

2026

Parent Handbook

Your Handbook For

School management, policies,
rules for uniforms, curriculum,
finance, health, Jewish Life,
technology and more.



Bialik College

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GENERAL INFORMATION

COLLEGE CONTACT DETAILS

ADDRESS:	429 Auburn Rd Hawthorn 3122
TELEPHONE	03 9822 7981
WEBSITE:	http://www.bialik.vic.edu.au
COMPASS:	https://bialik-vic.compass.education/
COMPASS APP:	Search for Compass on the Apple App Store or Google Play to download the App. Once you've downloaded the app, press + to add Bialik College, then log in with your school credentials.
SOCIAL MEDIA:	Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/BialikCollege/ Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/bialikcollege/ LinkedIn: https://www.linkedin.com/company/bialik-college/

SCHOOL AND OFFICE HOURS

Classes for Prep – Year 12 commence at 8.30am each day. The school day concludes at 3.45pm from Monday to Thursday and at 3.30pm on Friday.

Before Care starts at 7.15am. Aftercare hours are from 3.30pm until 6.00pm Monday to Thursday and until 5.00pm on Friday.

Reception is open from Monday to Thursday from 8.00am to 5.00pm and on Friday from 8.30am to 4.15pm.

2026 Calendar

SCHOOL TERMS 5786-5787

See alternative calendars for Bialik Children's Centre & Long Day Care and Kindergarten



TERM 1

MON 2 FEBRUARY > FRI 27 MARCH

JANUARY							FEBRUARY							MARCH						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
			1	2	3	4	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	23	24	25	26	27	28	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	
26	27	28	29	30	31								30	31						

- 1 New Year's Day
- 6 Holiday Program begins
- 19-27 Staff set up days
- 26 Australia Day
- 28-30 Staff Development Days

- 2 TERM 1 COMMENCES
- 2 Tu B'Shevat

- 2 Fast of Esther
- 3 Purim
- 4 Shushan Purim
- 9 Labour Day - CLOSED
- 27 TERM 1 CONCLUDES

- 1 Erev Pesach - First Seder
- 2 Pesach - Second Seder
- 3 Good Friday
- 6 Easter Monday
- 9 Pesach concludes
- 13 TERM 2 COMMENCES
- 14 Yam Ha'Shoah
- 21 Yam Ha'Zikaron
- 22 Yam Ha'Atzmaut
- 25 ANZAC Day

- 5 Lag B'Omer
- 15 Yam Yerushalayim
- 21 Erev Shavuot / Midterm Break
- CLOSED
- 22 Shavuot Day 1 / Midterm Break
- CLOSED
- 23 Shavuot Day 2

- 8 King's Birthday - CLOSED
- 28 TERM 2 CONCLUDES

TERM 3

MON 13 JULY > FRI 18 SEPTEMBER

JULY							AUGUST							SEPTEMBER							
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	
			1	2	3	4					1	2				1	2	3	4	5	6
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	3	4	5	6	7	8	7	8	9	10	11	12	13		
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	10	11	12	13	14	15	14	15	16	17	18	19	20		
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	
27	28	29	30	31			24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28	29	30					

- 2 Fast of 17th of Tammuz
- 13 TERM 3 COMMENCES
- 23 Tisha B'Av
- 29 Tu B'Av

- 16-17 ZFA Staff Conference
- 17 Staff Development day (student free day)

- 11 Erev Rosh Hashanah - CLOSED
- 12 Rosh Hashanah - Day 1
- 13 Rosh Hashanah - Day 2
- 14 Fast of Gedaliah
- 16 TERM 3 CONCLUDES
- 20 Erev Yom Kippur / Kol Nidrei
- 21 Yam Kippur
- 25 Erev Succot
- 26 Succot Day 1
- 27 Succot Day 2

- 2 Hoshana Rabba
- 3 Shemini Atzeret
- 4 Simchat Torah
- 5 TERM 4 COMMENCES

- 2 Teacher Assessment
- 8 Reporting Day (student free day)
- 3 Melbourne Cup Day - CLOSED

- 4 Erev Chanukah - First Candle
- 10 Last day for Kinder to Year 1
- 11 TERM 4 CONCLUDES
- 12.50pm Finish
- 14-16 Staff Development Days
- 20 Fast of 10th of Tevet

- KEY**
- School Holiday / Public holiday
 - Staff Development (student free days)
 - Regular School Day

School Term dates for 2026 are:

Term 1: 2 February – 27 March

Term 2: 13 April – 26 June

Term 3: 13 July – 18 September

Term 4: 5 October – 11 December

BELL TIMES

PREP & YEAR 1 BELL TIMES

MONDAY – THURSDAY	
TIME	PERIOD
8.30AM – 8.45AM	HOMEROOM
8.45AM – 9.30AM	PERIOD 1
9.30AM – 10.15AM	PERIOD 2
10.15AM – 10.35AM	RECESS
10.35AM – 11.15AM	PERIOD 3
11.15AM – 12.10PM	PERIOD 4
12.10PM – 12.50PM	LUNCH
12.50PM – 1.30PM	PERIOD 5
1.30PM – 2.10PM	PERIOD 6
2.10PM – 2.25PM	RECESS
2.25PM – 3.05PM	PERIOD 7
3.05PM – 3.45PM	PERIOD 8

FRIDAY	
TIME	PERIOD
8.30AM – 8.45AM	HOMEROOM
8.45AM – 9.30AM	PERIOD 1
9.30AM – 10.15AM	PERIOD 2
10.15AM – 10.35AM	RECESS
10.35AM – 11.15AM	PERIOD 3
11.15AM – 12.10PM	PERIOD 4
12.10PM – 12.50PM	LUNCH
12.50PM – 1.30PM	PERIOD 5
1.30PM – 2.10PM	PERIOD 6
2.15PM – 2.25PM	RECESS
2.25PM – 3.05PM	PERIOD 7
3.05 PM – 3.30PM	PERIOD 8

PRIMARY, MIDDLE AND SENIOR SCHOOL BELL TIMES

MONDAY – THURSDAY		
TIME	PERIOD	LENGTH
8.30AM – 8.40AM	HOMEROOM	10 MINUTES
8.40AM – 9.40AM	PERIOD 1	1 HOUR
9.40AM – 10.40AM	PERIOD 2	1 HOUR
10.40AM – 11.00AM	RECESS	20 MINUTES
11.00AM – 12.00PM	PERIOD 3	1 HOUR
12.00PM – 1.00PM	PERIOD 4	1 HOUR
1.00PM – 1.45PM	LUNCH	45 MINUTES
1.45PM – 2.45PM	PERIOD 5	1 HOUR
2.45PM – 3.45PM	PERIOD 6	1 HOUR

FRIDAY		
TIME	PERIOD	LENGTH
8.30AM – 8.35AM	HOMEROOM	5 MINUTES
8.35AM – 9.35AM	PERIOD 1	1 HOUR
9.35AM – 10.35AM	PERIOD 2	1 HOUR
10.35AM – 10.50AM	RECESS	15 MINUTES
10.50AM – 11.50AM	PERIOD 3	1 HOUR
11.50AM – 12.50PM	PERIOD 4	1 HOUR
12.50PM – 1.30PM	LUNCH	40 MINUTES
1.30PM – 2.30PM	PERIOD 5	1 HOUR
2.30PM – 3.30PM	PERIOD 6	1 HOUR

The school day starts with 10 minutes in Homeroom (EXCEPT at Year 12 level where students have a period dedicated once per fortnight). This is a vital part of the day, where the roll is taken, key information is disseminated and wellbeing activities undertaken. The daily timetable runs on a 10-day cycle, known as Week 1 and Week 2.

Your child's timetable is viewable on Compass.

BIALIK COLLEGE OVERVIEW

The programs of, and teaching at, Bialik College supports and promotes the principles and practice of Australian democracy, including elected government; the rule of law; equal rights for all before the law; freedom of religion; freedom of speech and association; and the values of openness and tolerance.

OUR MOTTO AND MISSION

STEP FORTH WITH COURAGE

The school's motto, *Step Forth with Courage*, is derived from a Chaim Nachman Bialik poem, *Lamitnadvim Ba'am*, which was written in 1900 in Odessa shortly after the second Zionist Congress. A poem full of pathos, Bialik makes an impassioned call to the younger generation to rebuild the Land of Israel.



OUR MISSION

Bialik College is a pluralist Jewish Zionist school, embracing an inclusive approach to Judaism. We are committed to the pursuit of excellence in an enriching, innovative and nurturing environment. We are dedicated to empowering our students with the knowledge, skills, dispositions and values necessary to achieve their potential and to contribute meaningfully to the Jewish, Australian and global communities.

