

מתיבתא

שערי אדירים



Parent - Student Handbook

(Updated July 2023)

Our Mission:

At Shaarei Adirim we empower our Talmidim for lifelong growth, by inspiring self-confidence and nurturing life skills.

Our Vision:

Achievements that become stepping stones. In Shiur and in the classroom;

Through engaging shiurim, our Talmidim are motivated to apply themselves and master new concepts with their peers. Our Bochorim take pride in their Achievements, and are inspired to succeed in all facets of their lives. Other opportunities;

Through real-life scenarios our Talmidim are challenged to develop a variety of skill sets, along with their individual talents. Our Bochorim master perseverance, responsibility, and problem-solving tools that they carry into all areas of personal development

This Handbook

The purpose of this Handbook is to provide talmidim and their parents with a clear understanding of the expectations in attending Shaarei Adirim, so that each talmid can thrive and achieve maximum success in Yeshiva. .

Mesivta Shaarei Adirim is a yeshiva geared to Bnei Torah who wish to succeed and grow as successful Bnei Torah. Just as a son is representative and reflective of his parents, both in his physical features as well as his mannerisms and emotions, a ben Torah is representative and reflective of his connection with Torah in his behavior and actions.

Dress Code

The Yeshiva's dress code enables each bochur to identify himself as a ben Torah and is to be observed in Yeshiva and around town, and for all Yeshiva functions, both on and off campus.

- Only solid black velvet Yarmulkas may be worn
- Shirts must be tucked in at all times.
- Only the collar button may be worn open.
- Both an undershirt and tzitzis must be worn. Tzitzis do not qualify as an undershirt, however non-mesh or non-see-through undershirt-tzitzis do qualify as both tzitzis and undershirt, as long as it is washed regularly.
- Tzitzis may not go past the knees.
- Pants: Only black dress pants. No "cargo" or "painter's" pants; and no "baggy-style" jogging or sweat pants, no skinny pants, and no jeans style pants. No Tyro's.
- Black dress shoes must be worn on both Shabbos and weekdays. (no white or colored soles or other markings). Black sneakers are not permitted. Any type of sneaker is allowed during athletic activities.
- Socks must cover approx. 6 inches past the ankles.
- No hoodies or sweatshirts are to be worn in Yeshiva or outside of the dorm, even when stepping into the back to make a phone call or running out to quickly pick something up or similar. Black sweaters or cardigans are permitted as long as they do not have zippers.

Park/Gym dress codes:

- Undershirt and tzitzis must be worn at all times. The "undershirt-tzitzis" may not be worn while playing ball.
- No tank top or sleeveless t-shirts or undershirts, or tight fitting apparel.
- Only T-shirts befitting bnei Torah are to be worn, Yeshiva reserves the right to deem any T-shirt unbecoming a ben Torah.
- Shorts are never permitted

Dorm and sleeping:

- A shirt must be worn at all times.
- A robe must be used when changing outside of a locked bathroom
- No sleeping without a shirt, even when covered by a blanket.

Haircuts:

- Hair must also be befitting a Ben Torah
- The Yeshiva reserves the right, and will require a bochur to take a haircut if the Hanhalla deems his hair not befitting a Ben Torah.

Bein Hazmanim/Off Shabbosim:

- Bochurim must maintain a mode of dress befitting a ben Torah at all times during bein hazmanim. This includes wearing a full button-down, white “dress-type” shirt with a collar, and Yeshiva approved pants while around town, as well as a hat and jacket to all tefillos. Yeshiva approved park and gym clothes are permitted while playing ball and on recreational trips.
- Full yeshiva dress code is in effect while traveling home and at all airports, train stations, etc.

Food Policies

- If a bochur orders food from a local establishment, it must not be delivered during class time. Yeshiva reserves the right to issue continued guidelines or revoke this permission if needed.
- No cholov stam food may be brought into or consumed in yeshiva, the dorm or any yeshiva outing.

