interests. As such they will experience challenges and successes day-to-day. The partnership between school and home, the parents and teachers, is vital to ensure that your child has the best chance to develop at his/her own pace with appropriate support and opportunity. We are proud of our warm and engaging learning environment, and we look forward to partnering with you throughout your child's educational journey.

Welcome to the Yavneh Family.

Contact

| | | |
|--|----------------|--|
| College Principal | Shula Lazar | s.lazar@yavneh.vic.edu.au |
| Head of Primary | Hailey Joubert | h.joubert@yavneh.vic.edu.au |
| Deputy Principal Head of Jewish Studies | Rabbi Cowen | c.cowen@yavneh.vic.edu.au |
| Head of Administration | David Fisher | d.fisher@yavneh.vic.edu.au |
| Primary Office | T: 9982 5712 | primary@yavneh.vic.edu.au |





Contents

| | | | |
|----------------------------------|-------|-------------------------------|-------|
| SCHOOL HOURS | 6-7 | GENERAL STUDIES | 17-18 |
| Before School Care | 6 | Curriculum | 17 |
| Compass | 6 | Initialit | 17 |
| COMMUNICATION / COMPASS | 9 | CARS & STARS | 17 |
| Attendance | 9 | CAMS & STAMS | 17 |
| Student Profile | 9 | The Writing Revolution | 17 |
| Events, Consent & Payment | 9 | Y6 Student Leadership | 17 |
| Teachers | 9 | Wellbeing | 18 |
| PARENT/SCHOOL PARTNERSHIP | 10 | Extra Curricular | 18 |
| Building Confidence | 10 | REPORTS & PROGRESS | 19 |
| Kosher Lunches | 10 | Parent Teacher | 19 |
| NUT-AWARE Schools | 10 | Conferences Reports Child | 19 |
| Class Placement Policy | 10 | Safety | 19 |
| Parent Involvement | 10 | | |
| UNIFORM & TUCKSHOP | 12-13 | | |
| Uniform Shop Second | 12 | | |
| Hand Uniform | 12 | | |
| Tuckshop | 13 | | |
| Birthdays | 13 | | |
| JEWISH STUDIES | 14-15 | | |
| Curriculum | 14 | | |
| Tefillah (Prayer) | 14 | | |
| Kriya | 14 | | |
| Chumash | 14 | | |
| Yedia Kali (General Knowledge) | 15 | | |
| Eretz Israel (Land of Israel) | 15 | | |
| Hebrew | 15 | | |

School Hours

For Prep, Years 1 and 2 children, the school day commences at 8:15am and finishes at 4:00pm, excluding Friday's when our Primary school day ends at 3:10pm.

Before School Care

Supervised before school care is provided at the front of the College from 8:00am – 8:15am each day. School closes early on the day before a Chag, such as Erev Shavuot, Erev Rosh Hashana, Erev Yom Kippur, Erev Sukkot and Erev Shmini Atzeret. Details of times are included in the weekly Kesher and school calendar.



Your child should be dropped off at school by 8:15am when the first bell rings. Each morning your child's day will begin at 8:20am sharp with roll call, daily organisation and Tefilla. It is therefore a very important time of day. As a modern orthodox Jewish school, attendance at and participation in the daily Tefillah lesson is compulsory.

School Nurse

The College employs a Nurse from 8:15am – 4:05pm Monday to Thursday, and 8:15am – 3:15pm on Fridays. The Nurse is employed to provide general first aid care and emergency first aid in the event of an accident or illness occurring during school hours. The College nurse is also responsible for continuing to update our medical and health policies and protocols, including allergies and asthma. The College is also fortunate to be able to provide an ongoing program of professional development to maintain the first aid qualification of all teaching and administrative staff.

If your child arrives after 8:30am (as can be expected once or twice a year) he/she is to please go directly to the Primary Office to collect a late slip. This late slip ensures your child is recorded as present which is crucial should there be an emergency requiring an evacuation and for other duty of care requirements.

If you are going to be late collecting your child or the pick up arrangements have changed (that is after 3:55pm / 4:00pm), we ask you to contact the Primary Office. Prep, Year 1 and Year 2 students will be taken to the Primary Office at 4:05pm where they can be supervised until you arrive.

If you are going to be collecting your child from school early, an "Attendance Note" must be added to Compass, as far in advance as possible, and at least prior to the commencement of the day. These attendance notes are reviewed daily by our Primary Office and teachers are also notified to ensure your child's departure is as timely as possible. Children will remain in class until the time of departure and then make their way to the Primary Office to sign out. Once you arrive at the Nagle Avenue Gate, please notify our guards you are there to collect your child, and they will then be sent down the front gate to meet you with a stamped exit slip which must be handed to the guards to exit the campus.

