

Protocol for Relationships with outside Jewish Organisations

Last Review: June 2024
Next Review: by end of Summer Term, 2027
Committee: Teaching & Learning / Ethos

Introduction and Rationale

The school's pluralist Jewish ethos entails that it is ideologically committed to building partnerships in relation to Jewish Education with organisations across the spectrum of mainstream Judaism. This protocol sets out the basis on which this is done.

Philosophy

- a) JCoSS offers a wide range of activities led by organisations from across the Jewish community and beyond, both informally and formally within the Jewish Education curriculum. We are committed to offering our students outstanding role models and to open their eyes to a variety of ideologies and philosophies.
- b) We aim to provide a balance of engagement across the community over time. While an individual event (for example a Rosh Chodesh talk) may only include a representative from a single tradition, this will be balanced over time with representatives from other contrasting traditions or organisations.
- c) We endeavour to invite into JCoSS a variety of organisations to ensure that we offer cross communal participation and opportunities to all of our students, but we cannot guarantee their involvement or willingness to work with us.
- d) All activities supported and/or promoted by JCoSS must be open to all JCoSS students in school. Should organisations wish to advertise or promote activities beyond the school, the school will endeavour to invite cross-denominational participation.

Criteria for engagement

Organisations will be given opportunities to engage with JCoSS students on the following basis, in all cases at the discretion of the Headteacher in consultation with the Director of Jewish Life

1. Organisations which are affiliated to a denomination which belongs to the Board of Deputies and/or supported by the UJIA or JLC.
2. Organisations without a denomination affiliation that provide support or content for the Jewish Education programme (formal or informal)
3. Organisations will not be allowed to actively recruit students to their organisation in line with the requirements of the Education Act 2011, although they may promote individual events or activities.

In cases of doubt, the Headteacher will seek the advice of the Ethos Committee.

All those who work with JCoSS students at the school – in either a contractual or volunteer capacity – are subject to normal checks and procedures, including DBS if they are to have substantial unsupervised contact with young people.

Jewish Youth Organisations

JCoSS is committed to working closely with a range of the Jewish Youth Organisations, Zionist and non-Zionist, and encourages their active engagement with the school. They are invited to promote their activities through Volunteering Programmes; Youth Movement fair, Israel Tour fair and Gap Year fair. In return, the school expects to benefit from their contribution to activities such as Purim, Yom Ha'atzmaut, PSHCE training etc.