

בית רבקה
PRESCHOOL



...WHERE תורה AND CHASSIDUS COME TO LIFE.

בית רבקה

CAMPUS CHOMESH
470 LEFFERTS AVENUE
BROOKLYN, NY 11225
(718) 735-0770 ext: 1287

תשפ"ה
2024-2025

Our Educational Strategy

Our curriculum is a combination of skills and knowledge aimed at developing your child in a holistic fashion where her social, emotional, spiritual, cognitive and physical needs are addressed.

The basic philosophy behind our curriculum is that children learn by doing. Activities are designed to help children learn more about the world ה' created, their heritage and their mission as חסידישע children through hands-on activities and active involvement.

Our program is child-centered and based upon the belief that play is the best way for children to learn. Our approach is individualized to meet each child's needs and interests.

Classrooms are organized with learning and discovery centers that encourage reenactment of life's roles, פרשה and מידות טובות. The environment is planned to stimulate imagination, creativity, socialization, exploration and discovery.

Centers are equipped with state-of-the-art games and materials, to help your child develop all the necessary skills for success in a professional and חסידישע way.

בית רבקה offers a safe and well equipped outdoor and indoor playground. We offer a variety of extracurricular activities.

Students participate in regularly scheduled music and movement which incorporates חסידישע ניגונים, songs tailored to the special day/ימים חסידישע/טובים/events of the year.

בית רבקה Preschool is happy to provide discovery adventures, special events and school-wide פארברענגען's, that give the children a love for our רביים and to nurture their חסידישע upbringing.

At בית רבקה Preschool, we view discipline not as a means of punishing a child who has acted inappropriately, but rather as a means of teaching a child. Positive discipline teaches children where the limits are set, how to maintain control over their behavior and how to problem solve in the event of conflict.

We will be observing your child throughout the year to assess her development. Twice a year a "child progress and planning report" will be shared with you. This information will provide the basis for parent-teacher conferences. Additional conferences can be held at any time if either parent or teacher requests one.

Emphasis is placed on children gaining self-confidence. We give children their own cubby and have them be responsible for their belongings. We encourage independence by allowing the children to choose which center they would like to explore and play at during center time.

We look forward to working closely with you this year.

Policies and Procedures:

Arrival & Dismissal

School begins at 9:00 AM. Children can be dropped off from 8:45 AM at Exit 3, middle of Lefferts Ave.

New for this year: Early Care and/or After Care is available for a fee.

Early Care is 8:15-8:45 and After Care is from 3:00-4:00.

We must impress upon you the importance of having your child in school on time. Coming late causes a child to miss out on the focused individual attention that she receives at arrival and on the excitement of a new day.

Pick up and drop off time is not PTA time. If you need to discuss anything with your daughter's teacher, please message her and arrange a time to speak at length.

Monday through Thursday, dismissal is at 3:00 PM at Exit 2 (EAST NEW YORK AVE.)

Buses load at 2:50 from the same exit.

Please wait outside on the right side and a Morah will bring your daughter to you.

Please don't push into the building with a stroller while the children are trying to exit the building to board the buses.

Bus Dismissal on **Friday** is at 11:30 AM. Buses will depart בית רבקה at approximately 11:40. Please follow the Glympse for your route.

Pick up on Friday is 11:45 from the Glass Doors Atrium (Corner Brooklyn and Lefferts) **(Please allow us to load the buses before picking up your daughter!)**

Please remember that young children tend to get worried if their parents are late and other children have already left. **PLEASE BE PROMPT.**

Attendance

A program must track attendance for each child and must implement a process to ensure children are safe when they do not arrive at school. If your child is absent, please contact the school office within one hour of program start time. Please do NOT text your child's teacher to notify of any unexpected absence. All calls must go through the office. This policy is to ensure the utmost safety of all children in our program. **If you know that your daughter will be absent ahead of time, please let her teacher know as early as possible.**

Transportation

בית רבקה Preschool is proud to offer safe and reliable bussing for all our students. Each bus has its own bus monitor to help ensure the safety of the children. For those parents who will be making use of our Preschool buses, bus schedules will be enclosed in the package given out at the parent orientation. Each parent must indicate in writing which authorized adult will be taking your child off the bus.