If your child is absent from school, please ensure you put an Attendance Note in Compass. This is a Government requirement. Please email primary@yavneh.vic.edu.au if you require a How-to- Guide on Attendance Notes in Compass.



**LEIBLER
YAVNEH
COLLEGE**

My water story



Communications

Compass is the Learning Management School and Secondary School. The platform allows parents and carers to access up to date and instantaneous information about the school. In our Primary School, we use Compass for a variety of reasons including:

1. Attendance

Using Compass, parents can view attendance information in real time. Our teachers mark the roll during homeroom and at the start of Period five.

Each morning at 9:30am an automated notification is sent to parents of students who are marked "absent" in Homeroom and prompts you to add an 'Attendance Note' explaining the absence.

Attendance notes must be added by parents into Compass as promptly as possible and with as much notice as possible. This is also a requirement for all extended periods of leave (i.e. family holiday/illness), as well as if a child needs to be picked up early from school. The Primary Office will check the 'Attendance Notes' three times a day and we will do our best to have your child ready for pick up.



2. Student Profile

The student profile is the destination for all your child's information including an overview of classes, activities, events and excursions. It also allows you to email teachers.

3. Events, Consent & Payment

Parental consent is always required for excursions and camps, and payment is sometimes necessary and this is completed through Compass. Compass collates and lists anything that requires consent or payment in the 'Action Centre' of your child's Compass profile.

Teachers

Teachers are the first port of call regarding your child's learning and wellbeing. We appreciate and encourage communication from parents regarding the positive aspects of College events, as well as any concerns that you may have from time to time. Should you have a concern, please contact your child's Home Group Teachers (General Studies & Jewish Studies) to discuss your concern. For any further follow-up, please consult with the Head of Primary via the Primary Office.



How You Can Help

Building Confidence and Optimistic Thinking

You can help your child(ren) to build confidence and optimism by encouraging a habit of growth mindset self talk thinking and expressing gratitude. Asking children to tell you about the good things that happen each day helps develop healthy habits and encourages them to thrive mentally. You could ask questions like:

What is your favourite moment from today?

What was something you learned to do?

What was most fun for you today?

How did you show kindness today? Can you think of something kind you noticed today?

What made you laugh today?

How did you help somebody today?

How did somebody help you today?

Make sure your child knows where you will be waiting to collect him/her after school. Parents can wait for their child inside the school grounds, at the front of the school. Prep to Year 2 teachers will walk children to the waiting area and supervise them. At 4:05pm, Prep to Year 2 students who have not been picked up will be taken to the Primary Office. If you are delayed, a message must be left at the Primary Office or emailed to your child's teachers.

Children eat all recess snacks and lunch in their classroom at times specifically set aside for this. Give your child nutritious Kosher snacks and lunch. We recommend children include a piece of fruit/vegetable for morning tea and afternoon tea rather than 'nosh' in addition to lunch food. Please note we are a "NUT AWARE SCHOOL". We have a number of children who have severe allergies to nuts that can be life threatening within seconds. We ask that you carefully consider this when preparing your child's lunch.

Class Placement Policy

A great deal of thought and planning goes into placing children into classes every year. The primary staff and Head of Primary work closely together in aiming to best meet the educational, social and emotional needs of our students. Every effort is made to place each child in an environment that will enhance their development. To achieve this, classes are created based on the professional judgment of staff who use data gathered from assessments, student reflections, observations and consultations with relevant staff. We also understand that student friendships are an important consideration in this process.



Parent Involvement

Parent involvement in College activities is encouraged and we are fortunate to have a wide variety of ways in which you can become involved. These include: Excursions & Incursions, becoming Parent Conveners, joining the Parent Security Group, becoming a Tuckshop Volunteer, helping at our Mother's & Father's Day Stalls, being involved in our Yavneh Parents' Organisation Events – and so much more!

Uniform & Tuckshop

Uniforms can be ordered in person or online via flexischools.com.au. All orders are filled weekly and delivered to student classrooms. The Uniform Shop will also be open in the last week of January by appointment. Please email uniformstaff@yavneh.vic.edu.au

| | | | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------|--------|---|---------|
| The Uniform Shop is open: | Tuesday | 8:00am | - | 11:00am |
| | Wednesday | 8:00am | - | 11:00am |
| | Thursday | 2:00pm | - | 5:00pm |

Second Hand Uniforms

To purchase a pre-loved uniform, please contact ypo@yavneh.vic.edu.au. You can also join over 400 members in the Yavneh 2nd Hand Uniform and Books Facebook Group to buy and sell your pre-loved uniforms and books.