CROSS-COMMUNAL ETHOS

Bialik College teaches and celebrates the richness of Jewish life and provides an experience of Judaism that is embracing and outward-looking, whilst traditional at base. Students develop skills, dispositions, knowledge and values that are essential for them to become active members across our Jewish community. As students mature, their engagement with Judaism becomes increasingly expansive and values based, equipping them to make informed choices about their Jewish practice and identity.

VALUES

Bialik College believes our values energise the College and its students to ensure positive results. It is the College's objective, and that of all who work here, to run the school in a manner that is consistent with our values. These values provide staff with clarity around what our expectations are for every person at Bialik with respect to living our ethos.

RESPECT

יהי כבוד חברך חביב עליך כשלך

Let the honour of your friend be as dear to you as your own (Pirkei Avot 2:10)

Respect involves recognition of another's worth and dignity. It means acting with consideration and appreciation of people, places and ideas. Self-respect is behaving in a manner that honours the best in oneself, one's family and one's community.

INTEGRITY

נאה דורש ונאה מקיים

Do not be wise in words; be wise in deeds (Jewish proverb)

Integrity denotes living in such a manner that behaviour is consistent with principles and beliefs. Conducting oneself with integrity is to be honest, genuine and reliable. It is based on being truthful with regard to the motivations for one's actions.

PERSEVERANCE

מעז יצא מתוק

From challenge comes sweetness (Shoftim/Judges 14:14)

Perseverance is the ability to show commitment, patience and determination when seeking to fulfil goals. It involves maintaining a clear direction despite challenges and is related to the quality of courage in that both are needed to confront and overcome difficulties.

EMPATHY

ואהבת לרעך כמוך

And you shall love your neighbour as yourself (Vayikra/Leviticus 19:18)

The ability to feel the emotions of another person, empathy underlies caring and compassionate relationships. To behave with empathy is to identify sincerely with another's feelings and to put oneself emotionally in his or her place.

RESPONSIBILITY

מי לי, אם אין אני לי (Pirkei Avot 1:14)

מה אני, וכשאני לעצמי

אימתי, ואם לא עקשיו

If I am not for myself, who will be. If I am only for myself, what am I? And if not now, when? (Hillel).

To demonstrate responsibility is to be answerable and accountable for one's actions and inactions. Integral to responsibility is an awareness of one's obligations and a willingness to fulfil them, generated from within. It is being able to make amends, instead of excuses.

VISION

While a school must continually adapt to its environment, there are specific core ideals that remain key and provide the College with guidance in the process of strategic decision-making. These ideals form the College's vision and will be pursued by all staff to fulfil our mission.

LIFELONG LEARNING

We instil a lifelong love of learning among students and staff. We are inquiring learners who think critically and communicate effectively. Our students excel within a holistic curriculum to achieve their unique intellectual, creative, physical, emotional and social potential.

INCLUSIVE JUDAISM

We are a pluralist Jewish school that develops meaningful and enduring connections to Judaism through our rich culture, texts and traditions. We encourage a strong Jewish identity through building a thriving community that cares for others and empowering our students to make informed choices about their Jewish practice.

CENTRALITY OF ISRAEL

We are a Zionist school that inculcates a love of Israel. We recognise the centrality of Israel and Hebrew to the Jewish people. We support Israel and are committed to its wellbeing.

COMMUNAL RESPONSIBILITY

We engage in *tikkun olam* (repairing the world) and contribute to the Jewish and broader community through *gemilut chasadim* (acts of kindness). Our students are active and responsible citizens who embrace their Jewish and Australian heritage.

RESPECT AND RELATIONSHIPS

We are a community that embodies the principles of *derech erez* (good moral character). We impart the values of respect, empathy, integrity, perseverance and responsibility. We focus on the worth of all and celebrate diverse views and characteristics.

COLLEGE STRUCTURE

Bialik College is operated by Bialik College Limited. Bialik College (Jewish School) Pty Ltd provides the Jewish education component.

Bialik College is governed by the School Council, the composition of which is determined by the Constitution of Bialik College Limited.

Bialik College operates a structure of 'four sub-schools within a school' each with its own Head:

Junior Primary (Prep - Year 1) & Primary School (Years 2 - 5) – Building the Foundations

Middle School (Years 6 - 9) - Breadth/Depth

Senior School (Years 10 - 12) - Multiple Pathways

These four 'sub-schools' are directed and managed by the Executive Management Team and draw support and direction from administration and operational staff.

