



BETH RIVKAH PRIMARY PARENT HANDBOOK 2018

Table of Contents

WELCOME TO BETH RIVKAH LADIES COLLEGE	2	SCHOOL PROGRAMS AND EVENTS	16
OUR MISSION & VALUES	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Excursions • Programs on offer • Performing arts • Student leaders • School shluchot 	
AIMS & PHILOSOPHY	3	BAT MITZVAH	18
ABOUT BETH RIVKAH PRIMARY	3	BIRTHDAYS	18
Beth Rivkah Leadership Team	3	FOOD	19
School Contact Details	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School Lunches • Bentching (Blessings after meals) • School Canteen 	
CODE OF CONDUCT	5	HEALTH	19
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School Goals • Anti-Bullying Policy • The Three R's 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anaphylaxis - NO NUTS • Illness & infection control • Child injury/illness • Medication • Medical emergency • Vaccination • Head Lice • Hygiene 	
KEY SCHOOL INFORMATION	6	EMERGENCY PROCEDURES	20
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School Calendar • School Hours 		CARE OF SCHOOL PROPERTY	20
ATTENDANCE	6	PERSONAL PROPERTY	20
TRANSPORT & SAFETY AROUND OUR SCHOOL	7	PARENTS AS PARTNERS	21
SCHOOL COMMUNICATION	8	COMMUNITY SERVICE	22
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • YBR 'Our School' App • Newsletter • Personal Record Form 		CHILDREN LEARN WHAT THEY LIVE	22
UNIFORM AND DRESS STANDARD	8	SCHOOL SONG	23
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General dress code • Uniform shop • Beth Rivkah uniform items • Incorrect school uniform • Casual wear • Sunscreen sunsmart 		SCHOOL MAP	23
STUDENT WELLBEING	10	YESHIVAH BETH RIVKAH TERM DATES 2018	24
CURRICULUM OUTLINE	12		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jewish studies • General studies 			
ASSESSMENT AND REPORTING	16		
HOMEWORK	16		

WELCOME TO BETH RIVKAH LADIES COLLEGE

We welcome you and your daughter to Beth Rivkah Ladies College. This booklet will assist you with the day to day functioning of the school, and is intended to assist you in becoming more familiar with your daughter's school environment.

OUR MISSION AND VALUES

MISSION AND VALUES

Our Mission and Values

Yeshivah – Beth Rivkah strives to develop students who:

- As individuals – are respectful, resourceful, articulate, accomplished and resilient; are imbued with strong Jewish and Australian ideals and values, are dedicated to Torah study, and are inspired by the teachings of Chassidus; develop their 'whole personality', as a result of the wide and varied activities they are presented with.
- As learners – demonstrate intellectual curiosity, versatility and an ability to work independently and collaboratively; are lifelong, self-directed learners who can engage with the modern world; are imaginative and creative; are confident in their abilities.
- As leaders – are role models, acting with self-assurance, tolerance and initiative and are able to practise and transmit Torah values to future generations.
- As members of the community – have a sense of community responsibility and contribute positively to the society in which they live.



Lubavitcher Rebbe, founder of Beth Rivkah Ladies College, Melbourne

AIMS AND PHILOSOPHY

Beth Rivkah Ladies College is a Jewish Chabad community school catering for children from Pre-School to Year 12 and from every sector of the community. Its raison d'être is to educate a child to develop a pride and deep appreciation of her heritage and Jewish identity and to take her place in the wider world with a commitment to her religion and society.

Beth Rivkah prides itself on offering to every girl attending the school, a full and rigorous Jewish education and an engaging General education that is modelled on the best of traditional disciplines and modern methodology. We regard education as an all-encompassing process in which the classroom experience and extra-curricular activities contribute to the students' total development. Emphasis is placed on morals and ethics to enable the student to remain strong and confident in the Torah values she imbues regardless of outside (other) influences.

Our school fosters staff that are committed to excellence, are innovative in approach and develop motivation and enjoyment in the learning process. Teachers model the best disciplines and methodology and deliver a comprehensive and varied educational program.

The school values its partnership with parents who work collaboratively with the school in promoting their daughters' welfare and success.

The school provides a caring, supportive environment and strives to enhance the strengths of students to maximise their academic potential, whilst catering to individual needs.

Our students blossom into women who successfully take their places in society and are a credit to the community.

ABOUT BETH RIVKAH PRIMARY

Beth Rivkah Primary Leadership Team



Rabbi Yehoshua Smukler
Principal,
Yeshivah – Beth Rivkah Colleges

Mrs Ella Blesofsky

Head of Primary,
Beth Rivkah Ladies College



Mrs Romy Levy

Deputy Head of Primary,
Beth Rivkah Ladies College



Mrs Chaya Winner

Co-ordinator of Jewish Studies,
Beth Rivkah Primary



Mrs Ilana Baker

Head of Teaching and Learning,
Beth Rivkah Primary



School Contact Details

Our School Staff have specific expertise and roles focused on their areas of responsibilities. Outlined below and on the next page is the order in which staff should be contacted by parents for specific concerns or inquiries. This process will ensure that parents receive prompt and informative information and action.

General Administration Enquiries

School Office

Telephone: 9522 8227

Email: brp@ybr.vic.edu.au

Academic and Behavioural Enquiries

All academic enquiries and issues relating to the classroom and playground should be directed to your child's classroom teachers (name.surname@ybr.vic.edu.au) as they are responsible for your daughter and spend the greatest amount of time with her.

Teachers will, if necessary, refer any concerns and/ or questions to the relevant Senior Staff for advice and/ or assistance.

Learning Enhancement and Integration

Learning Enhancement and Integration should be directed to Mrs Nicci Hurvitz, Head of Learning Enhancement – nicci.hurvitz@ybr.vic.edu.au and Mrs Chaya Winner, Co-ordinator of Jewish Studies – chaya.winner@ybr.vic.edu.au.



