

# **Yesodey Hatorah Senior Girls School**

## **Admissions Policy**

### **Determined admissions arrangements and Oversubscription Criteria for 2017/18.**

The following revised admission arrangements were adopted by the Admission Committee of the Governors on 08 03 16 subject to any necessary further review following the subsequent Adjudicator's Decision in ADA2777

#### **Context and Ethos of the School**

Yesodey Hatorah School is a school with religious designation which exists to meet the needs of Charedi Jewish families who desire a Charedi Jewish education for their daughters. The school seeks to provide a broad and balanced education based on Torah values combined with the National Curriculum. All Charedi girls will be expected to abide by the principles and ethics of the Charedi community as guided by the Rabbinat of the Union of Orthodox Hebrew Congregations, and all other pupils will be expected to respect the observance of Charedi principles by Charedi girls while in school or participating in school activities and behave accordingly. The highest possible standards of mutual respect between all pupils are a critical part of the School's ethos.

#### **Meaning of "Charedi girl"**

The following definitions in this section are only relevant to applicants who wish to be considered under the religious oversubscription criteria 1-3 set below. Those criteria which will only apply to admissions to the school if there are more applications than places available.

In these arrangements "Charedi Jewish girl" means a girl who is a member of a Charedi family that lives in accordance with Charedi principles and ethics as prescribed by the Rabbinat of the Union of Orthodox Hebrew Congregations. The definition of Charedi is as follows:

A distinct group within the Jewish community distinguished by cultural differences and strict adherence to and practice of Orthodox Judaism. All members of this community lead an extremely modest way of life dictated by the highest moral and ethical values. Every aspect of their lives is governed by the codes of Torah observance, and is based on the three tenets of Judaism "Torah, Prayer and Acts of loving kindness".

The Charedi principles and ethics require as follows:-

Charedi homes do not have TV or other inappropriate media, and parents will ensure that their children will not have access to the Internet and any other media which do not meet the stringent moral criteria of the Charedi community. Families- mothers and girls, will dress at all times in accordance with the strictest standards of Tznius (modesty) as laid down by the Rabbinat of the Union of Orthodox Hebrew Congregations. Fathers, where applicable, overall mode of dress style and colour will be in accordance with the Chareidi ethos of the school; must belong to a Chareidi synagogue and attend all prayers on Sabbos, Yom Tov and the three daily prayers. Likewise attendance in synagogue appropriately dressed i.e. jacket and hat. Set times for daily Torah study sessions קובע עיתים לתורה are an essential part of a chareidi family environment.

The ethos of the Union of Orthodox Hebrew Congregations expects parents / guardians to refrain from following trends which contradict the spirit of modesty **צניעות** and holiness **קדושה** accepted in the community **קהילה**, even when these trends do not clearly negate the Halochos or are accepted elsewhere.

#### 1. SKIRTS

- Dresses and skirts may not be shorter than 10cm / 4 inches below the knees, a length that ensures the knees remain covered at all times.
- Very long skirts are not accepted within our Charedi **חרדי** community and as such are forbidden
- Very straight or figure hugging skirts are forbidden. **אסור**.
- A slit in a skirt or dress is absolutely forbidden even if it is completely below the knee.

#### 2. SHEITELS

- Sheitels that fall below the base of the neck or do not conform in any other way to the halochos are forbidden to be worn.
- Hatfalls and Bandfalls are not in keeping with the standards of modesty **צניעות**. If snoods are worn because of rabbinical guidance **שיטה** ones hair must be completely covered.

#### 3. COLOURS

- The wearing of flashy or very brightly coloured clothing is forbidden.

#### 4. NECKLINES

- Blouses, jumpers or dresses must fit closely to the neck. This ensures that:
  - a. The shoulders
  - b. The top of the spine and downwards
  - c. The collar bone and below are covered

#### 5. SLEEVES must cover the elbows at all times

#### 6. MAKE-UP should be discreet

#### 7. CASUAL CLOTHES

- Casual garments and footwear, denim or other clothing made from similarly 'trendy' fabrics e.g. leather and lycra, are related to the casual free way of life of the street culture **אומות העולם** and as such are not permitted.