EXECUTIVE TEAM

Jeremy Stowe-Lindner: Principal

Gary Velleman: Vice Principal & Head of Senior School

Michaela Strang: Assistant Principal & Director of Learning

Amanda Castelan-Starr: Assistant Principal & Director of Jewish Life

Emily Donaldson: Head of Middle School

Karen Friede: Head of Primary School

Jennifer Dean: Director of Business

Tracey Dukes: Director of Wellbeing & Inclusion

Rick McLeod: Activities Manager

BIALIK COLLEGE COUNCIL

The governing body of Bialik College is the School Council. The Council sees its principal role as:

- Setting the strategic direction and mission of the College
- Ensuring the College is run in a prudent financial manner
- Governance of fundraising
- Construction and refurbishment of the College's physical assets
- Appointment, and subsequent review, of the Principal

The Council also reviews plans for implementation of curriculum and approves significant developments in our educational offering, following recommendations from the College Educational Leadership, and plans which have financial implications.

The Council meets twice per school term. An Executive Committee, comprising a subset of Council, meets more frequently. Council has a number of subcommittees, and parents with relevant interests and skills are encouraged to consider joining these subcommittees. Information about Council and its subcommittees may be found on the College's website.

Elections for positions on the School Council are held at the PGM in December each year.

Queries regarding the Council may be addressed to Tyson Wodak, President, president@bialik.vic.edu.au.

The 2026 Bialik College Council comprises:

President	Tyson Wodak
Immediate Past President	Kate Beaconsfield
Principal	Jeremy Stowe-Lindner
Vice-Presidents	Kate Beaconsfield
	Boaz Herszfeld
Honorary Treasurer	Peter Eben
Honorary Secretary	Aimee Southwick
Executive Member	Dan Feldman
Other Council Members	Darren Blankfield
	Jessica Bram
	Michael Carp (Foundation Chair)
	Jessica Clark (BCPA President)
	Lisa Degen
	Amie Frydenberg
	Nigel Givoni
	David Naphtali
	Darion Pohl
	Jason Scher
	Aimee Southwick
Life Governors	Graham Goldsmith AO
	Alan Goldstone OAM
	Jack Gringlas OAM
	Jeffrey Mahemoff AO
Governors	Mark Blankfield OAM

BIALIK COLLEGE PARENTS' ASSOCIATION

The Bialik Parents' Association is a well-established organisation within Bialik College. It consists of a group of parents who volunteer their time in creating opportunities for our Bialik students and supporting the Bialik community.

Our school is so special, we are on one campus and have the opportunity to come and be part of special days in our kids' lives and make memories and life-long friendships!

VOLUNTEER WITH US!

Below is a snapshot of some of the events and volunteering opportunities that take place within the school

- supporting school events like Chaggim (Purim etc), Athletics Day, and other special events
- as a Class Rep / Year Level Rep
- in the Kitchen Garden Program
- at the Shuk (canteen)
- as part of the Parent Security Group

Please check Compass regularly for updates.

KEEP UP TO DATE BY JOINING US ON SOCIALS!

Facebook: [Bialik College Parents' Association](#)

Instagram: [@Bialikparents](#)

Most year levels have a WhatsApp group please email if you are not on.

Please keep an eye out for the Igeret (school newsletter) that comes out every Thursday.

Look forward to meeting you soon!

If you have any questions or need to connect please contact the BCPA President Naomi Swart at bcpa@bialik.vic.edu.au

JUNIOR PRIMARY (PREP AND YEAR 1)

Prep and Year 1 are inspired by the Reggio Emilia educational approach which challenges our role as educators to strive to make visible the curiosity and resilience of the young child through active listening. Bialik supports the values of respect, perseverance, integrity, empathy and responsibility and these are values that are lived every day. Children come to school with many variances in their thinking, talking, physical and social skills. Not only will each child be at different stages in their development, but the pattern of their ongoing learning can be uneven. As part of our approach in Prep and Year 1 we continue to encourage the curiosity, wondering and thinking of the children through ongoing investigations. Each room has been designed with a studio attached as part of the exploration of materials, skills and the development of ideas which may begin in the studio and continue in the larger studio overseen by the Educator who works closely with teachers and children and facilitates investigations. These investigations give children opportunities to challenge their thinking and scaffold their understanding using different languages. We believe in the importance of time to revisit ideas and thereby deepening the learning. As part of our day-to-day learning in an environment which makes visible the achievements of the individuals within a group, Prep and Year 1 learning spaces where children are encouraged to be risk takers, to test theories and question, and in doing so acquire sound basic skills in all areas within the day-to-day investigations. Every child's potential is seen for its strengths both as an individual and as part of a number of groups which include family, school and society. The school provides the children with a wide variety of experiences which encourage them to experiment, investigate, communicate and reason. We seek to develop a deep understanding of the rich customs and traditions within Judaism to assist the child in an awareness of who they are as active members of the Jewish and global community and of our strong connections to Israel.