Mrs Nicci Hurvitz

Welfare and Social Concerns

Should be directed to Mrs Romy Levy, Deputy Head of Primary and Head of Welfare. (romy.levy@ybr.vic.edu.au) or Adina Welsh, Wellbeing Co-ordinator (adina.welsh@ybr.vic.edu.au) or Mrs Dimi Poulos, School Psychologist (dimi.poulos@ybr.vic.edu.au)



Mrs Dimi Poulos



Mrs Adina Welsh

CODE OF CONDUCT

School Goals

Beth Rivkah Ladies College is committed to creating a safe, supportive, caring and nurturing environment in line with Torah values, promoting personal growth and positive self-esteem for its students and school community.

Our 'Code of Conduct' is based on agreed rights and responsibilities that apply to all members of the school community. Each member of the school community is valued and has the right to be treated with respect.

Our goal is to foster a sense of mutual respect in the school, as well as a heightened degree of responsibility and discipline in our students. It is our aim to ensure that a consistent, fair and equitable implementation of behavioural expectations is achieved in our school.

During the daily Tefillah (prayer) in which all our students participate, each child makes the declaration:

הרני מקבל עלי מצות עשה של ואהבת לרעך כמוך - I hereby take upon myself to fulfil the mitzvah "Love your fellow as yourself". We strive to ensure that each student internalises that declaration and makes it true.

Our full Code of Conduct policy is available to view via SEQTA/ Parent Portal (<https://parents.ybr.vic.edu.au/>).

Anti-bullying Policy

We aim to have a positive culture where bullying, harassment and intimidation are totally unacceptable.

Beth Rivkah Ladies College will not tolerate bullying in any form whatsoever and preventative, restorative and management strategies are in place. Students are educated regarding the process of reporting bullying or harassment, including cyber-bullying.

Parents should be wary about and monitor their child's access to online sites and reinforce what is suitable and appropriate online behaviour.

Our full Anti-Bullying Policy is available to view via SEQTA/ Parent Portal (<https://parents.ybr.vic.edu.au/>).

The Three R's

Our school functions according to the following three R's:

Rights

The right to feel safe at all times. The right for students to learn. The right for teachers to teach.

Responsibilities

For one's actions

Respect

For one another. For the school rules. For property.

School Calendar

The School Calendar can be accessed via our school website www.ybr.vic.edu.au or via the YBR "Our School" App.

School Hours

Monday - Thursday	Foundation	8:30am - 3.30pm (February)
Monday - Thursday	Foundation	8:30am - 4.00pm
Monday - Thursday	Years 1 - 4	8:30am - 4.05pm
Monday - Thursday	Years 5 and 6	8:30am - 4.10pm
Friday (Winter)	Years Foundation - 6	8:30am - 2:45pm
Friday (Summer)	Years Foundation - 6	8:30am - 3:15pm

The school will not take responsibility for children at school outside school hours, which are before 8.00am and after 4.20pm.

An aftercare program is available from 4.20pm until 6.20pm to students on application. Please contact the school office for more information.

ATTENDANCE

Absences or Lateness - *Notifying the School*

If your child will be absent or late on any given day please ensure you notify the school by email (brp@ybr.vic.edu.au) or complete the Absentee Form (including 'time' fields if relevant) on the "Our School" App before 8.45am.

Unexplained absences will result in an SMS from the school querying your child's whereabouts and we request that you reply to this communication promptly.

Breaks taken outside of set holidays during the academic year can often be disruptive for the students, and are not recommended.

Upon return to school following any absence, parents need to provide an explanation for the absence to the class teacher, either in person, by email or a signed note. This information is used by the school office to mark the absence as 'resolved' on our files.

Punctuality

Punctuality is an educational objective which we aim to foster from a very early age, and students are expected to be at school on time.

Late Arrival Procedure

Any students arriving past 8.45am must attend the Primary Office, and they will be issued with a Late Pass (which should be provided to the class teacher).

Parents who deliver children to school late must not leave them outside the locked school gate, but must ensure that they enter the school grounds. Parents should accompany a late child into the school and sign them in at the Primary Office.

Permission to Leave the School Premises

Primary school students are not permitted to leave the school grounds during school hours without written parental permission. Medical and dental appointments and out of school activities should be made outside of school hours as far as possible.

Parents must sign the child in and out in the Primary School office before the child leaves school.

TRANSPORT AND SAFETY AROUND OUR SCHOOL

Travel to School

Children who walk or travel by public transport to and from school, should be taught to use the crossing correctly, and should be warned about any possible dangers en route. Remind children of the need for appropriate behaviour on the way to and from school.

Ensure your child wears a helmet when riding their bike. Discuss safe bicycle and scooter riding with your children – driveways at drop-off and pick-up times can be a hazard and children should be cautious.

Collecting Children After School

We encourage you to collect your Foundation students from the classroom or school grounds. The class teacher must be notified of any alternative arrangement.

All students should be instructed to wait for their parents in the new drop off and pick up zone located outside the new building.

Please contact the school in case of delays or difficulties, or on a day when the responsibility of picking up your child has been delegated to someone else.

Bicycles and Scooters

The school does not accept any responsibility for bicycles and/ or scooters brought onto the school grounds. Bicycles and scooters must be left in designated areas outside the school buildings and are not to be used during school time.

Safety and Traffic Flow at Pick-Up and Drop-Off

Please observe the traffic regulations in Empress Rd and streets surrounding the school. Ensure you carefully read and obey all traffic instructions and signage – including No Standing zones, Clearways and Permit Parking areas and respectfully follow instructions from crossing guards, security personnel and school staff. In drop-off zones please move forward in the queue to the first available spot to assist with traffic flow.

The Empress Road 'accessible' car spots outside the BRP gym entrance are not to be used for vehicular traffic/ parking during drop-off or pick-up. **U-turns are never permitted in this location.**

Please ensure that children are never left unattended in cars, and be vigilant of your children's safety at drop off and pick up times.

Courtesy of our neighbours in surrounding streets is imperative. Please ensure you do not stop in, park across or block driveways at any time.

SCHOOL COMMUNICATION YBR “Our School” App

“Our School” App for iPhone and Android – aims to enhance communication between our school and parents. It provides a real-time newsfeed of School Information, and easy access to School news, upcoming events and photographs. Parents are also able to easily notify the school of an absence via the App.