Medication

- Any talmid who has a prescribed medication must take his medication as prescribed including on Friday and Shabbosim, as well as Bein Hazmanim, off Shabbosim and Fast days.
- Medications should be turned into the Yeshiva for daily administering and medication changes should be communicated to Rabbi Miller and Rabbi Gaffen.
- Mesivta Shaarei Adirim reserves the right to require an evaluation if deemed appropriate.
- Discontinuing medication must be approved by a medical professional, after consultation with a member of the Hanhala, and must have final approval from the Hanhalla, unless there is health risk involved, in which case the doctor’s directive will suffice.

Electronics Policy

At Mesivta Shaarei Adirim we strive to empower our talmidim to be successful bnei Torah throughout their lives. Our Gedolim have spoken of the many dangers of different forms of technology and the potential dangers to the growth of our precious children. However, technology is here to stay and the need for education in its proper use will be addressed in Yeshiva. Many items are detrimental to the goals and safety of the Yeshiva. Our responsibility to ensure the physical and spiritual welfare of each and every bochur is something we take very seriously. Therefore the following policies will be in effect:

- Only cell phones purchased from the Yeshiva may be used during the zman. These will be available for purchase from the Yeshiva for \$100 at the beginning of the year.
- No internet and video capable devices may be brought to Yeshiva or dormitory, used, or kept in the possession of any bochur in Yeshiva in town or out of town.
- No smart watches of any kind are allowed, regardless of connection.
- During Bein Hazmanim and other breaks from Yeshiva, a **TAG-filtered** device is permitted only with a parent's consent. Parents may NOT share their untagged device with bochurim to be used, even if only for sharing or occasional use.
- **ONLY TAG IS ALLOWED, NO OTHER FILTER OR CONTROLS ARE ACCEPTABLE.** Please note TAG has been proven by far to be the most successful filtration, however even TAG is not foolproof by their own admission and the best policy is no internet device being allowed unattended.
- Any bochur found to be using unfiltered internet will be subject to expulsion from yeshiva.
- No bochur may have a social media presence at any time including bein hazmanim. (This includes Facebook, Twitter, Snapchat, Instagram and all the many other platforms.) There are no exceptions or excuses for not being aware of Yeshiva's social media policy.
- Due to the rapid evolution of technology, any technological device not listed above must be assumed to be prohibited until an exemption is granted.

- Bochurim are not permitted to use the yeshiva's interactive promethean boards in the classrooms.

These policies are subject to change as needed. any bochur who knowingly breaks these policies will be subject to disciplinary action including but not limited to confiscation and destruction of the device and a \$1,000 fine* .

This fine will need to be paid from the bochurs own money, NOT his parents or anyone else's money. If the bochur does not have the means with which to pay he will need to get a job to pay the fine.

** The point of the \$1,000 fine is not meant to be a punishment but rather a deterrent. (If law enforcement would treat every speeding offense the same as a DUI and suspend your driver's license for 4 years ... we wouldn't speed, it is just not worth it! So to our internet/technology policy is a concrete wall that in Yeshiva there just absolutely can not be any breach in this area, chos vesholom). In the event a fine is given, the money will be gifted to a local Tzedaka and not refunded.*

Yeshiva Property

- No bochur has permission to hang or post anything on the walls of Yeshiva or the dorm without prior permission.
- No bochur has permission to deface his desk or locker.

Davening

- No walking out during davening
- No talking during davening
- Stand when the tzibur stands, and sit when the tzibur sits
- Hats, jackets, and tefillin must be worn until the end of davening
- Bochurim must remain in their table area throughout davening

Campus

- Yeshiva is a closed campus. No bochur may leave campus without permission.

Dormitory

Curfew

- The curfew for 9th and 10th grade is 10:45pm, 11th and 12th grade 11:00pm.
- No bochur should be on the phone after curfew, even if it's with his parents.

Off Shabbos

- During off shabbosim, and other breaks from yeshiva the dorms are closed for all out of town and local bochurim.
- If any bochur choses to sleep in the dorm on dismissal night, he must adhere to all dorm/curfew policies and may not leave the dorm just like a regular night

9th Grade – Every Bochur Dorms Policy

Shaarei Adirim has an "EVERY BOCHUR DORMS" policy. What that means is as follows: Every bochur, regardless of in town or out of town, has the same guidelines for their "dorm". Some "dorm" in the dorm and some "dorm" at home, but the policies are the same:

- In town bochurim must conform to the Electronics Policy even when they are home, and are only permitted to use the same approved electronic devices and phones as bochurim in the dorm, in the evening, while Yeshiva is in session.
- Online and offline computer games as well as all game devices are not permitted while Yeshiva is in session.
- In town bochurim must go to bed at the designated curfew time.

