



Mission Statement and policies

Our Mission:

The Chinuch vision of Bais Yaakov Bnos Malka of Ramat Beit Shemesh is that Torah chinuch is holistic in nature, addressing and facilitating every aspect of the education, growth and development of each child into an eved Hashem. BYBM is committed to maintaining the highest standards in all areas of chinuch. BYBM was established primarily to help ease the transition of olim families to Eretz Yisrael, and their integration into the Chareidi world. We are an Israeli Bais Yaakov, with an anglo style culture. The entire staff understands and appreciates the unique culture and needs of this particular Kehilla.

This begins, first and foremost, with direct and continuous guidance in hashkafic matters from Harav Noach Orlowek, shlita, in halachic matters, from Harav Elimelech Kornfeld, shlita, and educational guidance from Dr. Devorah Rosenwasser and Batya Markowitz from Michlalah Yerushalayim L'banot. The guidance we receive can include limudei kodesh curriculum development, school policies, hiring staff, student admissions and, most importantly, daas Torah on the proper way to pass on the mesorah to the next generation.

Upon graduation from BYBM, your daughter will be prepared to attend any of the local Bais Yaakov high schools, as well as other mosdos outside of RBS that maintain a similar Torah environment.

Our Values:

In partnership with our dedicated parent body, BYBM hopes to inspire within our girls a love for Torah and tefillah, hakpadah in halachah, ahavas and yiras shomayim, tznius both inside and out, desire to do chessed, and an emphasis on middos and derech erez, in a safe environment dedicated to their emotional, intellectual, social, and spiritual growth. We also impart to the girls and their families a clear connection and identity as part as the larger Charedi community.

Under the motto, "derech erez kadma laTorah," BYBM will emphasize exemplary middos tovos and kavod habriyos both through specially developed social skills and ahavas yisrael programs and by seeking to ensure that the entire staff serves as proper role models in this area. The behavior and speech of the hanhalah and mechanchos will reflect proper kavod for all Torah observant communities, and convey the utmost kavod haTorah for all Gedolei Yisroel

Professional Affiliation: Bais Yaakov Bnos Malka, is affiliated with a charedi branch of the Israeli Education Ministry called Maayan Chinuch Hatorani, Bnei Yosef. The staff and students of BYBM will benefit from access to all of Bnei Yosef's professional curriculums and resources, including mandatory ongoing teacher training, mentoring, and facilities.

Bais Yaakov Bnos Malka is affiliated with Michlalah Teacher's College, in Jerusalem. Michlalah provides teacher training at the highest professional level utilizing cutting edge developments in the field of education and state-of-the-art resources. The staff of BYBM will benefit from access to all of Michlalah's professional resources and facilities, including library and laboratory facilities.

Educational Approach:

BYBM takes an integrative, differentiated, and child-centered approach to education. This means that lessons are designed to maximally engage the child. Skills are built in a developmentally appropriate fashion, with a focus on differentiated learning. Teachers work together to integrate both skills and content throughout the curriculum, both Limudei Kodesh and Chol. In each subsequent grade there is a progression and follow through of each student's skills, growth, and development. In BYBM there is a focus on the development of the whole child—



cognitively, socially, emotionally, and spiritually. As an expert in the field of education with a specialty in Integrative Education, Geveret Dr. Devorah Rosenwasser, Dean of Michlalah, will personally assist the BYBM staff in the professional development and implementation of our Integrative Curriculum. BYBM follows the guidelines of the Misrad Hachinuch in terms of curriculum, as do all of the regular Bais Yaakov schools.

