

Hebrew School FAQs

The BJE Hebrew School teaches students the importance of our people's past through the study of Hebrew. At the same time, our students learn the skills they need to assume the role of responsible adults in the Jewish community. The basic Hebrew School curriculum is a four (4) year program that consists of reading, writing and comprehension of Siddur (prayer book) prayers and some basic Modern Hebrew vocabulary and grammar. Jewish holidays and customs and their related Hebrew words and prayers are integrated into Hebrew studies. Students generally begin attending Hebrew School when they enter the third grade in their day school program. We also offer tutoring in conjunction with local synagogues to prepare children to become B'nai Mitzvah. Hebrew High School allows students to continue to learn and to grow.

- Aleph, Bet, and Gimmel (the first three years of Hebrew School) attend **two days per week**.
- Dalet (year four) usually attends one day per week, although we now offer a two-day option for students who wish to receive more depth during the pre-B'nai Mitzvah year.
- Approximately 9 months prior to Bar/Bat Mitzvah date, students meet with pre-bnei mitzvah tutor, Jeff Linkon, to begin preparation and review
- Approximately six months prior to the Bar/Bat Mitzvah date, BJE Cantor Judy Meyersberg provides individualized instruction. This tutoring is coordinated with your rabbi and cantor so that, as a team, we can provide your children with the skills they need for this very important life cycle event. Hebrew teachers also assist in tutoring when needed.
- Hebrew High School offers students in grades 7-10 advanced Hebrew language education and can serve to prepare students to take Hebrew as a foreign language in high school. Many students can place into Hebrew II or III in high school when they continue learning advanced Hebrew at the BJE in 7th and 8th grades. The curriculum focuses on modern Hebrew language and advanced Jewish and Israel related topics.

Class Options and Registration

These are the session times for all Hebrew School classes:

Weekday Early (T/W/R): 4:00 – 5:30

Sunday Early: 9:00 – 10:30

Weekday Late (W): 5:30 – 7:00

Sunday Late 1: 11:30 – 1:00

Sunday Late 2: 12:15--1:30

- Parents specify preferences for days and times (note that options vary among the grades) when completing online registration.
- In order to best instruct your child, the following class limits are generally followed: a minimum of eight students and a maximum of 15 children enrolled in each class. Placement is first-come, first-served. **If you need one particular class time, please register early since we cannot guarantee preferred placement if classes are full or too few people choose a time.**
- For families that live too far away we do have distance learning possibilities during all Hebrew school sessions for all grade levels.

Additional learning options available during the school year:

Special needs assistance is available. Please contact Rabbi Winnig to discuss your family's particular concerns.

Transportation to the BJE

- To help meet the community's need, the BJE offers bus service to and from the Indianapolis Hebrew Congregation, Beth-El Zedeck and Shaarey Tefilla on Sundays as well as from a number of public schools and private schools on weekdays.
- Students attending Washington Township schools may be able to receive bus transportation to the Jewish Community Center. Please check with your child's school to arrange for this service prior to the start of Hebrew School.
- Students attending JCC aftercare should make transportation arrangements through the JCC.