Leaving the Dorm

- To maintain security and availability in emergency scenarios, talmidim are not permitted to leave the dorm after they have been dropped off for the evening.
- The exception is Tuesday evening and erev Shabbos. On those days, bochurim are allowed to go to specific stores only (Jewel-Osco, Ross, Keshet Stam, Tel

Aviv Pizza, Kol Tuv groceries, North Shore Bakery, Great Chicago, Dollar Tree on Devon, Tel Aviv bakery, Hat Box, and Christina Cleaners). These excursions which are within the perimeter must be in groups of two or more, All excursions other than the 11 listed above, must receive a verbal approval each time. A previous trip's approval even on the same day is not enough.

Visiting Homes

- Visiting houses of Yeshiva or non-Yeshiva friends is not permitted, even on Shabbos, unless otherwise approved.
- Visiting houses of relatives or family friends require the approval of the hanhala

Shabbos

- All in town and out of town bochurim are expected to Doven in Yeshiva for all Tefillos and participate in the shabbos schedule, including Sholosh seudos, any sedorim or oneg.
- Local bochurim are invited to join yeshiva for the Friday night and Shabbos morning seudos.
- All in town and out of town bochurim are expected to participate in motzaei shabbos sedorim. Bochurim must come to the seder in a regular Yeshiva dress code and bring gym wear along for the after sayder gym.
- 9th Grade in town bochurim may have a parent text Rabbi Ausband to be excused.

Other Policies and Procedures

Travel to and from Yeshiva before and after the Zman

- Every moment spent within the doled amos of Yeshiva are incredibly precious. It is during these ties that our bochrim are most susceptible to striving higher and

higher in his avodas Hashem. all travel arrangements must be made so that talmidim do not have to leave early before breaks or return late. Please note breaks are already extended to be able to accommodate travel time needs. Any variance MUST first be discussed with the Hanhala. Staying firm on this matter allows us to form the proper conditions for the whole Yeshiva. To that end, making travel arrangements without first receiving a variance is done at the risk of any loss that may be suffered if the Hanhala does not approve requested variance.

- Bochurim are not permitted to control any form of motorized transportation, both for themselves or others, while Yeshiva is in session for any reason.
- Bochurim are not permitted to drive while Yeshiva is in session for any reason.

Smoking/Vaping, Alcohol

- The Yeshiva has a zero tolerance policy and if necessary will take action to enforce it.
- There is no heter for alcohol, even at a shalom zachor.

Profanity and *nivel peh*

- The way a bochur speaks must always be befitting a ben Torah. Any bochur using profanity will be subject to a 24 hour suspension.
- The Hanhala reserves the right to determine what words, jesters, or topic of discussion falls into the category of *Nivel peh*.

Yeshiva Environment

- Mesivta Shaarei Adirim maintains a Yeshiva environment befitting bnei Torah at all times. Therefore the Hanhala reserves the right at any time to restrict any behavior, mode of dress, use of technology, as well as any action form of discussion, language, communication, gesture, or anything not mentioned in this handbook that the Hanhala deems unbecoming bnei Torah and a Yeshiva environment.

Please sign this page and return it to the Yeshiva:

I _____ have read this handbook, understand it's content, and agree to uphold and maintain the policies and guidelines outlined in this handbook so long as I am enrolled in Mesivta Shaarei Adirim. I further agree to be bound by the policies and to the consequences delineated within this handbook so long as I am enrolled in Mesivta Shaarei Adirim.

Student Name: _____

Student Signature: _____

Date: _____

I confirm I have read and understand the Mesivta Shaarei Adirim Parent Student Handbook, and I support these guidelines and agree to uphold and maintain the policies and guidelines outlined in this handbook and will not allow my son to breach or bend these guidelines to the best of my ability. If I am not able to enforce these guidelines, I will notify the hanhalla that I tried my best and I was unable to enforce the guidelines.

Parent Name: _____

Parent Signature: _____

Date: _____