



UNITED HERZLIA SCHOOLS

בתי"ס המאוחדים הרצליה

IDEOLOGICAL POLICY

1. The school, a community school, is ideologically defined as a 'Jewish Day School' which follows 'national traditional Judaism'.
2. By 'community school' it is understood that the school serves the 'community' in the sense that it accepts and welcomes all Jews within the community – whatever their ideological affiliations, or lack thereof.

Broadly these can be identified as:

- those who are affiliated to Orthodox synagogues.
 - those who are affiliated to Progressive/Reform temples.
 - those who are unaffiliated to any congregation.
3. By 'traditional' it is meant that the school pursues an ideological direction that is aligned to Orthodoxy – however, it does so in a non-coercive, non-extremist manner. Its 'traditionalism' can be seen by:
 - 3.1. Its observance of two days Pesach, Succot, Shavuot, Shmini Atzereth, Rosh Hashana and the adequate preparation for these festivals beforehand e.g. programmes, half-days of school etc.
 - 3.2. Its observance of all fast days.
 - 3.3. Its observance of Rosh Chodesh.
 - 3.4. Its stance on Kashrut at all school functions and on the school premises.
 - 3.5. The traditional liturgy used in prayers.
 - 3.6. Separation of boys and girls when praying.
 - 3.7. The encouragement of the wearing of Kippot and Tefillin at Shacharit services and the wearing of kippot for Tanach lessons and Jewish Studies.
 - 3.8. The complete cessation of non-religious activities under the auspices of the school on Shabbat and Chagim.

4. By 'national' is meant that the centrality of Israel as the natural home of the Jewish People is recognised.
 - 4.1. Despite the pursuit of 'traditional' Judaism, the school is aware that it has to cater for varying levels of observance among its pupils. It therefore seeks to encourage rather than to coerce observance. However, there are times where the curriculum does become prescriptive. This can be justified on logistical and educational grounds. While a pupil is free to choose whether to attend the High School morning minyan or not, he/she is not free to choose to attend the Jewish Studies/prayers service. Attendance of these periods also obligates the pupil to bring to the period such books/instruments of the subject that are necessary in the instruction of that subject. (e.g. a pair of compasses or calculator in maths; drawing utensils in Art; kippot (boys) in Jewish Studies).
5. While the School retains the right to pursue its own dominant Jewish ideological direction, it at all times recognizes that the community it serves is made up of different ideological streams. Accordingly, in the pursuit and implementation of its chosen ideological direction, the school adheres to the principle of respect for the dignity of these differences within its own and the broader Jewish community.

CONCLUSION

The school cannot tolerate discrimination or divisiveness in any way. Non-affiliated Jews and Jews affiliated to Progressive Congregations should never be ostracised or singled out in any way. This would be counter-productive to the concept of HERZLIA as one undivided community. While adults can rationalize such ideological streaming, children are vulnerable to anything which 'marks' them as different. It is for this reason that, while the school pursues a traditional ideological path, it does so without disparagement or discrimination – its very premise is to unite all Jews on its campus rather than divide its pupils according to which congregation the individual pupil is affiliated.

JEWISH LIFE AND LEARNING PILLARS

The following five points define and give context to HERZLIA's ideological direction as a Jewish School that follows a national, traditional Judaism that is aligned to Orthodoxy.

The five points listed below are consistent with HERZLIA's practice over the past 75 years.

1. SHABBAT AND CHAGGIM

All aspects of Shabbat and Chaggim observance are based on an Orthodox ideology.

This entails the following:

- No participation in any activity that involves breaking Shabbat or Chaggim.
- No activities on Friday night or Saturday excluding Shabbatonim events that celebrate Shabbat.
- The discouragement of parents from having their children's parties on Shabbat or Chaggim. The school will not hand out invitations if the party is on Shabbat or Chaggim.

2. KASHRUT

Our Kashrut policy is based on an Orthodox ideology. We have a documented Kashrut policy that has been widely circulated.

This entails the following:

- The provision of kosher food at any HERZLIA function or activity. This includes school camps, tours and conferences attended by pupils and staff.
- Staff functions are also kosher.
- All parties taking place at school or under the auspices of the school will be kosher.
- Alumni functions run under the auspices of the school will also be kosher.

It is not the schools policy to monitor pupil's food that they bring from home for break. We encourage parents to respect our policy by providing kosher food at their children's parties.

3. TEFILLAH

All Tefillah services held at school and under the auspices of HERZLIA are run according to an orthodox ideology. This includes all the Siddurim that we use as well as the separation of girls and boys during Tefillah.

4. JEWISH STUDIES CURRICULUM

All the material taught in Jewish Studies classes will fall within a national, traditional Judaism philosophy that is aligned to Orthodoxy. All curricula will be compiled by our Jewish Life and Learning (JLL) team under the guidance of our JLL leadership team. All our Jewish life and Learning religious programs and material will also be run according to a national, traditional Judaism aligned to Orthodoxy.

5. STAFF

All Jewish Life and Learning educators are expected to be role models congruent with national, traditional Judaism aligned to Orthodoxy.