



Bridge Family  
Religion School  
at Temple De Hirsch Sinai

## **Hebrew Program FAQ's 5787**

**Why is Hebrew such an integral part of our program?** (I.e., why it is important your child attends Hebrew)

Hebrew is the language that binds together Jews from all around the world (*K'lal Yisrael*). Learning to decode/read Hebrew and be comfortable in any Jewish setting around the world is a main goal of our educational program. Learning to decode Hebrew is a foundational skill for Jewish literacy. Hebrew is used in all of our settings and we integrate Hebrew into every program we offer.

*If your child asks about WHY they need to learn Hebrew and you need support in answering this question for them, please reach out to our staff! We would love to help. They often ask this question not to be contrary but rather to understand.*

**What if my child has specific learning styles or needs?**

If your child has an IEP or 504 plan **please** share that information with Jessie Stott **before** the year begins. This will assist us in placing your child with the best teacher for their needs and provide support for your child to be successful in their Hebrew learning. Any information you can give us about your child's learning styles and needs will help us to support your child in feeling confident and successful in their Hebrew learning.\*

**\*Sharing this information is truly essential to your child's success with the Hebrew language.** We keep this information confidential within the Education Team and it is shared only with your child's teacher.

**Why does my child need to practice?**

Frequency NOT duration is the key to Hebrew success. Little bits of practice here and there are much more effective than practicing all at once. Print out prayers and keep them around the house, in your car, in their school bag. Ask your teacher for digital copies to download onto their phones/tech devices. Keep a set of flashcards in the back of your car. Download a practice app on your phone. 5-10 minutes a few times a week is more effective than 1hr once a week. [All prayers can be found on our Temple website](#) (under B'nai Mitzvah hub) and you can listen to the prayers in a high, low and slow voice.

**Why do you encourage going to Shabbat services so much?**

You wouldn't expect your child to pitch in a major game without ever having attended a game before. We are most successfully able to lead what we know. Attending Shabbat services (in person or online) allows for your children to understand what it is that they are supposed to be leading during their B'nai Mitzvah and to become comfortable and confident with being in prayer settings for the rest of their lives. Even going 1x a month makes a HUGE difference. During your child's B'nai Mitzvah process, service attendance will be a requirement, so it's a great idea to get into the routine now!

**Why do you have an attendance requirement for 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> graders? They have so many activities it's hard to get to Hebrew school.**

See above. Our students only attend Hebrew classes 25 times during the whole course of the year. We have to fit a lot into each class and support our students to make consistent progress. Especially in 5th and 6th grade, they are moving through prayers quickly, and we want to ensure they can learn as much as possible before starting their B'nai Mitzvah training.

**My child cannot make any of the offered times for Hebrew classes, what do I do?**

Please reach out to Jessie Stott asap. Contact info below.

**Is there a minimum number of students required to run a class?**

Yes! We need a minimum of 6 students to run a class on any particular day.

**What if I need to switch my child's Hebrew class (due to sports seasons or a change in activities)?**

- 1 change is allowed during the course of the year.
- Class switches are subject to class availability and capacity.
- Each class has its own pace and builds community from day one. It can often be challenging to make this switch; therefore, we limit it to one per year.
- Please try and give us at least 2-3 weeks before you want to make the switch.
- Of course- please contact us with any questions.

You can find details on all Hebrew options for grades 3-6 on the Temple website under Hebrew programs:

<https://templedehirschsinai.org/bfrs/>

Meet our Hebrew Coordinator Jessie Stott!



## **Contact Information:**

All Hebrew Program Information/Questions/Special Needs: Jessie Stott [jstott@tdhs-nw.org](mailto:jstott@tdhs-nw.org) or 425-559-2569

Registration questions: Meyrav Altaras [bfrs@tdhs-nw.org](mailto:bfrs@tdhs-nw.org) 206-774-0686

Scholarship Information: Stacey Delcau [sdelcau@tdhs-nw.org](mailto:sdelcau@tdhs-nw.org)