Due to the complexity of the system and the effects multiple changes can make on the route and schedule, each student will be picked up and dropped off at their assigned bus stop. Each student will be allowed to have one pick-up location and one drop-off location, five days a week. In order to provide the safest transportation for our precious children, **we cannot accommodate any change requests. It is the parents' responsibility to provide transportation for activities or play dates after school. Please don't put your child's teacher or the bus driver in an uncomfortable position by texting or calling them directly with any change requests. For any extenuating circumstances (new baby), please call the office before 12:00 for any alternate arrangements.**

For all transportation inquiries, please email preschooltransportation@bethrivkah.edu.

Please allow for a timely response.

Record of Child Care Arrangement

A legal document is given to parents at orientation regarding how your child will be arriving and departing to/from school. If your child will be picked up each day, please write down who is authorized to pick up your daughter. If there is a change, you must send a written note who will be picking up your child that day. בית רבקה Preschool is not allowed to release your child to anyone other than the person listed on the form without a signed note from the parent. You must call and send a note/email of the change. REMEMBER to please CALL and send a NOTE.

If using the buses, you must indicate on the form which authorized adult will be taking your child off the bus. Please don't rely on a neighbor unless prior written arrangements have been made.

Safety

We will be doing our utmost to implement safety rules and we are asking that you join us in this effort. These rules and precautions apply to children of all age groups. Please take a moment to review some of the points below with your child and remember the best lessons are taught by the examples we set.

Children traveling to school by bus

- 1) Children must stay seated at all times. There is no jumping or standing on the bus. Any children not following safety rules will get a warning the first time and lose bus privileges if it occurs again.
- 2) A Parent/Guardian must be waiting outside with the child.
- 3) Children and Parents waiting for the bus must remain on the sidewalk away from the curb.
- 4) Children should not step into the street until the bus comes to a complete stop and the driver has opened the door to the bus.
- 5) Never allow a child to run after the bus; if they miss the bus, parents should make other arrangements for them to get to school.
- 6) Please make sure to be waiting on time for the bus.

Parent Pick-Up

All parents must come to Exit 2 on East New York Ave. **Monday- Thursday.**

Parents are requested to wait outside the building, on the right side, and not block any doors. Your daughter will be brought out to you. Please do not try to enter the building.

Friday pick up is at the atrium – the glass doors near Brooklyn Ave.

Clothing

In בית רבקה Preschool, we take pride in our high standard of צניעות. A בית רבקה girl should always be dressed in a way that is befitting a בת הב"ד. Elbows, knees and collarbones should be covered at all times. Cap sleeves, knee socks, ankle socks, leggings, miniskirts and crocs are not permitted. Tights must be worn at all times for all children.

Children develop a sensitivity for the beauty of צניעות at a young age, therefore school standards should be applied at home. This will avoid any confusion or mixed messages.

When entering the school building, Please be respectful of the צניעות standards in בית רבקה. Parents are required to be dressed according to Halachic rulings.

a) Sheitel

b) Elbows, knees and collarbones should be completely covered.

c) Pantyhose must be worn (no leggings)

d) No gym clothes, only respectful attire.

e) No flip flops.

f) No slits.

g) No tight-fitting clothing.

צדקה

One of the most beautiful מצוות that children develop in our preschool right from the start is a feeling for the מצוה of צדקה. Along with a variety of hands-on individual and collective activities and projects, childrens' sense of sharing and doing חסד is reinforced by giving a penny every day. Please send in a penny or other change with your child. It is advised that you use masking tape to tape it onto your child's clothing.

Mitzvah Notes

We encourage parents to send Mitzvah notes each day. It is nachas for the Morahs to see the children's faces light up when the mitzvah note is read. Mitzvah notes are a good tool to bridge the connection between home and school.

Birthdays

בית רבקה Preschool is happy to inform parents that the Birthday Party policy meets the requests of parents and the approval of our Nutritionist. The snack may not be home made. It must be store bought with a reliable hechsher. Please be mindful of any allergies in the class.

Policy:

- Tzedaka for each child;
- one snack, i.e. mini cupcake, cookie with a proper hechsher;
- **NO HOME MADE FOOD ALLOWED**
- a drink – 100% fruit juice or water, or a fruit;
- a gift for the class;
- a gift for each child (optional)
- Paper goods will be provided by school.

Two weeks prior to your daughter's birthday, her Teacher will call you to discuss the celebration and give you some suggestions for the class gift, i.e. puzzle, book, etc. A small gift for each child is optional. Please do not make any purchases prior to speaking to your daughter's Teacher [you are more than welcome to contact her earlier].

Your daughter will be encouraged to share her החלטה with her class. Please help her prepare.

Your adherence to this policy will allow us to encourage healthy eating habits in our classrooms, as we will be implementing these policies for שבת parties and 'פארבריינגען'.

