



UNITED HERZLIA SCHOOLS

בתיה"ס המאוחדים הרצליה

KASHRUT POLICY DOCUMENT

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1. WHAT DO KOSHER/ KASHRUT MEAN?

Kashrut is the body of Jewish law dealing with what foods we can and cannot eat and how those foods must be prepared and eaten. *Kashrut* comes from the Hebrew root *Kaf-Shin-Reish*, meaning fit, proper or correct. It is the same root as the more commonly known word "kosher," which describes food that meets these standards.

2. AIM OF THE UHS KASHRUT POLICY

This policy does not aim to police each of our schools. The aim is to ensure that we are providing a consistent educational framework that our learners and other stakeholders can learn from.

Why do we need a kashrut policy?

Many times those involved with catering have only good intentions, but do not have the knowledge of all the complex laws of kashrut.

In addition, we need consistency across our schools. If we are strict on one occasion and lenient on another, we are not providing a consistent educational experience for our learners. We are also an inclusive school and need to ensure we never exclude learners from a Herzlia function because they keep Kosher.

The policy document has been adopted by the Director of Education, the Principals Management Committee and the Jewish Life and learning department of our school and it is important for all schools to ensure that that they adhere to this document.

This document will cover policies relating to

- Functions that Herzlia pays for
- Staffroom policies
- Sports events
- Camps and outings
- Learners lunches
- Functions on Herzlia campuses
- Tuck-shops
- Non- Kosher adverts in school publications
- Events on Herzlia grounds

3. FUNCTIONS PAID FOR BY HERZLIA

As a Jewish school we have the responsibility to provide strictly kosher food to any groups of people that attend a function that Herzlia pays for. This includes:-

- functions involving Herzlia students
- functions involving Herzlia staff
- functions involving Herzlia alumni
- functions involving Herzlia parents
- functions involving the Jewish community

This includes all functions such as end of year parties, meetings, celebrations, seminars, conferences, fundraisers, golf days etc. This policy should not only be applied when a member of any of these function keeps kosher but should be applied at all times.

The only exception to this rule is a function that Herzlia sponsors outside of our community at which there will be no Jewish guests.

4. STAFFROOM POLICIES

We need to have a standard policy relating to all our staffrooms. To enforce staff to bring only kosher food is not realistic and not necessary. The staffroom and kitchen area are not kosher and therefore in each staffroom we should provide a locked cupboard for which the principal/ Head of Jewish Life keeps a key. In this cupboard we should keep kosher cutlery and crockery for kosher staff and kosher guests (this set should be washed up separately). No non -kosher equipment from the staffroom should be used outside the staffroom for any kosher functions.

All functions that take place in our staffrooms that Herzlia pays for should be kosher and kosher cutlery / disposable cutlery should be used.

To be inclusive to all our staff, principals should **suggest** that all functions in our staffrooms that teachers, parents, alumni or pupils cater for should be kosher.

5. SPORTS EVENTS

All sporting events that Herzlia hosts must be kosher. Before each away fixture, a letter should be sent explaining that we are a Jewish school and that if food will be provided to our learners it should be kosher. (This letter has been designed by The Systemic Head of Jewish Life and The Head of Sport)

6. CAMPS

All camps where we provide food to our learners should be Either:-

1. Provided by a kosher caterer (under the auspices of the Cape Beth Din)
Or
2. Under the auspices of the Head of Jewish Life

Please note:

- Catering for all camps must be signed off by the Head of Jewish Life to ensure that all kashrut issues have been dealt with.
- At no time during a Herzlia camp may learners be given the opportunity to buy food from a non- kosher restaurant.
- All camps should have a Jewish Life team member to help with prayers, oversee kashrut and provide a Jewish programme in line with the type of camp (e.g. a Jewish programme about nature on a Life Sciences camp).

The use of any tour operator that promises a fully kosher camp is not considered a kosher caterer. A kosher caterer is only considered Kosher if it is under the auspices of the Beth Din.

The Jewish Life department will try and help out with all camp issues, but it must be noted it is not, currently, in the job description of any Jewish life Herzlia employee to be a cook, *Mashgiach*, shopper or caterer.

7. OUTINGS

- If Herzlia provides food for learners on an outing, it must be Kosher.
- At no time on any outing should learners be allowed to stop at a non- kosher restaurant for food.
- If the place being visited provides food for our learners, they should be informed politely to ensure that this food is kosher. If this is not possible, no food at all should be provided.

8. STUDENT LUNCHES

Herzlia cannot insist that learners bring kosher food to school.

All primary schools should inform parents that we do not police learners' lunches and that if the family are kosher, they should ensure their children do not swop lunches with other learners as we can't be expected to oversee what every child eats at school.

We **can** ensure that any food the learners get from our school will be kosher.

9. EVENTS ON OUR SCHOOL CAMPUSES

In the event of our school being hired out to the greater public as a venue, it is important to ensure that our kashrut policies are not compromised. It is preferable not to have non-kosher food for sale here. The Head of Jewish Life must be informed to ensure that events are dealt with properly.

10. TUCK-SHOPS

Our school tuck shops need to

- provide only kosher food
- make sure all food is prepared in accordance with all the laws of Kashrut (many laws apply here)
- Ensure the head of each tuck shop has done a kashrut course and that they take responsibility for adhering to the kashrut policies and reporting to the Head of Jewish Life
- Ensure no food is prepared in personal homes
- Ensure that Tuck-shop volunteers should attend training seminars given by the Head of Jewish Life/ the Cape Beth Din when they start to volunteer.

11. ADVERTS IN SCHOOL PUBLICATIONS

In accordance with the Kashrut education we are trying to provide, it is very hypocritical to allow adverts in any school newsletter, magazine or publication advertising non- kosher restaurants or products and will not be acceptable.

12. IN CONCLUSION

The Jewish Life & Learning team are available to consult on any query relating to Kashrut. It is our aim to help ensure that each school adheres to this policy thereby ensuring that all Herzlia Schools have one standard policy on Kashrut.