

# Religious School FAQ

## All Families

### **1. What is the registration process for my family?**

1. Complete registration online through Beth El website-www.bethelbalto.com
2. Once Hebrew School office receives your child's registration, we will send a fill in form with information for:
  - a. Choice of Hybrid or virtual only
  - b. Elective choices
  - c. Hebrew information (Mon-Fri 3-6pm)
3. Registration will auto enroll for the 2<sup>nd</sup> semester. If you decide to change courses at any time, please be in touch.

### **2. Will curriculum be consistent throughout the school, whether in person or virtual?**

The curriculum that teachers are working with is the same whether students are learning in person or virtually. Students will receive the same key content; it will just be presented differently. *Please see curriculum overview for more information.*

### **3. Payment/Tuition**

Tuition is billed by semester. To make a change for the spring semester, you can reach out to the Religious School Office IN WRITING with your plans by the end of the calendar year. If the school must go to an all virtual format as per the synagogue mandate and/or MD state law, we will NOT reimburse tuition for the semester. *Please see Tuition Schedule for 2020-2021 tuition rates.*

### **4. Technology Use and Guidelines**

Whether you are opting into the hybrid in person model or the virtual only model, students will be utilizing technology. We will continue to use Zoom as our main platform of communication during classes and programs.

**To ensure that all students and families gain the most out of the virtual experience, please abide by the following technology guidelines:**

- When your child is on Zoom, please have your screen ON.
- Your name must be your full name: first and last name
- Please limit the amount of chatting in the box to focus on the class content.
- Please keep the same background on throughout the entire class.
- If a student has a question, you will push the "raise hand" button, unless the individual teacher tells the class otherwise.
- Please do not share your screen or write on a shared screen unless otherwise asked by a teacher.

For mid-week Hebrew (2<sup>nd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grade students):

- All students, in both the hybrid or virtual only model are allotted 20 minutes a week for one-on-one Hebrew tutoring.

- Families will sign up the student with a Hebrew teacher through a virtual scheduling program.
- The teacher will personalize the instruction to the student, making sure they are in line with the Hebrew curriculum for the school.
- Hebrew resources will be provided virtually.

## **In Person Hybrid**

### **1. What will drop off look like?**

- Drop off times will be staggered based on last names.
- Families will stay in their cars and drop their child(ren) off in the carpool lane by the preschool in the back parking lot.
- Students will get out of their car one at a time and will have their temperature taken by a staff member as soon as they get out of the car.
- The staff member will be wearing a mask, we ask that the parent does as well, when interacting with staff.
- Each student will find their teacher and line up 6 feet apart with their class.
- When everyone arrives, teachers will lead their classes to their designated spaces.
- Please be patient and allow yourselves extra time if you are dropping off at a high traffic time (ex: 9:30 am)

### **2. What will pick up look like?**

- Students will return to the preschool pick up lane and wait, socially distant, with their classes.
- Parents will pull up in the carpool lane and let the staff person know who they are picking up.
- The teacher will notify the student and the student will walk, with his or her mask on, to the parent's car.
- Please try to limit carpooling to religious school with another family.

### **3. Are parents, grandparents and visitors allowed in the building?**

With COVID-19 restrictions, we are doing a carpool drop off and pickup. This allows for more control over who comes in and out of our building.

### **4. How will our children be social distancing?**

- Students will remain in outdoor classroom spaces in the pavilion and tents as weather cooperates.
- The children will remain with their class and staff during the day. There is no sharing staff or combining of groups. Exceptions may occur in emergency circumstances.
- We will encourage children to engage in activities that will promote social distancing, have outdoor learning experiences when possible.
- We will not shame the children for being too close in proximity. We will simply redirect in a warm, calming manner, when necessary.

- All of these and others are to help reduce the spread of any possible transmission of the virus.

**5. Will indoor bathrooms be available?**

Yes, indoor bathrooms will be available. Students will be allowed to enter the building one at a time to use the bathroom. Maintenance staff will clean the bathroom after each child.

**6. Are masks required?**

- It is required that all teachers and faculty wear cloth face coverings throughout the day while at Beth El in accordance with CDC guidelines.
- Beth Els Berman Lipavsky Religious School faculty, students, and parents must wear cloth face coverings during drop-off and pick-up and while staff are performing temperature checks.

**7. Do I need to provide a thermometer for drop off check, or does the school?**

The religious school will have staff taking temperatures of the students as they get out of their cars, one at a time.

**8. If my child has 100.4 or higher at drop off, do I need to bring them home?**

To best adhere to CDC and MSDE guidelines, any child with 100.4 or greater will not be allowed out of the car into the building. We appreciate full disclosure and understanding.

**9. Are staff being checked for symptoms?**

Yes, every staff will have a temperature check in the morning at arrival and a symptom checklist, like those for the children. All rules apply to staff as well.

**10. Will we be alerted if there is a probable case and a diagnosed case?**

We are asking for full disclosure and transparency from our families and staff to best protect everyone! We will let the classroom know if there is a probable case. If anyone has symptoms of COVID-19, we are asking that they seek immediate medical attention and take a test. The child, staff, families should quarantine until the results come back negative. We ask that if there are symptoms within the family and not the child, to self-quarantine your children as well.

**11. What happens if a child or staff develop symptoms during the day?**

If a child or staff develop any symptoms of COVID-19, or other symptoms of common illnesses, we will immediately take temperatures, call parents, ask the staff

to leave the building and isolate the child until the child is picked up. The child and staff may not return to the building without a doctor note of clearance.

## **12. Cleaning protocols**

All indoor and outdoor surfaces are properly cleaned and sterilized before and after use by each group at Beth El. There will be hand sanitizers readily available for students and teachers to use throughout the morning.

## **13. What supplies will my child need?**

- Students do not need to bring any supplies with them to Beth El. We will provide students with individual boxes that will house their supplies from week to week.
- If students would like to bring water bottles, they are welcome to do so. Water fountains will NOT be available to students.
- PLEASE NO FOOD unless there is a medical need on your registration form.

## **14. What happens in the event that the synagogue and/or county/state mandates an “at home” order?**

If at any time the synagogue does not feel that it is safe to continue meeting in person, we will move to an all virtual school model. If the county or state mandates an “shelter in place” order, we will also move to an all virtual school model. Refunds will not be issued for that semester.

## **15. How will parents communicate with the school?**

You can call the religious school main office on Sunday mornings at 410-484-4543. During the week, please email Amy Goldberg, Religious School Director at [amy@bethelbalto.com](mailto:amy@bethelbalto.com) or Andy Shankman, Religious School Manager at [ashankman@bethelbalto.com](mailto:ashankman@bethelbalto.com)

## **Virtual Only**

### **1. Will students be assigned to their grade specific class?**

Yes, each student will be assigned to the grade and each grade will meet as a class on Sunday mornings. This will allow for students to connect with their peers and foster the community that their class will build together. T'filah/music and electives are mixed grades.

### **2. What technology will my child need to use for their classes?**

Students will be using zoom as the main platform for learning. They will also utilize other online curricular pieces through the zoom platform, for which the teachers will introduce to students.

### **3. Will my child be able to connect with teachers in a virtual classroom?**

Teachers will be available to students throughout the week to connect with opportunities to dive deeper into the content or connect with questions.