

# Beth Sholom Temple Religious-Hebrew School

## Frequently Asked Questions

1. Q. Do I have to be a member of Beth Sholom Temple in order to enroll my child(ren) in the Religious-Hebrew school?  
A. Yes. Membership at Beth Sholom is a requirement for your child(ren) to attend our Religious-Hebrew School. If there is a unique situation, i.e. conversion, transient status, a planned move, etc. please speak to the Board President.
  
2. Q. I am part of an Intermarried family, can my child(ren) still attend BST Religious-Hebrew school?  
A. The policy of the Religious School is that **all** children of a Jewish parent may be educated with us provided that both parents have committed to raising the child(ren) Jewishly.
  
3. Q. What is THE BEST WAY to provide my child(ren) with a religious/Hebrew education?  
A. THE BEST WAY to provide your child(ren) a Religious-Hebrew education is to attend Shabbat services. The services offered vary from the once a month "Family Shabbat" to regular Friday night services or a shorter Saturday morning service. If your child(ren) attends services on a regular basis he/she will have a much firmer grasp of what we are teaching regardless of the subject matter.
  
4. Q. What curriculum do you use?  
A. For Judaic Studies we are using the ISJL curriculum. This is a curriculum that is utilized in both Conservative and Reform congregations in a 13 state South-Eastern region of the United States. The ISJL curriculum addresses the learning needs from pre-school through confirmation. For more information, please visit ISJL at [www.isjl.org](http://www.isjl.org). Our Hebrew curriculum is Shalom Uvrachah for level Aleph and Hineni Hebrew Through Prayer levels 1-3 for Hebrew Bet, Gimmel, and Dalet. Hebrew Hay utilizes Mishkan T'Filah.
  
5. Q. Who teaches the children?  
A. Our teachers are all volunteers who have other jobs and interests outside of the Temple. The only exception to this is the rabbi who teaches the confirmation class. ALL of our teachers are EXTREMELY invested in our children and strive to provide a quality Jewish education. If you are interested in teaching/subbing, please contact the religious school.

6. Q. What is the Religious-Hebrew school schedule?
  - A. Each Fall, a calendar is printed that lists days when we have class or don't have class as well as Shabbat dinners with the Rabbi. Any changes from that calendar go out via e-mail. The daily schedule is: Judaic studies on Sundays only for grades pre-school through second grade; Hebrew Hay (b'nei mitzvah) is on Sunday only; Judaic studies third grade through Confirmation on Sundays late mornings; Hebrew Aleph through Dalet is on both Sundays and Wednesday evenings.
  
7. Q. What is the financial obligation?
  - A. The financial obligation is Temple membership plus Religious School fees as outlined on the registration form. Payment options are also given on that form. \*\*No student is turned away due to finances! We ask that if there is need for financial relief, please fill out the form and speak with the Temple Treasurer or President. \*\*
  
8. Q. My child(ren) began their religious education in another congregation: how will this affect their education at Beth Sholom?
  - A. Children in pre-school through second grade are placed according to their secular school grade. Hebrew placement is based upon PROFICIENCY. He/She will be evaluated by one of our teachers to determine which level of Hebrew your child(ren) will be in.
  
9. Q. If my child is "behind/late" in their Hebrew, will this delay his/her bar/bat mitzvah?
  - A. The rate at which your child "makes up" lost time is dependent on their personal motivation and familial involvement. We have had several students who have done self/parental instruction or tutoring to make up levels of Hebrew. If your child chooses to pursue such an individualized program, he/she MUST pass both a written exam and a reading exam with the appropriate instructor for EACH LEVEL.

These are just a few of the most frequently asked questions and their answers. If you have any other questions, please feel free to contact the rabbi, the principal or assistant principal of the Religious School, or any member of the education committee. Thank you for your interest in us.