Tuckshop

It is possible to order food and drinks for your primary aged child. Primary students are not permitted to buy lunch directly from the tuckshop during the day. Orders are placed by parents via the Flexischools Website & are then delivered to the classroom at lunch time only.

Snacks and drinks are not available for purchase at morning or afternoon recess for primary students.

Frozen juice cups and drinks: Primary children are not allowed to eat frozen cups or drinks inside the classroom. This is because these items are time consuming to eat and distract children from their learning. Please be aware that spending recesses and play time eating frozen items limits a child's availability for playing games and running around.

Please note that from 2024, Prep children are not permitted to have frozen cups or drinks at all during the school day.

Birthdays

In order to encourage "healthy body, healthy minds". We will move the focus from food based celebrations to celebrating with classroom activities. Treats from home or Kosher providers are not permitted.

Jewish Studies

Torah Curriculum and Hebrew Language

In the Primary School, we build on the foundation established in the ELC by maintaining an environment that encourages a love of Torah Mitzvot, devotion to Hashem, and a love for Israel and learning Hebrew.

Our teaching staff foster Jewish identity by encouraging children to explore their Jewish heritage using fun and creative methods. Additionally, our Jewish Studies classes utilise outstanding learning materials and provide the resources needed to maintain small group instruction as well as provide Jewish studies integration and individual reading support for students as required.

At Yavneh, we appreciate the impact of hands-on learning in creating deep memories and lifelong passion. Our students proudly shake the lulav and etrog during Sukkot, and enjoy meals in the sukkah; for Purim they make their own megillah and graggers, and enjoy a Purim carnival; prior to Pesach, they study the haggadah; they respectfully commemorate Yom Hazikaron, and joyously celebrate Yom Ha'Atzmaut. In the weeks leading up to each of the chagim, our hallways blossom with artwork and decorations, and resound with festive music.

By making the study of Hebrew and Judaism relevant to the students' everyday lives, they develop a true appreciation of their heritage and understand the need for continued, life-long Jewish study.

Torah Curriculum and Hebrew Language

Each morning begins with Tefillah. From the moment they receive their very first siddur at a special Prep siddur celebration, students develop literacy in navigating the siddur, fluency in reading the daily Tefillot, as well as those of Rosh Chodesh and the Chagim.

Kriya (Reading)

Our unique Kriya curriculum guides students step-by-step in learning to read each letter and vowel of Lashon Hakodesh. Student develops skills in accordance with their abilities, starting from learning to blend each letter with a vowel and then move on to blending multi syllable words. This is a skill that is taught in prep and worked on throughout the whole primary school.

Chumash

From the moment our students receive their first Chumash Bereshit in Year 1, they start to develop a love for the study of Torah. We follow the journey of our Avot Avraham, Yitzchak and Yaakov in Chumash Bereshit throughout the primary years. In Year 3, students continue to grow in their study of Chumash, and add the reading of Rashi to their growing list of skills. We use the L'havin U'lehaskil Chumash program, a skills based curriculum by which our children learn to decode psukim on their own. We aspire that by the time our students graduate from Year 6, they are comfortable with independently reading and understanding elements of the Chumash text.

Yedia Kali (General knowledge)

The Torah Enrichment program which runs from Prep to Year 6 is rich in content, rigorous in developing important skills and inspired by the values and lessons that are a fundamental part of Judaism. In lower Primary, we use story and song to equip students with basic knowledge so that by Year 1 the focus can move to a more text-based curriculum. The following list is an example of the material covered in Prep to Year 3: The Avot, Imahot and Shevatim; the names of all the Chagim and Jewish Calendar months, laws of keeping Shabbat; laws of Kashrut; knowledge of the weekly Parsha; Pirkei Avot; names of the Parshiot and books of Tanach; Masechtot of the Mishnah; and, selected Brachot as well as all the Brachot Acharonot.

The curriculum spirals as we progress through primary school to include aspects of Jewish and Israel History. Students learn the names of the Shoftim, famous mountains that appear in Tanach, Kings of Ancient Israel, Prime Ministers and Presidents of the Modern State of Israel, as well as the great Gedolim of past and present generations and many of the Sfarim that they wrote. The program aims to provide students with a broad Jewish literacy, ensuring they are steeped in the manifold aspects of our rich tradition.



Eretz Yisrael (The Land of Israel)

One of the most important outcomes of our Jewish Studies curriculum is to bolster the connection of our students to Eretz Yisrael. We incorporate various activities in which students are encouraged to explore, extend and enhance their connection and knowledge about Israel.

