



YESHIVAT OR CHAIM

STUDENT SUPPORT PROGRAM

Successful intelligence is “the kind of intelligence used to achieve important goals.”

-ROBERT STERNBERG

At Bnei Akiva Schools we strive to teach students to be successfully intelligent - that is, we teach students to both capitalize on their strengths and to compensate for their weaknesses. Our approach encourages the development of analytical, creative, and practical approaches to learning, with the goal of enhancing students' opportunities for success at school and in life.

STUDENT ACCOMMODATIONS COMMITTEE

Our Student Accommodations Committee consists of administrative staff, the Director of Educational Support, the Director of Guidance and a student support teacher. The Committee meets on an ongoing basis to review and discuss any issues that relate to student support services at Bnei Akiva Schools.

SERVICES OF THE STUDENT SUPPORT PROGRAM

1. To empower our students to be self advocates for their learning
2. To teach and instill learning strategies to our students and help them implement those strategies
3. To create an Individual Education Plan (IEP) for students, in consultation with students and parents. The IEP will reflect information gleaned from the psycho-educational assessment submitted to the school
4. To provide teachers with information regarding a student's profile, recommend accommodations and any strategies which might facilitate teaching / learning
5. To work one on one with students on an individual ad hoc basis to discuss their learning difficulties and / or social emotional concerns
6. To provide confidential academic, social, emotional, and religious guidance and counselling.
7. To communicate, consult and liaise with outside professionals on behalf of students and parents
8. To collaborate regularly with teachers, parents and students to ensure success
9. To be available to address academic, social or emotional concerns of students and parents
10. To provide individual and / or small group tutoring in specific academic subjects by a student support teacher
11. To help students have a rewarding, successful and enriching high school experience
12. To help students manage their work load and stress levels
13. To help students improve their executive functioning and organizational skills

ACCOMMODATIONS

Accommodations may be granted to students based on recommendations in the psycho-educational assessment, taking into account the structures within our school and practices that we believe to be within the best interests of our students. There are no guaranteed accommodations; each student is reviewed individually, based on the information provided.

POSSIBLE ACCOMMODATIONS INCLUDE:

- Differentiation in the classroom and classroom material
- A Learning Strategies course in Grade 9. In this course, students are taught strategies applicable to school, work and life
- Extra time for assessments
- Computer use
- Assistive technology
- Note taking buddies or extra set of teacher notes
- Preferential classroom seating
- Oral instructions to supplement written or vice versa for assignments
- “Fact sheet”
- Oral testing when possible
- Additional accommodations may be discussed on an individual basis

ELIGIBILITY FOR ACCOMMODATIONS

All students are eligible to receive student support services. However, in order for a student to have an IEP and receive accommodations, the student must have a psycho-educational assessment which identifies learning issues that might interfere with academic success. A student who does not have a psycho-educational assessment but is being treated by a specialist for a physical or psychological ailment, and requires access to the extra-time accommodation must submit a signed letter from the specialist (on the professional’s official letterhead) stating this requirement and the reason for this requirement. All determinations are made on a case by case basis.



At Bnei Akiva Schools, we promote an ACTIVE approach to learning. Students are encouraged to participate actively in the learning process and to apply strategies to help themselves. An active approach to learning means that students should strive to:

Attend all classes
Arrive to class prepared for all classes, i.e. text, binder, writing utensils
Actively take notes in all classes
Take notes in all classes
Take notes in all classes
Increase efficiency through organization
Increase efficiency through organization
Increase efficiency through organization
Vocalize i.e. participate in class discussion
Vocalize i.e. participate in class discussion
Vocalize i.e. participate in class discussion
Eyes and ears are focused on the lesson
Eyes and ears are focused on the lesson



MRS. TEMIMA COHEN

DIRECTOR OF GUIDANCE ▪ TCOHEN@BASTORONTO.ORG

Mrs. Temima Cohen provides valuable educational, emotional, and social guidance and support to both Ulpanat Orot and Yeshivat Or Chaim students. She holds an honours Bachelors of Social Work from Ryerson University and a Masters of Social Work from The University of Toronto with a focus on child and family. She is a registered Social Worker with the Ontario College of Social Workers and a member of the Ontario Association of Social Workers. Mrs. Cohen constantly looks out for the well being of each and every student. She is always available to listen to, counsel, advise, and advocate on behalf of all the students, parents, and staff of the Bnei Akiva Schools.



MRS. MIRIAM KLEIN

DIRECTOR OF EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT ▪ MKLEIN@BASTORONTO.ORG

Mrs. Miriam Klein has worked as a teacher and student support staff for over 10 years. She has worked in Netivot HaTorah Day School in various grades both in General and Judaic studies. Most recently, Miriam supported students in the Middle School Department, teaching the Learning Strategies course and helping in the transition to high school. Miriam received her degree in Education and Special Education from The University of Toronto and is an active member of The Ontario College of Teachers. She believes strongly in student support and ensuring the students can meet with success academically, socially and emotionally. Miriam is looking forward to working with the students, parents and teachers at Bnei Akiva Schools to ensure an inclusive environment for all types of learners.