To download the App and receive your relevant School notifications and information simply search for “YBR” in your App Store and download the “Our School – YBR Communication” App. You will then use your Parent Portal/ SEQTA login details to access the app.

Newsletter

A general school newsletter is issued each Friday to the youngest child in each family. It showcases the week at school and we encourage all parents to take the time to read it. It also communicates various important dates and information.

The newsletter is also distributed via the school App and email digest each Friday morning.

Personal Record Form

Please ensure the School is kept up to date with any relevant details relating to your child (any allergies etc) and any changes to your contact information.

If your contact details change during the year (including address, telephone number or emergency contact/s) please notify the school office immediately.

UNIFORM AND DRESS STANDARD

The wearing of school uniform is compulsory and is an important part of the Beth Rivkah Ladies College ethos and tradition.

General Dress Code

Girls are expected to wear complete school uniform, and be clean and well-groomed at all times.

- The only forms of jewellery permitted are a wrist watch and studs in the ears
- Nail polish is not permitted.
- Hair of shoulder length must be tied back.

Uniform Shop

Most items of uniform can be purchased from the YBR Uniform Shop online store: www.ybr.vic.edu.au/shop or at the Uniform Shop during opening hours (see the school website for opening hours).

Beth Rivkah Uniform Items

Summer Uniform

- School dress (hem to cover the knees; sleeves to cover elbow)
- White tights or white knee high socks
- School jumper/ jacket
- Black school shoes
- School sunhat (compulsory in Terms 1 & 4 during recesses, P.E. lessons, and on excursions)



Sports uniform (Year 3 – Year 6)

- Sports skirt (hem to cover the knees)
- Sports polo shirt (sleeves to cover elbow)
- School jumper/ jacket
- Sports shoes/ runners
- Socks - knee high
- Leggings may be worn with longer socks

This uniform is compulsory for all physical education classes.

Winter Uniform

- School tunic (hem to cover the knees)
- Blue skivvy or blue shirt (school blue colour)
- School jumper/ jacket
- Navy blue tights or navy blue knee high socks
- Dark blue or black parka

- Black school shoes

Footwear (Foundation & Year 1 students)

- Students in Foundation and Year 1 may wear runners instead of school shoes.

Incorrect School Uniform

Should your child attend school wearing any incorrect uniform item, please provide a signed note from a parent (on the same day) explaining the reason.

Casual Wear

Occasionally casual dress days are arranged when girls are allowed to come to school in casual wear. Students are expected to conform to modest attire – hem to cover the knees and sleeves to cover elbows.

Sunscreen Sunsmart

School and home are in partnership to ensure that our students are as sun-safe as possible. We are vigilant about sunhats. All students must wear a school sunhat during recess and lunch play in Term 1 and Term 4. “No hat, no play” – students without a hat must sit in the shade.

We ask parents to provide a labelled, preferably roll-on, sunscreen for their children and teach them to apply it properly and safely. The teachers will give student an opportunity to apply the sunscreen 15-20 minutes before they go outside.

STUDENT WELLBEING

Child Safety and Child Protection

In 2014 Yeshivah – Beth Rivkah embarked on a comprehensive accreditation process with the Australian Childhood Foundation (ACF) and in early 2016 our organisation was accredited under the ‘Safeguarding Children Program’.

Achieving Accreditation indicates that YBR complies with all seven standards of the SCP accreditation requirements and demonstrates Yeshivah – Beth Rivkah’s dedication and commitment to child safety.

We take seriously our responsibility to deliver a learning environment that is caring, nurturing and safe. We are committed to safeguarding children and young people from abuse and neglect.

Visibility and access to classrooms has been updated in line with best practice, and interactive and tailored programs for children and adolescents are in place to enhance the safety of all students. YBR places high priority on such initiatives.

There is a requirement for all at Yeshivah-Beth Rivkah College and the Pre-Schools - the Committee of Management, staff and volunteers – to understand the important responsibility they have to:

- protect children and young people from all forms of abuse, bullying and exploitation by our people;
- be alert to incidents of child abuse and neglect occurring outside the scope of our operations and services that may have an impact on the children and young people to whom we provide a service; and

- create and maintain a child safe culture that is understood, endorsed and put into action by all the individuals who work for, volunteer or access our programs and services.

Parents may view our ‘Safeguarding Children Policies’ via the school website: www.ybr.vic.edu.au/policies.

Mandatory Reporting

Please note that, in line with Government legislation, the school is bound to report any observed instance of child abuse or neglect.

Counselling Services

A Psychologist and Wellbeing Coordinator are available at school for consultation with staff, students and parents. Parents with any concerns may contact them through the school.

Social and Emotional Development

Attention is given to emotional development, positive relationships and communication, building character strengths and resilience and developing mindfulness. Protective behaviours and maintaining a safe and secure environment is a core focus.

Connections

The Connections Program involves both the Jewish Studies and General Studies teachers presenting a personal development lesson together to their class once a week. The lessons have a strong Positive Education focus, developing and strengthening student character strengths in a collaborative and supportive environment; focusing on empathy, emotional literacy, gratitude and conflict resolution.

Learning Enhancement

Intrinsic educational features of the curriculum include:

- Learning Enhancement (Jewish Studies) – provides programs for talented learners, extension and remedial assistance in Jewish Studies and Hebrew, E.A.L. (English as an Additional Language) classes, and also identifies students with learning difficulties. An Ulpan program will be provided for students who are new to Jewish Studies.

- Learning Enhancement (General Studies) – facilitators support students with particular numeracy or literacy needs across the school, and provide enrichment in literacy and numeracy.
- E.A.L. – English as an Additional Language.

Newly arrived students to Beth Rivkah in various stages of learning English, participate in an intensive, English language program on an individual and/or group basis, both in and out of the class- room. The program aims to develop students' English skills and prepare them to cope in the mainstream classroom.

