Parent - Student Handbook
&
Code of Conduct

5782
2021 - 2022

Yeshivas Ohev Shalom is dedicated to the individual, cultivating his potential to blossom into a refined, well rounded, educated, and happy Ben Torah.

Introduction
The purpose of this handbook is to enable us to work together effectively, not to punish or create unnecessary restrictions. The dignity, respect, and refinement that we achieve directly affect the amount we can accomplish in our studies. That is part of what Chazal meant when they said that derech eretz precedes Torah. When we behave properly, we benefit most. When we act with decorum and self-control, we can grow to new heights and soar in our learning and personal accomplishments.

Objectives
The objective of the Yeshivas Ohev Shalom Code of Conduct is to assure proper order and decorum in the Yeshiva, and to encourage our students to act with proper middos. Students are expected to behave as bnei Torah. They are required to conduct themselves in an orderly manner and to act with due regard for authority of rebbeim, teachers, staff, and administrators. They are also required to respect the educational purpose underlying school activities, the shared use of school property, and the rights and welfare of other students and adults.

School Hours

Regular daily attendance is essential for academic performance. Yeshivas Ohev Shalom is held six days each week, Sunday through Friday, according to the schedule below:

Sunday	8:00AM - 1:45PM
Monday-Wednesday	8:00AM - 5:00PM
Thursday	8:00AM - 6:30PM
Friday	8:00AM - 12:30PM

Every 4th Sunday is a Family Sunday and there is no school

Consequences

1) Generally, violations of class rules and decorum are addressed by teachers and rebbeim, but parents and administrators should be involved when needed to develop strategies to enable students to succeed. Chronic disciplinary issues may require a more comprehensive approach, including parental conferences, professional counseling, or group efforts by teachers, rebbeim, administrators, counselors, and parents.
2) Occasionally, a student's behavior may require drastic intervention, including detentions and suspension from school. Students who do not respond to disciplinary efforts, and thus interfere with our attempts to educate their classmates, may be expelled.
3) Since Ohev Shalom is a Yeshiva, our goal is to produce bnei Torah; therefore activities contrary to that goal, although perhaps permitted in other environments, are deemed wholly unacceptable.

Detention
At the discretion of the administrator, depending upon the type of infraction and behavior, detentions will require that the student forfeits most of their lunch break. If a student is issued one detention during the course of a week (Sunday-Friday), he will be required to remain in detention on the following Monday from 12:40 to 1:10, and he will be permitted to study or complete schoolwork during the detention. If a student is issued a second detention during that same week he will be required to remain in detention on Wednesday from 12:40 to 1:10. **If a student accumulates five unserved detentions at the end of any week, he will be suspended from school.** Failure to serve detentions will be viewed as a serious offense. On the first offense the student will receive an additional detention. Any future failure to serve detentions will result in a suspension. If a student is dismissed from a detention due to misbehavior, the consequences will be the same as failure to serve a detention. **No grades, report cards, or transcripts will be released at the end of the semester until all detentions are served**.

Suspension
A student who has been suspended is not permitted to attend school or any school functions on the **following full day of school**. Suspensions will be accompanied by an extensive four page disciplinary assignment and may require an in-school parent conference. Depending on the violation, a suspension may last for up to three days. Ordinarily a suspension will last for one day. The suspension, even if it is for multiple days, is counted as one unexcused absence. Any test missed as a result of the suspension cannot be taken and will result in a failing grade. All suspensions will be entered into the student's permanent file.

Conduct

Tardy
All students must be in their assigned classrooms, dressed according to the dress code, with all of their necessary materials at the proper time. Any student arriving after the class begins is tardy. Tardiness less than 5 minutes will be dealt with by each teacher. If a student accumulates five 5 minute latenesses in any one department (limudei kodesh or secular) during the course of a week, a detention will be served. In the event that a teacher is not present at the start of the period, students are to remain in their rooms until they are notified by the administration regarding the teacher's status.

Cutting
Missing a class unexcused or arriving more than ten minutes late, is considered cutting class, a serious offense which will result in a detention. If a student cuts multiple classes, a detention will be given for each class that was cut. If a student cuts more than half of a school day, it will be counted as an unexcused absence.