Chasidische Farbrengens

We pride ourselves on our פארבריינגענס, rallies, and special programs for חסידישע ימים טובים and special days. We have interactive exhibits and games to engage each child during the programs. We give tzedakah, sing pesukim and make a “להיים” all together during the farbrengens.

Party שבת

Every class chooses a weekly שבת Mommy and Tatty. Each girl chosen is requested to send in specific items. As per requests of parents and the approval of our Nutritionist, one will send in a healthy snack (fruit or vegetable), and one will send in a store bought party nosh. If you know your child will be absent, please notify the teacher.

א-ב

Preschool follows a חסידישע method of teaching א-ב to our children. All the letters are permeated with קדושה and taught in a very specific manner. It is a three-step approach.

Step 1: Focus on the shape of the letter, giving the child a very concrete way of remembering the new אות. This is brought down by the Friediker Rebbe.

Step 2: When a new אות is introduced it is done by the שער בלאט of תניא.

Step 3: Each child at their table circles the new אות on a copy of the שער בלאט.

Then the teacher prepares many interesting א-ב activities and games so the children can live and breathe the letters.

Parents of 4 year old children should be reviewing the א-ב weekly with their child. Please send back the homework reviewed and signed every Monday.

Meals

Breakfast, lunch and an afternoon snack are served daily. **Children are not allowed to bring lunch or snacks from home**, the only exception will be with a Doctor's note clearly explaining the medical reason. If you want any changes to your daughter's meals, please contact our Health Coordinator (Bryna Telsner) at extension 1356. We will not make any modifications without Bryna's clearance.

School Readiness Goals

You will receive a copy of בית רבקה Preschool school readiness goals at the parent orientation. The goals are based on the Head Start E.L.O.F (Early Learning Outcomes Framework from ages birth-five.) These goals are oriented towards giving the children the tools they will need to be successful in their future school years. The goals are in five areas of learning:

1. social emotional development
2. physical development and health
3. approaches to learning
4. language and literacy
5. cognition and general knowledge.

The handout is divided into 4 columns. Column 1 has the School Readiness Goals listed. Column 2 has the instructional strategy that the teachers will incorporate into their daily schedule and lessons to maximize the school readiness goals. Column 3 are the family goals with ideas that families can do at home to strengthen the goals that teachers are working on at school. Column 4 are implementation strategies that the school and parents can work on to strengthen family goals. Each one of the school readiness goals are observable and measured three times a year by a research-based assessment tool that will assess how the children are doing in each area. Our preschool teachers work diligently to individualize their lessons for each child to be able to make progress in their school readiness goals. Please feel free to share your input regarding the goals. If you have any suggestions, please email Leah Deitsch at ldaitsch@bethrivkah.edu.

Family Engagement

It has been proven that children perform better on their school readiness goals when the learning is reinforced by parents at home. Therefore, please use the weekly newsletter as a springboard to reinforce themes being taught in school at home. It is helpful from time to time to please send in a mitzvah note describing a family trip or activity that ties into the theme of the week in school. BRHS/EHS sends home a monthly newsletter with parenting goals corresponding to School Readiness Goals for the upcoming theme of the month. Please take the time to read the newsletter and answer the brief survey via email. This newsletter and survey is required by Head start to help encourage and demonstrate family engagement. Responses to the

survey will be entered into a raffle. We strongly recommend that you use your Cool Culture Card to take your children on educational trips.

Parent Involvement

Parents are encouraged to attend our programs. בית רבקה offers an informative podcast for parents and alumni. “Branches” is available via email and on streaming apps. We will be offering classes/training in:

- Understanding child and parent temperament
- Managing challenging behaviors
- Language and Literacy (importance of dialogue and reading to children)
- Stress Management
- Developmental Milestones
- Nutrition (Meal Planning)

Another source for supportive parenting training is Junior N’Shei. Another source for supportive parenting training is Junior N’Shei. They can be reached at chjuniornshei@gmail.com

Disability Services Coordinator/ LEA Liaison

בית רבקה Preschool supports children with developmental concerns and disabilities together with their family. There is an LEA Liaison on site to help parents navigate the system of advocating for services for their child. She can be reached at extension 1356.

Volunteering

Parent volunteering is part of the Preschool philosophy. We encourage parents to share with their child’s class. This could be reading a book, doing an arts and crafts project, describing your profession, or sharing your passion or talent with the children. Please be in touch with your child’s teacher to schedule a visit. Each child will feel very special and also receive a small prize when her parent volunteers.