Integration and Inclusion

In keeping with Beth Rivkah's educational goals and philosophy we aim to provide educational challenges for students of widely different abilities and divergent backgrounds. We work to help all students reach their full potential as individuals, through a flexible curriculum caters for individual needs and abilities.

Beth Rivkah provides support mechanisms to students from non-English speaking backgrounds and students with disabilities and students with special needs.

All our integrated students are full time members of the school community and participate in all school curricular and extra-curricular activities. Regular pupil support group (PSG) meetings are held to discuss the students' progress and future goals.

חנוך לנער על פי דרכו - "Educate each child according to her/his way". Proverbs



CURRICULUM OUTLINE

Beth Rivkah Ladies College offers a rigorous curriculum that is designed to meet the needs of its students with an integrated or mutually complementary approach to Jewish and General Studies. We anticipate that every Beth Rivkah student will be proud of her school, happily and confidently reach her potential, and develop a love of learning – while maintaining and upholding Beth Rivkah values.

Jewish Studies

The Jewish Studies curriculum comprises specific subject areas as outlined below.

In addition, values and ethics are constantly reinforced during Jewish studies classes. Students are encouraged to give charity daily and to show kindness, care and consideration for their parents, teachers, elders and peers.

Tefillah

The school day begins with Tefillah – prayer. Students are familiarised with the Siddur – the Prayer Book, and how to find their way through it. They are taught the broad meaning and significance of the Tefillot – prayers, and develop a proficiency in the reading of the prayers. Inspirational stories and discussions foster an appreciation of the role of prayer in the life of a Jew.

Hebrew Reading - Kriah

The teaching of this skill, which is intrinsic to all Jewish Studies, begins at Foundation level. Students are introduced to all the consonants and vowels of the Hebrew alphabet, learning their names and sounds. They are taught to blend two or more sounds and are able to begin reading.

Students read daily at school, and it is vital to consolidate and reinforce this skill through daily practice at home. A Siddur party (Chagigat HaSiddur) celebrates the Foundation reading program. This reading program continues into Year 1, with consolidation and reinforcement of fluency and accuracy in reading skills, so that students achieve mastery.

Class sessions in oral reading continue throughout primary school, and regular reading practice at home is greatly encouraged.

Hebrew Writing - Ketivah

Students are introduced to the script Hebrew alphabet at Foundation level. In Year 1, formal writing exercises are introduced and students master and practise the Hebrew script alphabet, until they are proficient.

Chumash

The Chumash curriculum is guided by the Zekelman standards, a set of guidelines with clear benchmarks and outcomes at every year level aimed at encouraging the students to become independent learners.

The study of the Torah in the original text begins at Year 1 level and language skills develop over the years. Children are familiarised with a considerable amount of vocabulary before they begin a formal study of the text. Students are taught to analyse words and identify their grammatical components – the root, prefix and suffix, whether it is feminine or masculine and more.

Chumash Presentation - A *Chagigat HaChumash* celebrates the introduction to Chumash for Year 1.

Students learn to appreciate that the Chumash as not merely a history book, but a blueprint for our daily lives. Students are taught the historical aspect of the events they study, and an appreciation of the great personalities they encounter in the Chumash. Children learn from their deeds and are encouraged to emulate them.

Rashi

Rashi is the preeminent commentator on the Chumash. Students are taught Rashi script in Year 3, and the skills needed to learn Rashi are developed and refined in the upper primary grades. Students are encouraged to perceive and analyse any possible anomalies or difficulties in the Pshat – the text of the Chumash, and then to read and understand Rashi's explanation and reconciliation.

General Dinim

This subject includes laws and customs of daily Jewish life. The focus is on those laws of particular relevance to the students and include study of the laws of Shabbat, Kashrut, laws between man and his fellow man, laws of Ahavat Yisrael – brotherly love, Tzedaka, Mezuzah, Moshiah and more.

Yom Tov Dinim

Before each festival an exhaustive study is undertaken of the laws and customs pertaining to that festival. Life lessons derived from the festival and applicable to daily life throughout the year, are also discussed.

Parsha

The weekly Torah portion is studied in increasing depth at each year level. The content and values of each Parsha and their relevance to students' daily lives are discussed. In upper levels (years 4, 5, and 6) students read sections of the Parsha and may re-search textual questions independently.

Navi – Prophets

The study of this area of Tanach – Written Torah, begins at Year 5. Key selected phrases and/or verses are studied in depth. Students are familiarised with the narrative and given an appreciation of the main events and characters, as well as the life lessons that are derived from this time in history.

General Knowledge – Yediya Klalit

Students study general Jewish knowledge, which helps them to appreciate and be familiar with their Jewish heritage. Students study from a Yediya Klalit book which is divided into year levels. Each class reviews the previous years' material, and then studies the new material for their level.

Pitgamim (Proverbs)

Sayings of our sages are taught and discussed, and students are encouraged to learn some of these by heart.

Chassidut

A spiral curriculum introduces students to the Chassidic movement, the Chabad movement and its Rebbeim, Chassidic philosophy, concepts, customs, special days, songs and stories.

Ivrit- Modern Hebrew

The study of the Hebrew language – Ivrit – is intrinsic to and permeates all aspects of the Jewish Studies curriculum, with students being familiarised with Hebrew terminology through song and stories. Ivrit is used in the classroom as much as possible.

Students are immersed in Ivrit from Pre-School onwards. However, a formal study of the language begins at Foundation level. The grammatical structure of the language is studied, and the use of conversational Hebrew develops over the primary years.

Life Values and Health Curriculum

Years 3,4,5 & 6 have a series of lessons annually on the Life Values and Health Education Curriculum devised by Dr Yocheved Debow. Topics include - Values, Decision Making, Communication, Appropriate Assertiveness, Family, Friendship, Body Image.





General Studies

The General Studies Curriculum is an integrated program which includes English, Mathematics, Science, Geography and History, Art, Music and Movement, Information and Communications Technology (ICT), STEM, Physical Education and movement.