Educational Goals:

Limudei Kodesh:

Over the course of eight years at Bais Yaakov Bnos Malka, your daughters will acquire comprehensive knowledge in limudei kodesh: Chumash and Navi, Tefillah and bei'urei tefillah; Tanach with a solid basis in Rashi and other Mefarshim; the Jewish calendar and chagim; Yahadus and Jewish history; Halachos and Minhagim relevant to a bas Yisroel; Halachos bein adam lachaveiro and Hashkafas haTorah. BYBM teachers will employ dynamic teaching methods to impart both textual and analytical skills, coupling a solid acquisition of the material with the ability to apply appropriate thinking skills. A goal of BYBM is to cultivate a life-long love of Torah learning, and shmiras hamitzvos

General Studies:

BYBM will maintain a high academic standard that will meet and surpass the requirements of Misrad Hachinuch. Our teachers are professionally trained, experienced and knowledgeable in their respective fields, and will teach in a professional and creative manner with a focus on building knowledge and skills across the curriculum and year by year. We are committed to developing oral and written Ivrit skills. Ivrit is the spoken language in the classroom. English reading, writing, and language arts studies will begin in the first grade.

Staff:

In keeping with our mission, BYBM maintains the highest professional standards of training, qualifications, and professionalism for our educational staff. Our teachers possess extensive knowledge and teaching experience in their respective fields and have received the most up-to-date training in dynamic teaching methods aimed at reaching all students. In addition, our staff will receive ongoing professional training to keep up with advances in teaching methods and child development for the benefit of our students. Ongoing training will cover topics such as subject matter, teaching methodology, child development, and differentiated learning, as well as specialized guidance aimed at creating a warm and supportive learning environment most conducive to the students' healthy social, emotional and academic growth.

Our teachers will focus on intrinsic motivational methods; extrinsic motivators such as contests, competitions, charts and rewards will be minimized. In addition to a mechanechet (homeroom teacher), many classes will have another grouping (hakbatza), allowing for more individualized attention for each student and greater teacher awareness of the extent of each student's skill level and grasp of the material.

We also have a "shiluv program"- a resource room program (Horaah Mitakenet) that support students with mild learning challenges, if they qualify. The parents contribute financially to this program.

Unique Programs:

We at BYBM believe that proper Torah chinuch is meant to address the development of the whole child. We place great emphasis on accentuating the positive qualities of each of our students, encouraging and providing varied opportunities for individual expression and achievement outside of traditional academics. Toward these goals, BYBM incorporates the following programs into our curriculum:



- Social Skills Program- Kishurei chaim
- Yom Limudim Aroch Program, and Art and Gym as an integral part of the curriculum
- Different chessed programs.
- Privately run, after- school extra-curricular program (KEBATZ- kef b'tzohorayim, run by Mrs. Judy Clark)
- "Safety" program sponsored by Yidedei Toronto
- Exciting Peilut chevratl programs
- Exciting trips, when permitted.

At BYBM, it is important that each student feel a sense of ownership and belonging to the school. Our extra-curricular programs are child-centered and often student initiated. The entire BYBM staff is focused on developing an atmosphere of being one cohesive whole throughout the school, across all grades. We have school-wide projects that all grades will work on together, including reading and art, a school newspaper with contributions from different grades, a big sister/little sister program, a tutoring program, and many more activities included monthly.

Recess:

At BYBM, we are committed to constant proper supervision and safety. Additionally, recess is an important part of your daughter's day and is viewed at BYBM as an educational opportunity. Teachers will be encouraged to take advantage of this informal time to impart lessons about teamwork, encourage appropriate social and communication skills, and develop problem-solving skills. With teacher involvement, recess will also become an ideal opportunity to strengthen developing Hebrew language skills in a natural social setting.

Parent Body: In recognition that the most basic tenet in chinuch is consistency, BYBM is open to families who are seeking a Bais Yaakov education for their daughters and will comply with the guidelines set out in the BYBM takanon (policies) regarding school rules and dress code as well as other policies and adherence to Halacha in all matters, both bein adam laMakom and bein adam lachaveiro. BYBM families have a solid foundation in Torah, Middos, and Tznius and are constantly seeking to grow in their Avodas Hashem, creating a consistent environment that is conducive to raising exemplary Bnos Torah.