Unexcused Absence
Being absent for more than half of a school day without a valid excuse (sickness, doctor's appointment, family simcha, etc.) is considered an unexcused absence. One unexcused absence **per semester** will be waived (excluding suspension or taking off from school for work related matters). Each additional unexcused absence will result in a grade reduction in all subjects. Chronic unexcused absences will be dealt with more harshly and possibly jeopardize the student's ability to remain in the Yeshiva. Any absence that is excused must be accompanied by a note **written and signed by a parent** when the student returns to school. **Notes will only be accepted until the end of that week.**

Defiance Of Authority
The Yeshiva cannot assume responsibility for any student who is defiant and refuses to adhere to the directives of the Yeshiva's administration. In such circumstances the parents will be notified immediately and asked to pick up their son from school.

Disruptive Behavior
Any behavior that distracts from the learning process or slows the progress of a classroom task, is disruptive behavior. This includes disturbing a class in which a student is not enrolled. Such behavior is prohibited and appropriate consequences will be implemented. If a student is dismissed from a class due to disruptive behavior, he will receive a detention. **Any student who displays blatant disrespect for a rebbe or a teacher, or refuses to leave a class that they have been dismissed from, will receive a suspension from school.**

Dress Code
The manner in which a student dresses has a profound impact on his growth as a ben Torah and on the educational atmosphere of the Yeshiva. In addition, it is critical that all students dress in a manner reflecting their own self esteem and respect for the yeshiva as a makom Torah - a place of learning. The dress code is strictly enforced. Any student found in violation of this code will not be permitted to enter any classes until the necessary corrections are made. In some instances parents will be notified, and when necessary to help remedy their son's appearance, they will be asked to pick up their son from school. All absences and latenesses as a result of a dress code violation are considered unexcused.

Tzizzis must be worn at all times

Shirts

1) Must be a fully buttoned and collared dress shirt.
2) Must have standard collars and sleeves (short sleeves are permitted).
3) **Must be buttoned and tucked in at all times.** Students will not be permitted into davening or class wearing a shirt that is untucked.

Pants

1) Must be dress slacks. **Denim and corduroy materials are not acceptable. Jean style pants** (external back pockets, metal buttons on the pockets, etc.) **are not acceptable.** Cargo pants (with pockets on the pant legs) are also unacceptable.
2) **Must be dark colored (navy blue, black, dark grey, etc.)**

Hats & Jackets

Appropriate **jackets** (suit/conservative sports jacket) and **hats** are required for all tefillos. Students who have a custom to wear a tallis over their head for shachris will be permitted to do so (as long as the tallis remains on their head throughout the davening).

Shoes

No open back shoes, crocs, or slippers may be worn in school. If there are any specific medical considerations, the Yeshiva administration should be consulted prior to wearing any shoes that are not included in the dress code.

Sweatshirts/Hats

1) A collared button down dress shirt must be worn underneath the sweatshirt. **The dress shirt must be tucked in even though it is under the sweatshirt.**
2) **No hooded sweatshirts may be worn at any time during school.**
3) **No caps or beanies may be worn at any time during school.**

Please note that it is difficult to codify all aspects of dress; therefore we reserve the right to determine the appropriateness of a student's appearance and to make code changes during the school year.

Personal Hygiene and Grooming
Bodily hygiene and being properly groomed are integral components of the derech eretz of a ben Torah. Each student is expected to have his hair neatly cut at a short length and to be properly shaven (unless his family minhag is to grow a beard) at all times. It goes without saying, that every student should care for his bodily hygiene and the cleanliness of his clothing to the extent that it won't be offensive to the other members of the school.

Physical Violence and Bullying
Any form of physical violence or verbal bullying will not be tolerated in our Yeshiva. We will treat any such incidents with the utmost harshness. Any student who physically or verbally abuses another student will be suspended and may jeopardize their standing in the Yeshiva.

Off Campus
Due to many safety and security issues, the Yeshiva has instituted parameters for the off campus privileges. Students are permitted to go to stores and restaurants **on Fairfax avenue between Third street and Wilshire boulevard** (they are not permitted to cross Third street or Wilshire boulevard.). Students are not permitted to go home at any time during the day (including lunch) without explicit permission from the administration.

Driving During School Hours
Students are permitted to drive to and from school only. Driving during school hours is prohibited. Infraction of this rule is serious; violators will be suspended and face the possibility of losing their privilege of driving to school. Passengers in a car that is driven during school hours will also be suspended. Students must park on the street, and are strongly advised to pay close attention to the city parking restrictions.