We have a continuing commitment to reviewing and evaluating our school curriculum in line with the Australian and Victorian Curricula. The curriculum is divided into 8 key learning areas:

English; Mathematics; Humanities; Science; The Arts; L.O.T.E.; Health & Physical Education; ICT (Information & Communications Technology)

1. English

English is divided into three Strands:

- Speaking and Listening
- Reading and Viewing
- Writing, with each strand being divided into 3 sub strands – Language, Literacy and Literature.

2. Mathematics

Mathematics is taught from a base of concrete experiences with a strong focus on an inquiry approach to develop number sense in students. The Strands are as follows:

- Number and Algebra
- Measurement and Geometry
- Statistics and Probability

3. Humanities: Geography, History

Students learn about the world around them, concepts of time, chronology, sequencing, change and continuity.

The students learn about:

- the major elements of societies and their environments
- Australian history, geography and environment
- cultures and the contribution these make to a unified and diverse society
- ideas which enhance their self-knowledge and self-concept assisting them to participate in their society within a global context
- ways in which people in other times and other cultures have used the technology and resources available to them.

They also:

- develop the skills needed to investigate ideas/issues and communicate humanities related information
- make reasoned and informed decisions and justify views
- develop knowledge of change and its impact on culture, social systems and environments.

4. Science

The Australian Curriculum: Science has three interrelated strands: science understanding, science as a human endeavour and science inquiry skills. Together, these provide students with understanding, knowledge and skills through which they can develop a scientific view of the world.

5. The Arts

The Arts are a fundamental means of expression and communication in all societies. In the Arts curriculum students learn ways of experiencing, developing, representing, presenting and understanding ideas, emotions, values and cultural beliefs. They learn to take risks, be imaginative, question and explore alternatives; they develop, practise and refine techniques, share opinions and engage in Arts criticism.

The Arts strands consists of – Performing Arts (Dance, Drama, Music) and Visual Arts (Media and Visual art).

Year 6 students participate in drama sessions that focus on building self-confidence, voice production, dramatic movement, expression and stage presence.

Music

Students learn music through the development of basic music concepts – duration, volume, pitch, timbre.

Students discover percussion instruments and music composition. Rhythm and notation are learned through song and rhyme. Creating and performing provides the students with a lifelong appreciation of music.

Year 5 Instrumental Program

Our Year 5 Instrumental Program offers all year 5 students the opportunity to learn 5 instruments over the course of a year. Keyboard, guitar, flute, cello and violin are on offer and the year culminates in our innovative and creative Instrumental Concert, where the skills of playing with an orchestra are explored.

Instrumental Music Lessons – available through the Music Department

The YBR instrumental music program gives students the opportunity to learn a variety of instruments with specialised music teachers. Currently on offer are lessons in flute, clarinet, saxophone, violin, cello, guitar, trombone, trumpet, drums, percussion, voice (singing) and piano.

Individual music lessons offer students the unique opportunity to learn in a one-on-one setting. Students get a strong foundation in the basics before moving on to areas of personal interest, building skills in musical performance, technique and composition.

Our fantastic staff can provide guidance in instrument selection, and one-off trial lessons are available to students to help make an informed decision. For further information about the instrumental music program or to enrol, please contact us on 9522 8270 or jaclyn.lanera@ybr.vic.edu.au

6. Languages Other Than English (L.O.T.E.)

Modern Hebrew (Ivrit) is an intrinsic component of our Primary school curriculum from Pre-School onwards. (Refer to Jewish Studies curriculum, Ivrit).

7. Health and Physical Education

The Health and Physical Education program aims to promote and develop the health and well-being of individuals, families and communities. These include water safety and the provision and maintenance of safe, secure environments.

The Physical Education program has been designed to provide an ongoing sequence of skills and motor development, taking into account the individual requirements and needs of growing students. Four main areas that continue from Foundation to Year 6 are

gymnastics, dance, ball skills and swimming. At Year 3 level, we introduce athletics and the major game of Newcombe. Ball skills are further consolidated by the introduction of Netball, Minkey and T-Ball by Year 5.

PMP - The Perceptual Motor Program takes place at the Foundation and Year 1 levels, where children develop their gross motor skills, gain confidence and establish their spatial awareness.

Foundation to Year 2 have their annual Sports Day in November/December. On entry to Year 3, each girl is placed into one of our three School House Teams: Sarah, Esther or Chana, and participate in inter-house competitions and athletic swimming carnivals. There is regular inter-house competition in Netball, Minkey and T-Ball.

Daughters of Old Collegians and sisters are usually in the same house.

A Swimming Carnival and an Athletics Carnival occur annually for year 3 - 11 students.

8. Information and Communications Technology (ICT)

Technology is integrated across the curriculum, to support teaching and learning, with student access to iPads and laptops. Explicit ICT lessons focus on developing critical thinking skills in our students as they learn to program and code, based on the Digital Technologies Curriculum. Cyber Safety and being a responsible as well as skilled digital citizen is constantly reinforced during these sessions.





בית רבקה
BETH RIVKAH LADIES COLLEGE
תחת נשיאות כ"ק אדמו"ר מליובאוויטש

ASSESSMENT AND REPORTING

Assessment

Parents are encouraged to contact the Heads of Primary if academic concerns arise. Assessment is continuous throughout the year and is made up of anecdotal observations, classwork, assignment and project work, oral and written presentations, portfolios and tests. Student progress is reviewed regularly throughout the year.

Student Reports and Parent/Teacher Evenings

Detailed formal reports are issued to parents at the end of Semester 1 (Term 2) and at the end of Semester 2 (Term 4). In addition, Parent Teacher interviews with the class teachers are held in early Term 2 and a follow up set of interviews in Term 3.

Parents will be notified of the date of these interviews and booking process (bookings are made via an online booking system called PTO – Parent Teacher Online).

HOMEWORK

Teachers aim to keep the amount of homework within reasonable limits.

Parents who find their child spending an unreasonable amount of time in order to complete homework assignments, should contact the teacher or Heads of the school.

SCHOOL PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

Excursions

Excursions, incursions, Shabbatonim, weekend seminars and camps are an exciting aspect of primary school life. Excursions and Incursions complement, and are an important extension of the educational programs offered at Beth Rivkah Primary and help develop an understanding that learning is not limited to school, and that valuable learning takes place in other environments.