Hebrew

Students develop their Hebrew skills in a gradual, spiral process, building new concepts and language skills atop an expanding foundation of knowledge. Our children are exposed to the Hebrew language through experiential learning which includes songs, games and art activities that develop both their vocabulary and grammatical knowledge. Each lesson focuses on distinct skills.

In their early years, students learn to recognise each of the letters of the Hebrew Aleph-Bet and the nekudot. They progress towards blending letters and nekudot, slowly expanding their proficiency to the point that they can fluently read entire words. Our kriyah program ensures that students Hebrew reading advances throughout their primary schooling, and that the more complex rules reading rules are reviewed and mastered.



General Studies

Curriculum

The Primary School curriculum is underpinned by a culture that empowers students to be active participants in their learning. Students are exposed to explicit teaching in core curricula such as English and Mathematics.

The Primary School uses the Australian Curriculum as the basis for curriculum planning. It sets out the core areas of learning that are required for a well-rounded generalist education. Curriculum areas include; Mathematics, Sciences, Humanities, Digital Technologies, Personal, Social and Physical Education, as well as the Arts.

Some highlights of our Primary School Curriculum include:

INITIALIT PROGRAM

(Prep – Year 2 Literacy)

Initialit is an evidence-based literacy program that runs over the first three years of school. It gives students the foundations to become successful readers and writers.

CARS and STARS

(Year 3 to 6 Reading Comprehension)

This evidence-based reading and comprehension program helps Year 3 to 6 students become critical, confident readers. Children can then use this knowledge to deepen their understandings of all texts, including Jewish texts.

CAMS and STAMS (Year 3 to 6 Mathematics)

This evidence-based program teaches students strategies to achieve mathematical success. It helps Year 2 to 6 students build on their conceptual understanding and computational fluency.

THE WRITING REVOLUTION

TWR is an evidence-based program that teaches writing intentionally and sequentially. This program runs from Prep to Year 12 and as students progress, the writing skills are embedded across the key subject areas to link reading, writing and thinking.

YEAR 6 STUDENT LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

Our student leadership model is inclusive and educational. Year 6 students choose to participate in the year long program which aims to upskill students through experience and knowledge building. Students work with their facilitator in one of four portfolios, namely Sport and School Spirit, Environment, Jewish Life and Assemblies. In addition, there is also a leadership program after school targeting age- appropriate leadership skills development.



WELLBEING

Restorative Practice 2.0 is a whole school program which was introduced at the start of 2023. Our staff are committed to cultivating a supportive environment for wellbeing and learning by building strong relationships between staff, students and parents. Restorative Practice is about teaching our students responsibility through experience, as well as about harm and relationships. When somebody does damage in a relationship – we get to work on fixing that up.

“Only in a culture that commits to releasing the responsibility of building, repairing and maintaining relationships to students, can we teach the skill of building and sustaining relationships and emotional intelligence.” Being a genuine RP2.0 School means a shift in mindset of how we work with our students. Our focus is on language, conduct and mindset.

EXTRA CURRICULAR OFFERINGS

Our co-curricular offerings have something for everyone!

Sport: If your child has a love of sport, they will enjoy our intra-school round robins, inter-school sport sessions, cross country, athletic carnivals, sport lessons and intensive swimming week.

Music: We offer classroom music and performing arts, including primary choir, chamber ensemble, primary stage band, bi-annual music soirees and private instrumental music lessons.

Special Interest Clubs: Yavneh has a range of JLife lunch clubs and Primary Choir, Chess and board games.

After school clubs include chess, robotics and Hotshots tennis.



Reports & Progress

Parent/Teacher Conferences

Interviews are conducted three times per year in Primary. In 2025 these take place in February, March and September.

Reports

Your child will receive reports twice a year, at the end of each semester. Your child's set of reports will contain information regarding all curriculum covered during the semester and an update regarding your child's progress. These reports can be accessed via Compass. They clearly outline the specific outcomes for the various subjects taught. Copies of your child's set of reports from Years Prep to 6 are available at the College and a hard copy or email of the report will be provided upon request.



Child Safety

We believe the development of a school environment and culture that model safe and respectful practices and is consistent in dealing with incidents of bullying and violence is important. In Primary, we use the NSW program to teach students ways to protect themselves from abuse, using age-appropriate material so they can be 'enlightened without being frightened'. It is important to give students enough information so that, if faced with potential abuse, they can react quickly and seek protection effectively.



**LEIBLER
YAVNEH
COLLEGE**

We trust that you and your child will have a memorable and exciting year at Leibler Yavneh College. We look forward to sharing many happy school years together.