Healthy Children

We take children’s health very seriously. If your child exhibits signs of cold, fever, pink eye, vomiting, diarrhea etc...please keep your child home. **Children on prescribed antibiotics must wait a full 24 hours on antibiotics before returning to school!** It is for the health and safety of your child and all the children in the program. **If a child is in school with any of these symptoms**, parents will be required to pick up their child and

take her home. Outbreaks of diseases spread rapidly and therefore when a child exhibits any symptoms of being sick, the parent MUST be considerate of the other children in the class and only send their child when the symptoms are no longer there. For example, if your child vomits the night before, or in the early morning, please do not send your child to school that day until 24 hours pass before she is symptom free. Similarly, if you suspect your child has pinworms, please take her to the doctor and treat her with the prescribed medication before sending her back to school. Pinworms is extremely contagious, and the school must be notified of each case. Please note that the NYC DOHMH keeps track of clusters of outbreaks in the community and calls for an explanation of why children that are sick are in school. Please note, every child attending בית רבקה Preschool must submit a current health form with a list of their immunizations.

All children entering the Preschool program are required to meet at least the minimum standards of immunizations in accordance with NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene immunization schedule or have an approved (by a NYCDOHMH) medical exemption (NYS Public Health Law Section 2164). As of June 13, 2019, The DOHMH no longer accepts any RELIGIOUS exemptions. This policy comes directly from the NYC DOHMH. If there is any change in your child's health, please notify our Health Coordinator, Bryna at extension 1356.

Any child who needs an Epi-pen or an inhaler must notify the Health Coordinator.

Flu Shot

According to NYC DOHMH guidelines, the Flu shot is mandatory for every student enrolled for school year 2023-2024. The flu shot must be given prior to December 31, 2024. Please submit written verification.

Medications

Based on NYC Department of Health regulations, בית רבקה Preschool does not administer any form of medication or vitamins. We feel that a child on medication needs to be at home. However, if warranted, an authorized family member may come into school to administer medication. Under these circumstances, written notification as to who will be administering the medication must be sent into school. No medication will be stored in school.

Allergies/ Medical Conditions

בית רבקה Preschool is a **NUT FREE ZONE**. Please do not send any snacks to school that contain peanuts, peanut butter or other nuts. If your child has any special medical needs or allergies this must be brought to the attention of the teacher and the office. In addition, if any allergies or conditions develop throughout the year, the teacher and office must be informed in order to ensure the safety of your daughter. Please note that all medical conditions are kept confidential between the teacher and any Preschool Staff that we feel it is necessary to share the information with to keep your child safe. Please do not send nebulizers, epi pens etc to school without first meeting with the teacher and principal to discuss its use. You must explain what are the symptoms that warrant it and how to use the equipment. If there is any change in your child's health, please notify our Health Coordinator, Bryna at extension 1356. Children with allergies must have their pediatrician fill out a healthcare plan.

Accidents/ Emergencies

Although we work hard at preventing accidents, minor scrapes and bruises are normal childhood events and should be expected occasionally. For those times that your child may receive a bruise First Aid will be administered. If it is minor, parents will be notified via a note, for more serious injuries, parents will be called.

Family Vacation

Please notify your child's teacher in advance if she will be going away for a few days or leaving early before a Yom Tov, so that she can send home your child's projects.

It is important for the teacher to know if a parent will be going away so that she can give your child the extra attention she may need at that time. Please also leave information with the teacher as to who she may contact in case of emergency.

PTA

Parent- Teacher conferences are held once a year, in December/January, to discuss your child's progress. It is important that you make every effort to attend. If the teacher feels that your child needs a more comprehensive meeting, the principal will call you to schedule a meeting. This is done to ensure the best outcome for your daughter.

Cool Culture It is a privilege for our school to receive Cool Culture cards. In order to keep the program, we encourage our parents to please use the cards and enjoy the excursions available. Please use the card responsibly and answer any surveys that are sent to you.

Professional Development

In a constant effort to uphold the highest standards of teaching and learning, our teaching staff members participate in various trainings throughout the school year. The first one will be a full day on January 22, 2023, כ"ב טבת. There will be no school for students that day. Dates for mandatory trainings will be announced with enough prior notice so parents can make arrangements for their child.

Transition to Pre 1A /Transition

בית רבקה Preschool prepares children to transition to the next program level (Pre-1A/ Transition). The Preschool and Pre 1A principals collaborate to discuss each transferring child's progress and to determine best placement for the following year. We ensure that each child's relevant records are transferred from Preschool to Pre 1A/ Transition or other placement. Any child that can benefit from a year of Transition will be advised of the program.