Parents will be notified of any excursions scheduled to take place during the year, and must complete the online permission form, in order to enable their child to attend. There may be some costs associated with these.

Programs on Offer

Mathematics Enrichment
Maths 300
Family Maths Evening
Debating (Year 6)
Visible Thinking Routines
English Enrichment
Coding and Robotics
Chess Program
Public Speaking
Mindfulness
Annual Read-a-thon
Chumash Enrichment
Art Competitions
Cross Age and Peer Tutoring
Creative Problem Solving Activities
Positive Education
Nach Enrichment
Pirkei Avot Enrichment
Book Week Celebrations
Mini Election Campaign

Performing Arts

During the school year our students take great enjoyment in the preparation and presentation of various plays, performances and shows – for

- Siddur Presentation (Foundation)
- Chumash Presentation (Year 1)
- Art Exhibition (Year 1)
- Rashi Presentation (Year 3)
- Night of the Notables (Year 4)
- Asian Expo (Year 5)
- Instrumental Performances (Year 5)
- Bnot Chayil Evening (Year 6)
- Musical Soirees
- Rosh Chodesh Presentations
- End of School Concert

students at school assemblies as well as some specifically for parents to attend. These presentations include:

Student Leaders

Every Year 6 student has the opportunity to develop her leadership skills by assuming leadership duties during the school year. Duties include welcoming V.I.P's, assisting at school assemblies, organising special programs and encouraging school spirit through competitions, activities, chess and lunchtime clubs.

School Shluchot

Shluchot (at Beth Rivkah) are young adults who involve and motivate the students to feel positive about themselves, Judaism and Chabad Chassidut. They constantly contribute to the warm atmosphere around the school through their innovative programs and mentoring that they provide to the students.

The Shluchot support the staff in day to day activities as well as running special educational and lifestyle programs, organising festival celebrations, providing additional shiurim and attending school seminars and camps.



BAT MITZVAH

Bat Mitzvah Sessions

As part of the overall Yahadut Curriculum in Beth Rivkah, a Bat Mitzvah Programme has been developed for the students of Year 6.

The Year 6 Bat Mitzvah Programme aims to introduce the girls to this important stage in their lives. The programme addresses many different Halachic (Torah Law) and Hashkafa (Torah values) aspects of Bat Mitzvah, and gives the girls the opportunity to explore, question, and discuss the issues connected with, and the significance of becoming a Bat Mitzvah.

Session topics include:

- The importance of birthdays, especially the Bat Mitzvah birthday
- The meaning of Mitzvot
- מח שליט על הלב – Mo'ach shalit al halev – Making responsible choices
- צניעות – Tzniut – Introduction to the topic of modesty in thought, dress and speech
- The responsibility of being a דוגמה חי'ה – Dugma Chaya – a proper role model and positive influence on others
- הדלקת נרות שבת – Hadlakat Nerot Shabbat – Lighting Shabbat Candles
- הפרשת חלה – Hafrashat Challah - The Mitzvah of Challah, and the basic halachot of Kashrut

Rabbis and inspirational speakers address the students during interactive sessions.

Bat Mitzvah Celebrations

Bat Mitzvah celebrations should be in the spirit of Torah and Mitzvot. The food, venue, music and entertainment should all be Kosher, and in the true spirit of this special occasion. Music should be Jewish and appropriate. To enable all parents and students to make an informed choice regarding attendance we request that parents make it clear on the invitation as to the nature of the function, including entertainment.

Please enquire with the school should you have any queries.

Yeshivah Centre maintains a Community Diary that records bookings of all private family Smachot and Yeshivah Centre functions incorporating Yeshivah – Beth Rivkah Colleges' events.

We encourage everyone to book their function in the Community Diary to avoid clashes of events wherever possible. This will enable members of the community to attend all Smachot, rather than having to choose between a few being held on the same night.

Please take a moment to book your daughter's forthcoming Bat Mitzvah in the Community Diary, by calling the Primary front Office on 9522 8227 or 9522 8222.

BIRTHDAYS

Birthday Club

Parents are encouraged to participate in the Birthday Club by donating a book to the school in honour of their daughter's birthday. Items donated will be inscribed with the child's name, and donors will be acknowledged in the school newsletter.

Classroom Celebrations

Simple classroom celebrations may be arranged in consultation with the class teacher. Only parve (neither meat nor dairy) food and without known allergies is to be purchased. Please check with the school for acceptable food shops and Kosher food items.

Parties Outside School

Invitations to parties held outside school may not be distributed in school unless all class members are

invited, and the laws of Kashrut, Shabbat and Yom Tov are strictly observed. May we suggest that only parve food be served, and everything should be nut-free.

Entertainment should be age appropriate and in keeping with the school ethos

FOOD

School Lunches

We ask for parents' co-operation in providing their children with lunches and snacks that conform to the laws of Kashrut. No meat or meat products should be included in lunches brought into the school. Parents should ensure that the lunch is nutritious. Children are asked to not to share food. Food or drink in cans or glass bottles is not permitted at school.

Parents are requested to ensure that their child's lunch and snacks do not include nuts or nut products.

Bentching (Blessings After Meals)

Girls are taught and are expected to wash their hands before lunch, and to bentch (say Bircat Hamazon) after lunch.

School Canteen

Beth Rivkah Primary offers Canteen facilities for students, Tuesday to Friday (food is supplied from the Beth Rivkah Secondary Canteen).

The Canteen menu offers a range of lunch options including salads, pastas and sandwiches. The Beth Rivkah Canteen menu and order form can be obtained from the Beth Rivkah Primary front office.

Canteen order forms must be completed for all students wishing to order lunch and submitted with correct money to the front office the day before.

HEALTH

Our full Illness/ Accident policy is available to view via QTA/ Parent Portal (<https://parents.ybr.vic.edu.au/>).

Anaphylaxis - No Nuts

Our school aims to create a safe environment for children who are allergic to nuts and products

containing nuts. Parents are asked to be vigilant and very careful in checking for nuts and nut traces in all ingredients that they may use in the food their child brings into the school. Nut allergies can be life threatening.

