



## **Mesivta of T.A. Dormitory Student Guidelines**

### **STATEMENT OF POLICY**

A talmid enrolling in the Mesivta of T.A. Dormitory recognizes that his sole purpose for enrolling in the Mesivta of T.A. Dormitory is to further his Torah and General Studies in a comfortable and stimulating environment. This requires the understanding on the part of the talmid that the schedule and structure of the dormitory are unlike that of a sleep-away camp. The Yeshivah, in assuming responsibility for the talmid must establish certain rules and regulations beyond those of a private home. This is to insure the safety as well as the spiritual and physical well being of the talmid. It behooves the talmid to accept these responsibilities and strictly adhere to them, knowing that any deviation may be deemed detrimental to himself as well as to the other talmidim. In such cases, this may result in his being asked to leave the dormitory.

### **RULES AND GUIDELINES**

The dormitory, unlike the classroom, is a center of informal education. This includes learning to take responsibility for your schedule, development of good study habits, caring for property, and learning to respect the persons and their property. Most important, the dormitory is intended to serve as a model Jewish community, guided by Torah principles and philosophy.

We are confident that you will find our dormitory staff extremely competent. Yet, should any problem arise, you must first comply with the wishes of the dormitory personnel and then, at your earliest opportunity, contact the Mashgiach or Menahel. For the safety and welfare of the talmidim, we cannot compromise the authority of the dormitory staff. Any challenge to their authority other than through the channels outlined above will be viewed most seriously by the Yeshivah administration.

The following regulations are put forth to help you accomplish the anticipated goal to which a "Ben Torah" should aspire, i.e. – to enrich his person at the Dormitory of the Talmudical Academy.

## **A. Care of the Dormitory**

1. Talmidim should make time each morning for cleaning up rooms. The cleanup will be checked by the Mashgiach daily. The cleanup procedure generally includes making beds and placing all clothes and shoes in their proper places.
2. All areas of dormitory, i.e. private, communal, lavatory, must be kept clean at all times.
3. Beds must be made each morning.
4. Trash should be placed in the trash can.
5. Noise has to be kept at such a level so as not to offend the sensitivities of fellow talmidim.

## **B. Damage to Yeshivah Property**

1. In order that your stay at Yeshivas Chofetz Chaim will be a positive one, it is imperative that you take care of your dormitory room and facilities. More than the halachic prohibition of damaging someone else's property, should you cause unnecessary damage to Yeshivah property, you are hurting yourself and your fellow roommates. We therefore feel that we must take all necessary precautions to ensure that Yeshivah property will not be misused or abused.
2. Furniture, i.e., beds, dressers, or drawers may not be moved or exchanged.
3. Since it is extremely difficult to investigate instances of abuse, in the case of damage, the residents of the room in question must assume collective responsibility for such damage. That is to say, that if the person responsible does not come forward, all those residing in the room where the damage took place may have to share the monetary responsibility.
4. Tampering with fire alarm components or fire extinguisher may result in dismissal from the Yeshivah.
5. To enhance the security of our campus, security cameras have been installed in and around our school and dorm buildings. Any tampering with the cameras will be grounds for expulsion.

6. The Yeshiva will be assigning combination locks for dorm closets. **No other locks may be used.**

### C. Attendance

1. A talmid feeling ill in the morning must notify the Mashgiach immediately in order to be exempt from coming to minyan. If a talmid becomes ill during the day, it is his responsibility to inform either the Menahel, Principal or the Mashgiach before returning to the dormitory.

### D. Conduct

1. A commitment to observe all the fundamentals of Halacha is a basic requirement for a talmid at Yeshivas Chofetz Chaim-Talmudical Academy.
2. A talmid enrolled in the Mesivta of T.A. Dormitory is expected to project an image of a "Ben Torah" at all times, whether at the T.A. dormitory, or off campus. Attire, on or off campus should be appropriate, respectable and in good taste.
3. Fighting or violence of any form is unacceptable and intolerable. The property of the Yeshivah or others must be respected. **Nothing is to be borrowed without the owner's expressed permission.**
4. **Under no circumstances may a talmid leave the campus at any time without explicit permission from the Mashgiach, or Menahel ONLY.**
5. No cars are permitted for dormitory talmidim. No dorm talmid is permitted to drive a car.
6. Hitching a ride with a stranger is not permitted by the Yeshivah rules. **Prior permission** must be received from the Mashgiach or Menahel **only** before riding in a fellow talmid's car.
7. Boys are permitted to use sandwich makers or small George Foreman style grills only in their rooms. Care must be taken to use these appliances safely, and should in no way affect the neatness or the cleanliness of the room. Appliances not used in this manner **will be confiscated.** A milchig and fleishig microwave is available in the student lounge. Toaster ovens **will not be permitted** under any circumstances.
8. Boys may have their own air conditioner units. A 6000 BTU unit is sufficient. Please do not bring any larger units.
9. Literature inappropriate to a Yeshivah is not permitted in the dorm.

