



## **Mesivta Rules and Policies**

### **Attendance**

- The Yeshiva's schedule takes into account a Talmid and his family's needs to have time off for various reasons. It is for that reason that we have monthly off Shabbosos (from Thur. 1:00 p.m.) as well as mid-winter vacation. We require that you schedule appointments and family vacations during these times. Absences or lateness due to unavoidable situation such as an illness, family simcha, etc., requires a notification to the office by a parent. **Please understand that without expressed permission by a principal or Mashgiach, an absence will result in a reduction in semester grades.**
- Before leaving Yeshiva during regular hours the Talmid must receive approval from a Menahel, Principal, or Mashgiach. **This includes Minyan, Sundays, Fridays, Night Seder, all limudim and secular classes.** Leaving Yeshiva during any of these times without the expressed permission will be considered an unexcused absence.
- **After receiving permission** to leave Yeshiva, parents are required to sign out in the office.
- Unexcused absences will result in disciplinary action by the הנהלה in addition to reduction of semester grades.
- Talmidim, who must leave during the day, may do so upon written request or a phone call to the office.
- Chronic lateness to classes and T'filos is a tremendous detriment to a Talmid personally, as well as to the ציבור in general and will be dealt with as such.

### **Behavior Expectations**

- It is expected of our Talmidim, that they are engaged in activities befitting a Ben Torah at all times.

- The uses of foul language, smoking, vaping, or drinking alcoholic beverages are absolutely prohibited. Your mouth is made for Torah, Tefilah, Mitzvohs, and the necessities of living. It should never be used to utter foul or vulgar language.
- The above expectations are not limited to the “walls of the Yeshiva”. We expect all Talmidim to conduct themselves as Bnei Torah at all times.
- In light of the above, Bochurim may not be present at any place that lends itself to mixed gender mingling.
- There will be no tolerance of any infraction, and it may result in an immediate suspension

### Cars

**In one short sentence, Talmidim may not drive cars to the Yeshiva.** If we discover that a Talmid has brought a car, his keys will be confiscated and further disciplinary action will follow. **The only exception would be for a senior who desires to stay late for the late Night Seder until 10 P.M. This can only be approved by the Menahel. For safety reasons, a Bochur who is permitted to bring a car, may keep a phone in the car.**

### Dress Code

A Talmid who comes to Yeshiva looking like a Ben Torah, has taken the first step to do his best.

- A hat and jacket is required for all T'filos. (a suit type jacket is required )
- **Talmidim are expected to wear dress shirts any color or print.** Shirts are to be tucked in at all times and in all places of the Yeshiva except the gym.
- **Dark colored (dark blue, black, dark grey) dress pants. Khaki and tight fitting pants are not acceptable. Pants may not be tightly fitted.**
- **Dark or Black Shoes (not dark sneakers or clogs)**
- Socks must cover the ankles
- **Sweatshirts with logos or with a hood may not be worn in Yeshiva.**
- Personal grooming and facial hair must be with the utmost Kovod of a Ben Torah
- Yarmulkas must be of appropriate size and good taste

## Campus Cleanliness

- Canteen – The canteen located in the basement of the dorm will be open during recess and lunch and will be selling drinks and snacks. Pizza will be sold on some days as well. Tamidim may not sell food of any kind on campus.
- School property is שקדש and must be treated as such. We insist that the Talmidim be responsible to help out in the cleanliness of the Yeshiva.
- Food and all meals are to be eaten in the cafeteria. Hot water will be available in the cafeteria during meal times. We need the Talmidim to help dispose of all garbage properly. Garbage cans are placed in the dining area, as well as, throughout the halls and classrooms. With a little effort from everyone, there will be a great change in this area.

## Free Time

The Mesivta has many available outlets for the Talmidim. We have gyms, a ballfield, \ and a canteen so that they enjoy themselves in a proper setting. With that said, there are certain modes that will not be allowed in our "מקדש מעט".

Examples of this are:

- **Secular music of any kind**
- **Newspapers (including the sports section), non Jewish novels, etc.**
- **Ipods or any electronic device with a display screen**

## Cell Phones, Computers, CD's, MP3, Ipods with Wifi capability, etc.

Talmidim may not bring cell phones, radios, CD, MP3, Ipods, or any electronic device of any kind with a screen. **Any of these items that are brought to Yeshiva will be confiscated and may not be returned.** Additionally no computer laptops may be brought to school. Any special circumstances warranting the uses of a laptop must be cleared first with the Menahel. These items distract from the serious pursuit of the study of Torah and academics. We also want to deter the entry of inappropriate audio resources. I strongly urge all parents to take note of what some of your sons may be listening to at home. The nature of the music and its lyrics are antithetical to all the values we have been entrusted to inculcate within our children.

