

PROVIDENCE HEBREW DAY SCHOOL

450 Elmgrove Avenue * Providence, RI 02906 * 401-331-5327 * Fax: 401-331-0030

PRE-K **HANDBOOK**



This handbook has been prepared for parents. Its goal is to answer some of your questions and give insight into the unique Pre-Kindergarten program of Providence Hebrew Day School.

Rabbi Peretz Scheinerman, Dean
Miriam Esther Weiner, Principal

B”H

Dear Parents,

We would like to welcome you and your child to our preschool at P.H.D.S. We consider you as important as your child in this program.

It will be an exciting year filled with endless opportunities for your child to grow in many ways. These new beginnings will open doors of learning for the future. We hope the Pre-Kindergarten experience will be as rewarding and stimulating for your child as it is for us.

Please take the time to read through this handbook. We suggest you keep it for reference throughout the year. It contains important information that will enable us to start and continue the school year together smoothly.

The Preschool Teachers

**Mrs. Lynn Jakubowicz
Mrs. Beth Berman**

Please complete the Preschool Child Profile and submit it to the office as soon as possible.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Requirements:

Birth Certificate

Immunization Records (Polio - Measles - Rubella - Tetanus - Diphtheria - Whooping Cough - Mumps)

Health Forms Completed by Family Doctor

School Hours:

Half-Day	Monday - Friday	8:15 - 12:00
Full Day	Monday - Thursday	8:15 ~ 3:15
Full Day	Friday	8:15-3:30/1:30

Arrival & Dismissal

Please do not bring your child to school before 8:00 am. Between 8:00 and 8:10 all children should assemble in the auditorium. After 8:15 your child should go directly to the Pre-K classroom.

Please be on time when picking up your child. Dismissal will be from the front door of the school. If your child is going home with another parent or child, we need written permission; without that permission we will not be able to release your child. This is for your child's safety, and absolutely no exception will be made.

Absences

If your child is ill, please keep him/her at home! If an infectious disease is diagnosed, please notify the school immediately. School policy is that children who have vomited, had a fever, or been on antibiotics for less than 24 hours should be kept home until the next day.

Allergy Alert

Please inform the teachers in writing of any allergies that may affect your child's well-being, as well as steps to be taken in the unlikely event of an episode at school.

Clothing

Your child will be going out to the playground daily, except during inclement weather. Please dress him/her appropriately. We feel it is important that your child experience the tactile sensations of various seasonal elements.

It will be most helpful if your child has easy-to-fasten coats, jackets, raincoats, snowsuits, and boots. Your child should practice dressing as s/he will need to dress him/herself two times each day (recess and dismissal).

Labels

Be sure to clearly label your child's backpack, lunch bag, and each article of clothing s/he wears to school.

Other Necessities

Your child will need a complete change of clothing to be left in the classroom. This should include shirt/pants/dress, underwear, socks, and old shoes. This is to ensure that your child will have dry clothes if s/he gets wet. We all know how those puddles can get in the way! Please put all these items in a clearly labeled bag, and replace as needed.

For our classroom, please send a box of tissues at the start of the school year.

Please send a large, labeled backpack or tote every day so that all projects and papers come home safely.

Show and Tell

Monday is "Show and Tell" day, and this is the only time children may bring in toys from home. More information will follow.

Tzedakah and Mitzvah Notes

Please send *tzedakah* (charity) every day so we can do this *mitzvah* as part of *davening*. A penny a day is fine. Children may also bring *mitzvah* notes every day. We shall keep a “Mitzvah Tree” bulletin board to display these notes.

Snack

We provide a morning snack every day so please do not send one from home. Milk, orange juice, or apple juice may be purchased through the school, or you may send a drink from home. No glass containers, please!

Birthday Celebrations

We welcome you to celebrate your child’s birthday in school. Please discuss the arrangement ahead of time. We are happy to distribute invitations in school for a home celebration, as long as all the children are included.

All food and beverages brought to school for a special occasion must bear one of the following national *hashgachos*:
O-U, O-K, Kof K, and Star-K.

Reports and Conferences

We have formal reports and conferences once a year. These dates are on the school calendar. However, if at any time you have concerns, please speak to us immediately. We will then set up an appointment when we can all devote our full attention to discussing your child.

Lunch

For children who attend the full day at Pre-k, please include bread as part of your child’s dairy or pareve lunch so that we may enjoy the *mitzvah* of washing hands and making the *brachos* together. Children will eat lunch at noon. All packaged food brought to school must have a kosher symbol.

FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL CHECKLIST

Backpack or tote, labeled with your child's name

Change of clothes to leave at the school in a labeled bag

One box of tissues

A note informing us of any known allergies

A note informing us if your child will be having milk, apple juice, or orange juice purchased from the school

Please remember that arrival should not be before 8:00 AM and dismissal is at 12 noon for half day students and 3:15 for full day students (3:30/1:30 on Fridays).

If there is ever a change, please let us know in writing who will be picking your child up at dismissal.

Dairy or pareve lunch for full day students. Please enclose in a labeled container.

WE WELCOME YOU AND LOOK FORWARD TO SHARING A WONDERFUL YEAR WITH YOU AND YOUR CHILD