

Admissions for School Year 2021-22: Criteria for demonstrating Jewish Practice

The current national lock down and the restrictions on public worship present problems regarding the arrangements in our published Admissions Policy for the school year September 2021-22 (Years 7-11 or Year 12, as appropriate).

This document, which should be read in conjunction with that Policy, sets out how Governors will assess which applicants will count as 'First Priority: Jewish Children' in the oversubscription criteria.

The following provisions, additional to what is in the policy, will apply **for this calendar year only**:

- a) Applicants with a sibling who applied to JCoSS as a Jewish Child within the last four years **do not need to provide new evidence** of Jewish practice. This includes all siblings (as defined in our policy) in the current Year 10 or younger, whether they were admitted to JCoSS or not. The practice of the family as verified on the previous application will be deemed not to have changed.
- b) Documentary evidence of **either** Jewish education **or** volunteering (as defined in our policy) will be considered sufficient. **It is not necessary to provide both** provided that four occasions can be cited; the timescale has also been extended. Children on roll at a Jewish primary school, or who have attended Cheder four times in the **12 months** prior to application, will be deemed to have met the criteria, as will parents who have volunteered for a Jewish organisation four times in the **12 months** prior to application.
- c) **The School will run an online Cheder course** in the summer and autumn months, open to all applicants. The course will consist of six sessions aimed at children expecting to leave Year 6 in July 2021, and attending at least four of them (as verified by the School) will be considered sufficient for applicants to establish Jewish practice. Further details of this will be provided shortly, including the provision of support to families for whom online access presents difficulties.
- d) **Virtual attendance** at synagogue services, as officially verified by the synagogue, will be deemed equivalent to attendance in person. This should be certified by the means already included on the Declaration of Jewish Practice Form.

These provisions apply to all new applications made **before 31 December 2020**, including admissions to Year 7 or Year 12 for September 2021, any in-year admissions for the remainder of the academic year 2019/20 and 2020/21, and **Year 12 applicants for September 2020**. They may be extended or amended beyond that date by decision of the Governing Board. They do not affect any arrangements put in place by other traditions in relation to 'Third Priority: Other-faith children'.

This information, and any subsequent extensions or alterations, will be published on the school website, communicated to Barnet Local Authority, and sent to relevant stakeholders.

Agreed by the JCoSS Governing Board at its meeting on 13 May 2020