Illness and Infection Control

All students are subject to Educational Department Health Regulations.

Please do not send your child to school if she shows any signs of illness. Any contagious or communicable illness should be reported to the class teacher.

The school will require a release from your child's physician if the child is returning to school after a communicable disease, such as conjunctivitis, chickenpox, diphtheria, viral hepatitis, impetigo, measles, meningococcal infection, mumps, whooping cough, poliomyelitis, ringworm, rubella (German Measles), scabies, streptococcal infections including scarlet fever, and hepatitis. If your child becomes ill during the school day and needs to be sent home, you will be notified accordingly.

Basic first aid is administered at school.

Teachers will only dispense pain killers – Panadol etc. with written parental permission.

Child Injury/ Illness

All illness, injury/ accident occurrences are recorded in an Accident/ Illness Log which is kept in the Sick Bay. Basic first aid is administered at school. We have a number of staff members at Beth Rivkah Primary who have undertaken First Aid training.

Staff will contact a child's parent/s immediately following an accident, or if the child has symptoms of an illness (particularly if it may be infectious – eg a temperature >37.5 degrees, vomiting, diarrhoea, rash, discharge from eyes).

Ill children will be sent to the sick bay and will be monitored by office staff (including a first aid person).

A parent will be notified if staff feels that a child is unwell and needs to go home. We will endeavour to make phone contact by contacting all parent phone numbers that have been provided.

Head Lice

Sometimes, even in the most meticulous of families, an outbreak of nits and lice can occur. There is no stigma attached to this, but as it is a highly contagious condition, a single case can soon escalate in a school.

Should you find evidence of nits and lice, please adopt the following procedure:

1. Inform the school immediately
2. Treat the condition with appropriate lotion or shampoo
3. Remove all lice and nits (eggs)
4. Continue to check your daughter's hair daily. After an infestation occurs, further checks at school may be necessary.

When head lice is identified, the child will be isolated from other children immediately and parents will be phoned and asked to collect their child to clear the infestation.

Each weekend please check your daughter's hair thoroughly for lice or nits.

If staff are unable to make contact and feel that a child still needs attention, then the emergency numbers supplied will be called.

If there is sufficient concern Hatzolah will be contacted.

Medication

If your daughter needs medication during the school day, please hand the medication to her teacher in a labelled container with her name and clear instructions regarding dosage (including last dosage administered). Medication will be administered in the front office. Students are not to keep medication with them, or in the classroom.

Medical Emergency

In the case of a medical emergency or serious accident Hatzolah will be called and parents will be notified.

Vaccination

According to government health regulations, each student is required to provide a full vaccination certificate on enrolment, and as requested by the school. Immunisation history is available by contacting the Immunisation Register on 1800 653 809 or www.medicareaustralia.gov.au

EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

Evacuation Procedure

Regular evacuation/ security lock downs are conducted to prepare the students in case of an emergency.

Our full Emergency Procedure policy is available to view via SEQTA/ Parent Portal (<https://parents.ybr.vic.edu.au/>)

CARE OF SCHOOL PROPERTY

Instilling respect for school property is part of our educational program. We enlist the aid of parents in emphasising these values in their children. Where damage is due to vandalism or negligence, the cost of repairs or replacements to school property will be charged to parents.

PERSONAL PROPERTY

The school cannot accept responsibility for the loss of personal goods or valuables. Students should not

bring large amounts of money, or other valuables to school. If a larger sum has to be brought to school, it should be put in a clearly labelled envelope and handed to the class teacher or the office for safe keeping.

Potentially dangerous items are not permitted at school (for example roller skates or skateboards).

Mobile phones must be handed in to the office on arrival at school and collected at the end of the day.

Our full Mobile Phone/ Device policy is available to view via SEQTA/ Parent Portal (<https://parents.ybr.vic.edu.au/>)

Lost Property

All articles of clothing and personal property MUST be clearly labelled with the student's full name. Lost property will be kept in a Lost Property Box for a limited period of time. Unclaimed property will be handed either to the uniform shop or to a charitable organisation.

PARENTS AS PARTNERS

We believe that the school and the home are partners in the child's education. A Parent/Teacher Information evening is held in Term 1, giving parents the opportunity to meet with their child's class teacher and talk briefly about their child. An outline of the year's curriculum is provided to parents.

Communication between the school and home is encouraged. Parents are urged to contact the teacher if circumstances at home alter, or if there are concerns about the student's work, progress, health or wellbeing. Appointments may be arranged through a note or email to the teacher or a phone call to the Primary Reception office. Teachers will contact parents if they have concerns regarding a student.

Parent Visits

Parents are asked to refrain from entering a classroom while teaching is in progress. Urgent messages can be left at the office.

Parents are always welcome to discuss matters concerning their child. However, teachers cannot be spoken to at short notice, as they cannot be called



away from their teaching duties. Please arrange an appointment through the office or by email.

It would be greatly appreciated if parents who enter the school grounds are modestly attired. Men are expected to wear a head covering.

Class Placement

Teachers and administration are involved in the allocation of children to classes. A number of criteria are considered to ensure effective learning for each individual student, as well as for the class as a whole. It is not the school's policy to encourage individual requests for placements in a particular class or with a particular teacher. However, if parents have a valid and genuine concern they should submit this matter in writing to the Head of Primary School.

It is anticipated that parents will trust and respect the decision of teachers and administration in this matter.

Parent Assistance

Parents with a volunteer Working With Children Check are invited to help with excursions. Parents will have the opportunity to assist with reading support in the classroom in Foundation and Year 1.

Yeshivah – Beth Rivkah Parents Association

The Yeshivah – Beth Rivkah Parents Association (YBRPA) invites all parents to join the dedicated committee of parent volunteers to help create and co-ordinate events, programs and fundraising activities throughout the year. All fundraising proceeds benefit our schools.

For more information please contact parents@ybr.vic.edu.au.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Community service is encouraged. Students hold fund-raising activities, and volunteer and participate in community events.