Thus, in accordance with the charedi approach- BYBM parents view most modern media and technology, including social media, as a detrimental influence in their daughter's upbringing. It is vital that all parents feel confident sending their children to their classmates' homes, (see the school policies for details).

Bais Yaakov Bnos Malka encourages, and will provide, ample opportunity for parental involvement through various enrichment projects and initiatives, such as building a library, PTA, mother/daughter activities, etc. By investing time and effort into your children's school, you demonstrate the value of, and your esteem and respect for, your children's education. BYBM strongly believes that parents and teachers must be mutually supportive partners in children's education. There will always be an open communication line between BYBM and our parent body.

We at Bais Yaakov Bnos Malka look forward to partnering with you in the education of our precious children.



School Policies

Media, Literature, and Music Policy:

We at Bais Yaakov Bnos Malka, view most of modern media and technology, some secular literature, and all modern secular music, as a detrimental influence on our daughters' upbringing. Accordingly, we have developed a media/technology, literature, and music policy that acknowledges a current reality while at the same time protects the purity of our children and the integrity of their chinuch environment

Should your family choose to have internet access in your home after careful consideration as to whether the long-term benefits outweigh the potential long-term risks:

- a. BYBM families commit that all internet access, and all devices, including phones, tablets, etc.. must be filtered through a reliable filtering program, which is approved by the Rabbonim. An example is Netfree, Etrog, or Rimon- which must be on "high" filter setting when in use around children.**
- b. Your computer must be located in a high-traffic, public area and not in a private room. Students may not have their own devices that have any internet or social media capabilities.**
- c. Children may never have unsupervised internet access, and must always have a parent or another adult, in their immediate vicinity.**
- d. Children should not be allowed to almost ever view or engage in internet entertainment.**
- e. BYBM students may not have their own e mail, whats app, and social media accounts, etc. etc.**
- f. BYBM students may not participate in any form of social media platform such as google chat, facebook, whats app, snap chat, tik tok, instagram, zoom chat, x, etc. etc. etc. If zoom school is required then we will disable the chat feature.**

While the dangers of the internet are well known, the use of computers as entertainment centers has likewise been found in clinical studies, and through experience, to have a measurably harmful effect on children's ability to learn and focus, in addition to introducing them to ideas and behavior foreign to the life of a bas Torah.

Non-Jewish movies or programs, with very few exceptions, will almost always violate Torah principles and sensitivities (and, unfortunately, some Jewish ones as well), as will most computer games, and social media. They are not appropriate for our students. Accordingly, BYBM families understand that it is critical for the spiritual and intellectual growth of their children that computers not be misused for recreational purposes. It is vital that all parents feel confident and comfortable in sending their children to their classmates' homes. Therefore:

- g. Computers or internet should never be used for any recreational purpose when friends are visiting.**
- h. Students may not participate or belong to any social media groups. (see above)**
- i. Any secular books used in school for book reports must be on the approved list from Torah Umesorah. Please refer to www.Kosherbooks.org.**
- j. We all are aware of the tremendous affect music has on the neshoma. Therefore, music that is sung by a person who is publicly shomer Torah umitzvos can be enjoyed both in and out of school. Make sure you understand the meaning of the songs your children listen to. You may be unpleasantly surprised.**



Cell phone, Camera, Audio and Watch policy: Students in BYBM may not bring any cell phone to school, unless the parent gets specific permission for their child. If permission is granted, the child must leave the phone in the office when she comes to school, and she may pick it up when she goes home. Any cell phones found on school grounds without permission will be confiscated. Any cell phone use during school hours, and without specific permission, is not allowed. Any cell phone used outside of school by students must be one with a kosher number, with a hechsher stamped on it, **with no texting, whats app, camera, music, or internet capabilities.**

“Shiyumi” phones are not permitted.

Much research has been done regarding the communication difficulties found in people today, who instead of using speech as the preferred mode of communication, chose to text. We in BYBM support the development of good communication skills, and therefore no kosher phones with texting or what's app texting capabilities are permitted for student use.