#### 8. TELEVISION / INTERNET

- The television is absolutely forbidden. **אסור**
- Access to the internet is forbidden. Likewise, other unsuitable home entertainment is strictly not allowed by the Union.

### Admissions Arrangements

- The school will admit up to 80 girls to Year 7
- Where the school is named in a child's Statement of Special Educational Needs, that child will be admitted to the school and will be counted against the admission number.
- If there are more applications than places available the Governing Body will admit pupils in accordance with the following over subscription criteria:

1. Charedi Jewish girls who are looked after children or previously looked after children (see definition (i) below).
2. Charedi Jewish girls with sisters at the school at the time of application. A sister must live permanently at the same address as the child for whom the application is being made. This includes half sisters, stepsisters and foster sisters who live permanently as a family unit at the same address.
3. Other Charedi Jewish girls.
4. Other girls who are looked after children or previously looked after children in public care.
5. Other girls.

### **Tie-Breaker**

- If there are insufficient vacancies for all applicants in any of the above categories, priority will be given to pupils living closest to the school. Distance will be measured in a straight line from their home address to the main gates of the school. In the event that two applicants live the same distance from the school, a further tie breaker of random allocation under independent supervision will be used.

### **Process for Applying for a Place**

- Parents will need to apply for a place at the school using the Home Local Authority Application Form available from the local authority and in accordance with their timetable.
- In order for an application to be prioritised within the admissions criteria on the grounds of a Charedi Jewish faith, parents must submit a supplementary information form proving their commitment to the faith. The form is available from the school or The Hackney Learning Trust. Any disputes as to whether a child is Charedi will be settled by reference to the Rabbinate of the Union of Orthodox Hebrew Congregations.

### **Late Applications and Waiting list**

Late applications received will be considered, ranked and placed on the waiting list. A girl's position in the waiting list is determined in accordance with the above oversubscription criteria so a girl may move up and down the list as new girls are added to it. The list for Year 7 will be maintained until 21st December 2017.

### **In-year applications**

Applications for entry to years other than Y7 need to be made via the Hackney Learning Trust. The same over-subscription criteria above will apply if required.

Definition (i) A 'looked after child' is a child who is (a) in the care of a local authority, or (b) being provided with accommodation by a local authority in the exercise of their social services functions (see the definition in Section 22(1) of the Children Act 1989) at the time of making an application to a school. Previously looked after children are children who were looked after, but ceased to be so because they were adopted (or became subject to a residence order or special guardianship order).

**Supplementary Information Form**

**YESODEY HATORAH SENIOR GIRLS SCHOOL  
EGERTON ROAD  
LONDON N16 6UB  
TEL: 020 8826 5500  
FAX: 020 8826 5505**

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION FORM**

**1. Child's Details**

**Child's Surname**

**First Names**

**Child's Date of Birth**

**Child's Home Address**(This must be the address where the child normally lives)

**I / We meet the chareidi criteria as prescribed by the Rabbinat of the Union of Orthodox Hebrew Congregations. I / We enclose a written confirmation from the Rabbinat.**

**(please note that only one parent is required to sign)**

**Signatures: Parent (s).....**

**Date .....**

**Union of Orthodox Hebrew Congregations (UOHC)**

**140 Stamford Hill**

**London N16 6QT**

**020 8802 6226**

**CONFIRMATION OF CHAREIDI STATUS**

**(This form should not be returned to the school but sent to the UOHC)**

**1. Child's Details**

**Child's Surname**

**First Name(s)**

**Last Name**

**Child's Date of Birth**

**Child's Home Address** This must be the address where the child normally lives.

**2. Parent / Guardian Details**

**Title (Please circle) Mr Mrs Other**

**First Name**

**Surname**

**Relationship to Child**

**Address if Different from Child's**

**A copy of the Chareidi Ethos is attached to this form. Confirmation of Chareidi Status will only be endorsed when the Ethos is signed by Parent / Guardian and countersigned by the Rabbinat of The Union of Orthodox Hebrew Congregations.**