We realize the convenience having a cell phone, nevertheless, it compromises our educational program by having Talmidim possess constant access to this mode of communication. You can leave a message for your son until 6:15 P.M. in the High School office.

**Possession of a cell phone in school will result in its (possibly permanent) removal from the Talmid as well as the inspection of its content.**

**Please note: Sending your son to Yeshiva with a cell phone creates a resounding mixed message. It is essential that a bochur see his parents and the Yeshiva being on the same page.**

### **Breakfast**

Information concerning the breakfast program will be mailed shortly under separate cover.

### **Locks**

As in the past, a locker will be provided to the students. However, students must provide their own locks. This must be a combination type lock only.

**שבת in Yeshiva** provides unique opportunities for our Talmidim unavailable during the course of the regular school week. It is a key element in the growth of a Talmid during his years in Yeshiva. A Talmid can interact with his Rebbeim and chavirim in a warm and spiritual atmosphere that only a Shabbos can provide. The Talmidim will gain from the beautiful T'filos and Z'miros. One Seudah will be held in Yeshiva and the other hosted in the home of one of our Rebbeim. In addition, an Oneg Shabbos and Sedarim will be scheduled to enhance the ruach שבת קודש **We urge you to encourage your son(s) to participate in this venue on a regular basis (i.e. once or twice a month).**

- Talmidim wishing to spend Shabbos at the Yeshiva should contact the Mashgiach, Rabbi Herskowitz, no later than Wednesday.

## **ATTENDANCE - General Studies**

The following is a brief review of the Yeshiva's General Studies attendance policies.

1. A student marked "unexcused late" 4 times or more in a single trimester for a single class will have his grade reduced by one point for each lateness (i.e. 4 lates minus 1 point, 5 lates minus 2 points, etc.).
2. Each unexcused absence/cut will carry a 5 point deduction from the trimester grade.
3. It is the responsibility of the student to verify that his lateness or absence was excused. This must be done by confirmation from the parent or a credible adult. ***It is an administrative decision whether an excuse is acceptable. Therefore when sending us a note that the absence/lateness was excused you must provide the reason for the absence/lateness.***
4. PLEASE NOTE; The office records attendance daily. Once recorded, the absence/lateness is assumed unexcused unless we have been provided a viable excuse with proper confirmation. The computer, at the end of the trimester will automatically deduct the points from the trimester grade. Once the trimester has passed and report cards have been printed, points are not "refundable." To avoid miscommunications we always send an email home when recording an unexcused absence. You should reply immediately to those emails if the absence is genuinely "excusable." We do not send emails home for latenesses. However, a student can check with the office if he wants to see his lateness record. In truth, there should be no need to lose points for lateness since the first 3 lates do not cause a point deduction and no one should be late more than 3 times in a single trimester, in the same class.

A stellar attendance record generally denotes stellar student performance!

## **Decorum**

Secular studies at our Yeshiva is taken seriously, is highly regarded and is an opportunity for a Kiddush Hashem. There should be no need to discipline a student. In the event an issue arises that warrants administrative action, the following is expected procedure.

1. A student ejection from class will result in automatic deduction of 2 points from the trimester grade.
2. Continued ejections and disruption of class learning will result in further action – possibly including failure of the course and/or expulsion.

### **Class Size and Schedule**

Class size varies. Some classes are small (e.g. less than 10 students) while others could have in the range of 25 students. We are very careful to keep student teacher ratio to a manageable and productive level – gauging each class/teacher on their own merit. General Studies classes are held between 1:45-6:15PM. Yes, our day is long, however, our students are up to the challenge!

### **Graduation**

As per Maryland State requirements, a minimum of 21 credits is needed to receive a high school diploma. Each course is considered to be one credit. Our course requirements conform to the COMAR (Code of Maryland Regulations) standards set forth by Maryland State Department of Education. Students failing a class will be required to re-take the course via correspondence class or if the schedule allows to retake it the following year in our classroom. Passing grade is 65. In math a passing grade is a 70.