Camera and Audio policy Students may not bring any cameras or any audio equipment (MP3, ipods etc..) to school. Class/ school programs or trips- cameras only are permitted- without internet access. No audio equipment of any kind on trips.

Watch policy: the wearing in school of electronic watches, GPS watches, fitness watches, smart watches and the like, must get approval from the Hanhala. In the absence of specific approval, the watch will be confiscated.

Mode of Dress: Tznius is a mitzvah that applies to all Jews, but it is the special privilege of women to embody the essence of tznius and to convey both the halachos and spirit of tznius to their daughters. Bais Yaakov Bnos Malka families uphold Bais Yaakov in Israel standards of tznius within and without, in dress and behavior. Please understand that the tzniyus approach of BYBM applies to both mothers and daughters. Thus, whatever standards apply to the students apply to their parents, as well. These Halachic standards apply to the school year and during all vacations.

This includes, but is by no means limited to:

- Sleeves that cover the elbows in all positions.
- Necklines that cover the collarbone and the area where the neck meets the shoulder
- Skirts that cover the knees in all positions
- No slits
- Long socks till the knee, over the knee, or tights, so that no part of the leg shows, including the ankle. (leggings, or long skirts with short socks, are not permitted according to the Bais Yaakov standards).
- Clothing that is not tight-fitting.
- Modest shoes

Bais Yaakov (in Israel) Sensitivities:

It is likewise in keeping with the spirit of the mitzvah of tznius to cultivate sensitivity toward styles of dress and hairstyles that present a more refined appearance. (For the girls of BYBM)- Thus no cosmetics of any kind, nail polish, flashy jewelry, many bracelets, or bangles, and long dangling earrings are allowed in school.

We are fortunate to live in Eretz Yisrael where there are large numbers of Torah observant Jews that uphold a clear and classic standard of Tzniyus.

For the families of BYBM- styles like those represent secular culture- such as large logos or denim, are inappropriate for a Bais Yaakov. **As with all chinuch-related matters, consistency in tznius is of utmost**



importance. This means that the tzniyus sensitivities indicated for the families, promoted in BYBM, are upheld by the families of BYBM.

School uniform Policy:

The girls are required to wear their school uniforms every day to school. They may wear their uniform shirts buttoned with only one button open on top. Their school skirts must be simple navy-blue uniform skirts. They can be pleated, tiered, or A-line. There are loose fitting pleated lycra skirts that are permitted.

- **Skirts must be long enough so that their knees do not show when they sit down, or in any position. No pencil skirts or straight skirts (even for a birthday).**
- **On Rosh Chodesh the girls should wear their school skirts with a button-down white shirt.**
- **No lycra shirts, or shells.**
- **The girls may wear solid navy button down sweaters, cardigans, pullover, hoodies, or the school sweatshirt.**
- **There should be no apparent large writing on the front or back**
- **Footwear_ The girls may wear modest sneakers, shoes or sandals.**
- **Any color over the knee socks, or tights are permitted from 1st- 5th grade.**
- **Gym class: the girls must bring long leggings to wear underneath their skirts**
- **No long dangling earrings .**
- **One necklace, one bracelet on each arm, and one ring on each hand is permitted.**
- **No choker necklaces.**
- **From sixth grade and up: girls must wear a navy blue pleated skirt, drop waist , full, or lycra and black, grey or navy blue - over the knee socks, or tights (garbiyonim). Long pleated skirts until above the ankle, are also allowed. No leggings with short socks or crew socks. No short socks or crew socks over leggings or garbiyonim.**

ונשמרתם מאד לנפשתיכם

Part of our role as parents and mechanechim is to teach our children both in theory and practice about the importance of. לנפשתיכם מאד ונשמרתם. Please join us in creating a healthy atmosphere in Bais Yaakov Bnos Malka by sending your children to school with a healthy, appropriate diet, thus providing them, IYH, with the opportunity to optimize their learning. Students are encouraged to bring sandwiches, fruit, vegetables and water. Healthy snacks may include pretzels, crackers, granola bars, popcorn, dried fruit, canned fruit, rice cakes or yogurt. We encourage whole grain foods whenever possible. Please refrain from sending any candies or sugary snacks, chocolate, chocolate spread or soda, unless requested to do so for a party. Please do not send snacks laden with MSG such as Bissli. Your daughters should not be concerned- there will be plenty of opportunities to have treats.