Secular soft cover books are not permitted. Secular newspapers are not permitted whatsoever. Please review any questionable reading material with the Mashgiach.

10. **Non-video and non-Wifi capable devices** Ipods, MP3 players are all permitted in the dorm provided that they only be used in combination with a headphone or on low volume. They should first be inspected by the Mashgiach or Menahel.

Only Jewish or purely instrumental music may be played. Ipods and MP3 will be randomly checked. CDs, Ipods or MP3 players which contain non-Jewish music will be confiscated. Radios, TVs, video Ipods, or DVD equipment are not allowed, and if found will be confiscated. **All confiscated objects may not be returned.**

Please **do not bring large stereo systems or "boom boxes"** to the dorm.

11. No computers, desktop or laptop are permitted in the dormitory. A room furnished with adequate computers will be available for the dormitory talmidim's exclusive use for school work and games during their free time. The computer activity will be monitored.

12. Because of the kind of material commonly shown on the screen today, talmidim are not permitted to attend movies.

13. An exercise room is available for the dormitory exclusive use of the talmidim. This will be available during the evenings and on weekends. Talmidim must assume responsibility for proper use of equipment. Abuse of equipment will result in the closing of the room.

14. **Cell phones are not permitted.** If a talmid is in possession of a cell phone at any time it will be confiscated and may not be returned. A talmid may have a cell phone for travel to and from yeshiva, providing that the Mashgiach is notified in advance. **It is then the responsibility of the Talmid to turn it over to the Mashgiach on the day of his arrival.** Phones which are not turned in will be **confiscated and may not be returned.** Abuse of cell phone policy may result in expulsion. Each room is furnished with a landline and each person will have a personal mailbox to leave messages in.

15. Curfew regulations must be adhered to by all talmidim without exception. **Phone calls are not to be made or accepted after 11:00 P.M.** Phone calls must be completed by 11:00 P.M.

16. The dormitory counselors are authorized to act on behalf of the Mashgiach. Talmidim must respect their authority and treat them accordingly. Abrogation of their authority will not be tolerated. Talmidim in breach of this rule will not be allowed to remain in school.
17. **Please be advised:** There will be zero tolerance for smoking or alcohol! Anyone caught smoking or possessing cigarettes, matches, lighters, or alcohol substances may be asked to leave the program without any second reprieve.
18. Posters or other wall decorations must be approved by the Mashgiach prior to display. If put up without permission, they will be confiscated and not returned.
19. Vandalism is punishable by expulsion. This includes theft of Yeshiva property and that of other talmidim.
20. Bicycles may be ridden only after permission has been given by the Mashgiach. Permission and responsibility forms must be signed by parents. **Talmidim must use helmets when riding.**

#### **E. Dress Code**

All dormitory talmidim, like all high school talmidim must conform to our dress code.

While in the dormitory, no boy should be seen outside of his room in less than full attire. **Shorts may not be worn outside of dormitory except sports activities.**

#### **F. Loss of Personal Property**

Yeshivas Chofetz Chaim assumes no financial responsibility for loss or theft of money or personal property. It is highly advisable to keep valuables locked up at all times, especially when leaving the campus for Shabbos, trips, etc. A place for safekeeping of small items will be made available by the Mashgiach. In general, it is advisable to limit the amount of valuables, including electronics, that you bring.

**Please note: There is not an abundance of storage space at the dorm. Bring what you need. Please do not move all of your belongings out of your parent's home.**

## **G. Shabbos Schedule**

Dormitory talmidim are expected to remain at the dorm for all Shabbosim unless granted special permission. No invitation for Shabbos should be accepted without receiving prior explicit permission from the Mashgiach or the Menahel exclusively.

### **An Important Note to Parents**

On an off-Shabbos, Talmidim may leave on Thursday, after 1:00 P.M. and should return on Sunday, before 9:00 P.M. Please make appropriate travel arrangements.

For the safety of your son, please notify the Mashgiach or the Menahel if your son will NOT return by 9:00 P.M. on the scheduled night of return. Please also notify the Mashgiach of your son's approximate time of arrival

**It is the responsibility of the parents to notify the Mashgiach if the Talmid will be late. Failure to do so may result in deducted points.**

**The 2018/2019 school year  
begins on  
Wednesday evening, August 29th.**

**Your son should arrive at school  
Wednesday, August 29th  
between 2:00-5:00 P.M.**

**Supper will be served at 6:00 P.M.**

**The Z'man begins at 7:15 P.M. with  
Mincha in the  
Mesivta Bais Medrash**