Yad L'Ezra iVolunteer

Yad L'Ezra iVolunteer is a joint project of Beth Rivkah and Chabad Youth. It is a volunteer service provided by secondary student volunteers who tutor or mentor primary students after school. This form of assistance can be applied for through the class teachers, or online www.chabadyouth.org/tutor.

CHILDREN LEARN WHAT THEY LIVE

If children live with criticism, they learn to condemn.

If children live with hostility, they learn to fight.

If children live with ridicule, they learn to be shy.

If children live with shame, they learn to feel guilty.

If children live with tolerance, they learn to be patient.

If children live with encouragement, they learn confidence.

If children live with praise, they learn to appreciate.

If children live with fairness, they learn justice.

If children live with security, they learn to have faith.

If children live with approval, they learn to like themselves.

If children live with acceptance and friendship, they learn to find love in the world.

SCHOOL SONG

We shall carry in our hands
The chain of tradition
Which Moshe brought down to us
From Sinai – the Torah

We shall carry the chain
In strong hands
And we will learn to live according to it
And to keep the Mitzvot

For we are the daughters of Rivka
A woman of grace and faith
Who was chosen to be the wife
Of Yitzchak because of her kindness

So we too will live
A life of kindness and righteousness
And hand over the chain
Into the hands of the next generation

נחנו נשא בידינו
את שלשלת המסורה
שמשה הוריד אלינו
מסיני את התורה

נחנו נשא השלשלת
בידים חזקות
ונלמד לחיות על פי'ה
לקים את המצות

כן אנחנו בנות רבקה
בעלת חן ואמונה
נבחרה על פי חסדה
ליצחק לו לאשה

כך נחי'ה גם אנחנו
חיי חסד וצדקה
ונמסר את השלשלת
לידי הדור הבא



YESHIVAH – BETH RIVKAH & GELC TERM DATES 2018

תשע"ח/ תשע"ט 5778/5779

** Denotes GELC Childcare available



בס"ד

TERM 1 — Thursday 1 February [students] – Tuesday 27 March (Friday Close 3.15pm)		
Mon 29 Jan – Wed 31 Jan	Staff Conference Days Jan 31 - Term 1 commences for all students in Foundation & Year 7 (Part Day) ; Yeshivah Secondary VCE 3 & 4 (Full Day)	
Thursday 1 February	Term 1 commences for students	
Wednesday 28 February	Ta'anis (Fast of) Esther	School closes 3.10pm **
Thursday 1 March	Purim	School open 9.15am – 11.15am
Friday 2 March	Shushan Purim	School begins 9.15am for all campuses**
Monday 12 March	Labour Day	School Open
Tuesday 27 March	School closes 1.00pm for Pesach and term vacation**	
<u>School Holidays and Childcare Availability:</u> Wednesday 28 – Thursday 29 March: School Closed - GELC Childcare available Friday 30 March: Erev Pesach - School closed; Shabbos 31 March – Shabbat 7 April: Pesach - School closed Monday 9 – Wednesday 11 April: School Closed - GELC Childcare available		

TERM 2 – Thursday 12 April - Friday 29 June (Friday Close 2.45pm)		
Thursday 12 April	Term 2 commences for staff & students	
Wednesday 25 April	ANZAC DAY	School Open with Commemorative Assemblies
Thursday 3 May	Lag B'Omer	School Open
Friday 18 May	Pre Erev Shavuot	School closes 1.00pm for Shavuot
Shabbos 19 May	Erev Shavuot	School Closed
Sunday 20 & Monday 21 May	Shavuot	School Closed
Tuesday 22 May	Mid-Term Break	School Closed ** Staff Reporting Day 9.00 – 1.00
Monday 11 June	Queen's Bday	Primary Campuses close 1.00pm (Staff PD 1 – 4pm); Secondary Campuses Full Day
Friday 29 June	School closes regular time for term vacation	
<u>School Holidays and Childcare Availability:</u> Monday 2 July – Monday 16 July School Holidays - School closed; GELC Childcare available Sunday 1 July: Fast of 17 Tammuz		

TERM 3 - Tuesday 17 July [students] – Friday 21 September (Fri Close 2.45pm first 5 weeks of Term 3. Resume 3.15pm close 24 Aug)		
Monday 16 July	Staff Conference Day	School Closed **
Tuesday 17 July	Term 3 commences for students	
Shabbos 21 July	Erev Tisha B'Av	School Closed
Sunday 22 July	Fast of Tisha B'Av	School Closed
Monday 23 July		School begins 9.15am for all campuses**
Sunday 9 September	Erev Rosh Hashana	School Closed.
Mon 10 & Tues 11 September	Rosh Hashana	School Closed
Wednesday 12 September	Tzom Gedalia	School begins 9.15am for all campuses**
Tuesday 18 September	Erev Yom Kippur	School Closed
Wednesday 19 September	Yom Kippur	School Closed
Thursday 20 September		School begins 9.15am for all campuses**
Friday 21 September	School closes regular time for term vacation	
<u>School Holidays and Childcare Availability:</u>		
Sunday 23 September: Erev Succos ; Monday 24 September – Tuesday 25 September: Succos – School Closed		
Wednesday 26 September – Sunday 30 September: Chol Hamoed Succos – School closed; Wed 26 – Fri 28 September GELC Childcare available;		
Monday 1 & Tuesday 2 October: Shmini Atzeres and Simchas Torah – School Closed		
Wednesday 3 - Friday 5 Oct:- School closed: GELC Childcare available		

TERM 4 – Monday 8 October – Wednesday 12 December [students] (Friday Close 3.15pm)		
Monday 8 October	Term 4 commences for staff and students	
Tuesday 6 November	Cup Day	School Open
Sunday 2 December	First Night Chanukah	Monday 3 – Monday 10 December: Chanukah
Wednesday 12 December	Last day students	School closes 1.00pm for summer vacation **
Friday 14 December	Last Day Staff	
Childcare is available for GELC students from 1.00pm Wednesday 12 December until Fri 28 December (except Tuesday 25 & Wednesday 26 Dec)		