We are a peanut free school due to allergies. This is a situation of pikuach nefesh. Do not send any peanut butter, peanut butter products, or bamba.

Birthday Parties:

Each Mechanechet will decide the policy for their class, and every girl's birthday will be recognized in some way in school.

We are always grateful to HKBH, when we can celebrate another birthday of one of our precious children! But, **We expect that no BYBM student will have a birthday party outside of school for the girls in the class.**



Reasons include- The large number of girls can cause undue financial pressure on families. An unhealthy sense of pressure and competition can develop around birthday parties which is unpleasant for the child and the parents.

Additionally, it is difficult, (unless you are one of the mechanchos in BYBM :) to supervise properly a group of girls this size and insure the chinuch standards expected of girls in BYBM.

An alternative way of marking this special day is a Shabbos family birthday party where each family member gives their acknowledgement and brachos.

Bas Mitzvos-we have a separate policy regarding bas mitzvah celebrations, distributed at the end of 5th grade. Please consult the mechanechet before you might plan something for the summer, to make sure it fits with the school's policies.

Chugim and other leisure time activities:

Families in BYBM send their daughter to activities outside of school that are in line with the spirit of a Bais Yaakov. Obviously, any class or chug that does not comply with Halacha, (as determined by the posek of the school) is forbidden for any BYBM student. If you have any questions at all, please feel free to communicate openly with the Hanhala. We strongly encourage you to find alternatives for your daughters where the teachers are models that you would wish your daughters to emulate, and that the exposure is to only Jewish music and media. Please do not underestimate the influence negative role models, music, and secular media, can have on our impressionable daughters, and the social pressure they may feel to participate in activities that you would not want them to participate in.

Additionally, even if one's own personal standards allow for a slightly more open exposure, the vast majority of the families in BYBM would not wish for your daughter to share her exposure- whether it be music, media, or literature, with their more protected daughters. So, please be sensitive to your daughter's classmates.

Reading material- please refer to the latest secular kosher book list from www.kosherbooks.org.



We are Partners in Your Daughter's Education:

BOTH PARENTS NEED TO INITIAL ALL THE PARAGRAPHS RELATED TO SCHOOL POLICIES.

Additionally, both parents and student should sign below

_____ In order to best serve your daughter and have her achieve her maximum potential, it is essential that there is full cooperation on the part of the parents in terms of recommendations made by the school regarding tutoring or professional evaluations, whether for academic or behavioral issues. These expenditures will be funded by the parents. This also refers to full compliance with all school rules and policies. Any and all absences, lateness, or early dismissal, must be excused with a note by the parents or doctor. Any vacations or planned absences must be cleared with the administration. Parents are encouraged and invited to communicate with teachers and Hanhala in order to discuss any and all issues

_____ We (parents and daughter(s)) have read and reviewed both the Mission Statement and updated School policies and understand and comply with everything stated therein. We understand that only full compliance with the policies of BYBM ensures being part of the BYBM family.

_____ Declaration of Internet Filter policy: every device in our possession and in our home is protected by a recognized filter approved by our Rabbonim, (for example "Rimon.") It is kept on a high setting when our children are in the vicinity, so that they cannot access sites such as youtube, etc.

_____ Our daughters do not use any form of social media including whats app etc. to communicate with friends or classmates. They do not have their own e mail account. They do not possess even a kosher smart phone, or any other device by which they access internet, such as a tablet.

Our family's filter is (name) _____

Mother (please print first and last name) _____

Father (please print first and last name) _____

Daughter's(please print) _____

Date: _____