



## **Shabbat and Yomtov (Festival) Policy**

### **General**

Finchley Reform Synagogue is a vibrant and diverse Reform community based in North London. Its informal and inclusive approach, along with its innovative and dynamic methods, makes it a shining light in British Jewry.

FRS looks to the needs of its members at all stages of their lives: it becomes the 'constant' for them, celebrating with them and comforting them, teaching and learning with them, encouraging them to participate fully in the life of the community no matter what their heritage or level of Jewish understanding.

### **Administrative Work**

During Shabbat and Yomtov (Festivals) members and staff should not engage in any administrative work in or on behalf of the synagogue, other than that which is required **in an emergency**.

No regular or scheduled meetings shall take place on behalf of the synagogue during Shabbat and Yomtov (Festivals).

### **Use of Social Media:**

FRS regularly streams its services on Shabbat and Yomtov (Festivals) and sees this use, and other tools of social media to include Twitter; blogs and so on, to enable engagement of its members in religious services including those people who are unable to attend in person.

### **Events in the Synagogue or on behalf of the Synagogue**

All events and activities that take place within or on behalf of the synagogue will include the appropriate blessings for food, ritual practices as well as the accepted prayers of the event. For example, food eaten on a Shabbat or Yomtov (Festivals) at a synagogue event will always be accompanied by the appropriate blessings.

### **Food:**

FRS has a dairy kosher kitchen. It expects all its members to ensure that all food products brought into the building complies with this kosher dairy policy. All meals and kiddushim organised must ensure that people with diverse dietary needs such as gluten and nut free are accommodated. We do not seek the hechsher of the united synagogue on food or wine brought into the synagogue but rely on the ingredients to be kosher and without meat or gelatine.

### **Activities**

Activities must be sensitive to those members or staff who do not write or spend money on a Shabbat or Yomtov.