Cleanliness and Care of Yeshiva Property
Our Yeshiva is a place of Torah and our campus should be treated with proper respect. Eating or drinking in the classroom is strictly prohibited; it creates an inappropriate atmosphere for learning. Any student found destroying or defacing Yeshiva property will face severe disciplinary action, in addition to having the incident reported in his permanent file. **Parents are financially responsible for any damage that their son causes to the Yeshiva property.**

Inappropriate Language
We strive at Ohev Shalom to create an environment where the students can grow and develop into bnei Torah. In order to ensure such an environment, we have adopted a zero tolerance policy regarding inappropriate language and improper speech. Any student who uses foul language or any type of speech that is not befitting of a ben Torah will receive an immediate suspension. The guidelines of what is considered improper speech will be up to the discretion of the administration. Any student who is in doubt regarding these guidelines should consult with the administration to clarify this matter.

Inappropriate Conversation
There are certain topics of conversation that are inappropriate in a yeshiva. All conversations involving movies, television shows, internet videos, and non-Jewish music (including singing non-Jewish songs) are strictly prohibited in the yeshiva. Any student who carries on such conversations in the yeshiva will receive a warning, and will be suspended if they continue to violate the standards of the Yeshiva.

Socializing
Like any other yeshiva, we strictly prohibit any social activity with girls. Such behavior is completely against the halacha and extremely detrimental to the growth and development of a ben Torah. Any student who is found to be socializing or having a relationship with a girl, or is involved with any co-ed organization, will not be allowed to continue attending the Yeshiva.

Cheating and Plagiarism
Any form of cheating is abhorred and is in direct violation of Torah values and halacha. Behaving in an unacceptable or suspicious manner during a test or quiz, including talking, whispering, eyeing another student's work, using inappropriate aids not sanctioned by the teacher, or providing such aid to others, is considered cheating. The infraction will be recorded in the student's file and parents will be notified. Students who have cheated on exams may be subject to test and or course failure, suspension, or expulsion from school. Plagiarism is also cheating.

Cellphones & Electronics
No student is allowed to have a cellphone in school or on school grounds at any time during the school day. Any cell phone seen in the possession of a student or found in his backpack or locker during school hours (including mishmar nights until the conclusion of ma'ariv), will automatically be confiscated and returned **at the end of the semester**. iPods or any other music players, and all electronic devices are prohibited in school. If any of these electronic devices are found on school grounds during school hours they will be confiscated and returned **at the end of the semester**. **The Yeshiva assumes NO responsibility for the security and safekeeping of any cellphones or electronic devices that are confiscated from the students. All confiscations will be for a minimum of six weeks.**

Rollerblades, Skateboards & Bikes
No rollerblades, skateboards, or scooters are permitted on campus. In the event that a situation necessitates the use of such items, special permission must be granted by the administration. Bikes are permitted to be used for transportation from your home to school and back. They may not be used for any other purpose. They must be locked up during school hours.

School Trips
School trips and school-wide Shabbatons are scheduled from time to time during the school year. Parents are notified in advance of the date, time, destination, and cost of the trip. Shabbatons and trips are an integral part of Ohev Shalom's educational program. Much time and creative effort go into planning a weekend that is spiritually, physically, and emotionally uplifting. **All students are expected to attend**. **Any student who doesn't attend will receive an unexcused absence for each day of the school trip that he misses**.

Computers

Since our Yeshiva operates our secular program virtually via the internet, we must take special precautions to ensure that our students are protected from any negative influences from the internet. All computers that are being used in the Yeshiva, **whether they are privately owned or property of California Pacific Charter School,** must be installed with proper filters by the Yeshiva and must have the administrative access given over to the Yeshiva administration. Any student who tampers in any way with these settings on their computer will be subject to harsh disciplinary action and jeopardize their standing in the Yeshiva.

Computer Usage During School Hours

The students' personal computers should only be used during the allotted times for secular studies. All computers should be safely stored in the Yeshiva office until that portion of the school day. Under no circumstances should the computers be brought downstairs in the Yeshiva building. Any student who wants to do school work during times that are not designated for secular studies, must receive permission from the Yeshiva administration. **Students are never allowed to use their computers for anything other than their schoolwork**. Any student who is found playing games, messaging, sending an email for non school related issues, or needless to say 'surfing the web', will be subject to a detention and a possible suspension. Repeated violations of this sort will jeopardize the student's ability to remain in our Yeshiva.

Computer Usage After School

As a general policy, all laptops must remain in the yeshiva and cannot be brought home at any time during the school year or on the vacations. All computers must remain in the Yeshiva throughout the summer vacation. When a student graduates from Calpac, the Yeshiva will take care of returning his computer to Calpac.