**The Union of Orthodox Hebrew Congregations**

**Chareidi Ethos and Rules**

**In order for the Union of Orthodox Hebrew Congregations to meet its targets of authentic chareidi education חינוך בדרך ישראל סבא Parents and families are expected to adhere to the strictest laws of צניעות and moral values at all times as set out by Halocho.**

**Chareidi homes do not have TV or other inappropriate media, and parents will ensure that their children will not have access to the Internet and any other media which do not meet the stringent moral criteria of the Chareidi community. Families- mothers and girls, will dress at all times in accordance with the strictest standards of Tznius (modesty) as laid down by the Rabbinat of the Union of Orthodox Hebrew Congregations. Fathers, where applicable, overall mode of dress style and colour will be in accordance with the Chareidi**

**ethos of the school; must belong to a Chareidi synagogue and attend all prayers on Sabbos, Yom Tov and the three daily prayers. Likewise attendance in synagogue appropriately dressed i.e. jacket and hat. Set times for daily Torah study sessions קובע עיתים לתורה are an essential part of a chareidi family environment.**

**The ethos of the Union of Orthodox Hebrew Congregations expects parents / guardians to refrain from following trends which contradict the spirit of צניעות and קדושה accepted in the קהילה, even when these trends do not clearly negate the Halocho or are accepted elsewhere.**

### **1. SKIRTS**

- **Dresses and skirts may not be shorter than 10cm / 4 inches below the knees, a length that ensures the knees remain covered at all times.**
- **Very long skirts are not accepted within our charedi חרדי community and as such are forbidden**
- **Very straight or figure hugging skirts are forbidden. אסור**
- **A slit in a skirt or dress is absolutely forbidden even if it is completely below the knee.**

### **2. SHEITELS**

- **Sheitels that fall below the base of the neck or do not conform in any other way to the halochos are forbidden to be worn.**
- **Hatfalls and Bandfalls are not in keeping with the standards of צניעות. If snoods are worn because of שיטה ones hair must be completely covered.**

### **3. COLOURS**

- **The wearing of flashy or very brightly coloured clothing is forbidden.**

### **4. NECKLINES**

- **Blouses, jumpers or dresses must fit closely to the neck. This ensures that :**
  - a. The shoulders**
  - b. The top of the spine and downwards**
  - c. The collar bone and below are covered**

**5. SLEEVES must cover the elbows at all times**

**6. MAKE-UP should be discreet**

### **7. CASUAL CLOTHES**

- **Casual garments and footwear, denim or other clothing made from similarly 'trendy' fabrics e.g. leather and lycra, are related to the casual free way of life of the street culture אומות העולם and as such are not permitted.**

### **8. TELEVISION / INTERNET**

- **The television is absolutely forbidden. אסור**

**Access to the internet is forbidden. Likewise, other unsuitable home entertainment is strictly not allowed by the Union.**

I / We have read and believe in the guidelines contained in this document and confirm that we meet these standards.

**Signature(s):**

**Father /Mother/Guardian .....**

**Date.....**

**Signature:**

**Member of the Rabbinate of the Union of Orthodox Hebrew Congregations**

**Date:**

**(Please detach this section and return to the school with the  
SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION FORM )**

**Child's First Name/s : Surname:**

**Child's Date of Birth:**

**Child's Home Address:**

**I, hereby confirm that the parent(s) of the child named above meet the criteria as  
prescribed by the Rabbinate of the Union of Orthodox Hebrew Congregations.**

**Signature: (Please print name):**

**Member of the Rabbinate of the Union of Orthodox Hebrew Congregations**

**Date:**