Children with an IEP who transition from Preschool to Pre 1A/ Transition age out of the NYC CPSE program. CSE contacts בית רבקה to arrange observations and assessments necessary to determine if the child meets the guidelines to receive services under CSE. The CMS director strives to facilitate this process and helps empower parents to advocate for their child in the new program.

Mental Health Consultant

We are happy to announce that Ms. Sarie Korf will be our schools' Mental Health Consultant. She will be available via email to support the emotional wellbeing of our children and their families. Sarie will visit classrooms and guide teachers on how best to communicate with parents.

Social Media

Social media is a powerful communication tool that can impact בית רבקה Preschool's professional reputation. Please be mindful, respectful, and professional when using accessible online forums.

בית רבקה PRESCHOOL CALENDAR

תשפ"ה / 2024-2025 FOR THE YEAR

Sep 3	Tuesday	ל' אב	Parent Orientation
Sep 4	Wednesday	ר"ח אלול	Opening 1/2 day, no lunch, no buses
Sep 5	Thursday	ב' אלול	First full day
Oct 2-4	Wed - Fri	כ"ט אלול – ב' תשרי	No school – ראש השנה
Oct 11	Friday	ט' תשרי	No school – יום כיפור
Oct 16-27	Wed - Fri	י"ד תשרי - כ"ג תשרי	No school – סוכות
Oct 28	Monday	כ"ו תשרי	School resumes - Late Start 10:00 am
Dec 27-31	Fri - Tues	כ"ו - ל' כסלו	Chanukah Vacation
Jan 10	Friday	עשרה בטבת	עשרה בטבת - regular Friday Schedule
Jan 22	Wednesday	כ"ב טבת	Teacher Training Day – NO SCHOOL
Feb 13-17	Thurs -Mon	ט"ו-י"ט שבט	Mid-winter vacation
February 18	Tuesday	כ' שבט	School resumes
March 13	Thursday	י"א אדר	Half Day Friday Schedule תענית אסתר
March 14	Friday	י"ד אדר	No school - פורים
Apr 7-21	Mon - Mon	ט' ניסן - כ"ג ניסן	No school - פסח
April 22	Tuesday	כ"ד ניסן	School resumes
May 16	Friday	ה"י אייר	Lag B'Omer Special Program
June 1-4	Sun - Wed	ה' סיון - ח' סיון	No school - שבועות
June 5	Thursday	ט' סיון	School resumes
June 25	Wednesday	כ"ט סיון	Half Day - Last Day for Headstart EHS - Full Day
June 26	Thursday	ל' סיון	Early Headstart - Last Full Day
June 27	Friday	ר"ח תמוז	School Closed
Jun 30-Aug 1			EHS Summer Session

Parents' Checklist

**Please bring the following items to school with you on
Tuesday, September 5th, י"ט אלול
Orientation Meeting for Parents.**

Please set aside up to 1.5 hours for this meeting.

Please note that this program is for parents only.

1. A Complete Change of Clothing

Please label each item of clothing, by writing your child's name with a laundry marker or glue-on nametag. It should be stored in a labeled Ziploc bag. Clothing should include: 2 pairs of undergarments, tights, skirt, and shirt. Please make sure the clothing that you send is appropriate for that season.

2. A Long Smock

Please send a smock with sleeves or an old shirt that is labeled with your child's name

3. A family picture

4. A recent photo of your child

5. A Box of Tissues

6. Admission card – THE ORIENTATION PACKET INCLUDING YOUR CHILD'S TEACHER AND CLASSROOM WILL ONLY BE GIVEN IF YOU HAVE YOUR ADMISSION CARD.

PRESCHOOL EXTENSIONS

To reach Preschool office personnel during school hours,
please call 718-735-0770

Preschool Office

Preschool@bethrivkah.edu

Ext 1287

Bryna Telsner, Health Coordinator, LEA Liaison

BTelsner@bethrivkah.edu

Ext. 1356

Chaya Dina Lewin, CMS Director

CLewin@bethrivkah.edu

Ext. 1202

Sari Korf, Mental Health Consultant

SKorf@bethrivkah.edu

Eidle Sputz, Head of Campus Chomesh

ESputz@bethrivkah.edu

**Looking forward to a year filled with
nachas, development and success!**

בית רבקה PRESCHOOL



If you have any further questions, please contact our office at

(718) 735-0770 ext. 1287