Bialik College Limited operates the Bialik College Early Learning Centre, and fee income may be transferred between the two entities for the purposes of providing education and care.

HEAD OF ELC & JUNIOR PRIMARY



DAPHNE GADDIE

E: [GADDID@BIALIK.VIC.EDU.AU](mailto:gaddid@bialik.vic.edu.au)

The Head of Junior Primary is responsible for the proper conduct, management and development of these areas. The Head of Junior Primary will support the College Principal to lead, manage and develop the College's educational philosophy and strategic vision.



DEPUTY HEAD OF ELC & JUNIOR PRIMARY

NATALIE KLUSKA

E: gaddid@bialik.vic.edu.au



ASSISTANT TO DAPHNE GADDIE

NICKY ANTMAN

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HEAD OF HEBREW & JEWISH STUDIES PRIMARY

TALI BARR-WAANDERS

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NUMERACY COACH

REBECCA STEWART

E: stewar@biaik.vic.edu.au

PREP AND YEAR 1

We endeavour to ensure that children in Prep and Year 1 are grouped as equally as possible, while taking friendships and peer relationships into consideration. The first year of school is an important time for children and, by association, for their parents. Children need to feel secure and happy in their environment, and we attempt to achieve this in many ways during the school day.

As part of our approach for Prep and Year 1 we continue to encourage the curiosity, wondering and thinking of the children through ongoing investigations. Each classroom has been designed with a studio attached as part of the exploration of materials, skills and the development of ideas which may begin in the studio and continue in the larger studio overseen by a teacher educator. These investigations give children opportunities to challenge their thinking and scaffold their understanding using different languages. We believe in the importance of time to revisit ideas and thereby deepening the learning.

We create a literate environment and use a multi-faceted and developmental approach. We encourage the children to develop a love of reading and a positive attitude and a willingness to learn and develop their language skills. Maths is taught as another language. The children work in small groups encouraging the children to develop an understanding of the concepts by offering them the opportunity to immerse themselves in learning opportunities which encourage this exploration.

TIMETABLE

There are 8 lessons per day of 45 minutes each with a morning recess, lunch break and afternoon recess. Prep classes have 8 lessons of Hebrew and Jewish Studies per week and Year 1 classes have 9 lessons per week.

Weekly specialist sessions are held for music (once per week), library (once per week) and PE/Sport (twice per week).

ENGLISH

Our English curriculum encompasses our Bialik Scope and Sequence documents which are drawn from leading contemporary research-based resources and the Victorian Curriculum. This curriculum sets out a comprehensive set of standards which ensures a continuum of literacy learning from Prep to Year 5. At the core of English is meaning and our students are taught processes and strategies for meaning making that can be transferred from one setting to another. Our curriculum provides a balance between Reading and Viewing, Writing and Speaking and Listening. Spelling, although falling under the umbrella of Writing, is taught explicitly through a synthetic phonics approach.

MATHEMATICS

Mathematics teaching and learning across Prep and Year 1 is based upon the Victorian Curriculum Mathematics. This encompasses the content of Number and Algebra, Measurement and Geometry, and Statistics and Probability. During mathematics sessions, students are engaged in meaningful learning experiences driven by problem solving, adaptive reasoning, conceptual understanding and fluency. Mathematics is differentiated to meet the diverse needs of learners through team planning of rich tasks along with enabling and extending prompts. Students are encouraged to think, talk and collaborate like mathematicians, making connections between the areas of mathematics and the world around them.

HEBREW AND JEWISH STUDIES

The iTaLAM program is the core focus of teachers and students in the Prep and One years. Hebrew and Jewish Studies lessons are taught using the iTaLAM program. The students are exposed to the Hebrew language and Jewish culture through discussions, stories, posters, songs and technology. Torah lessons will focus on a unique Bialik curriculum model. Each Friday morning the children prepare for a Kabbalat Shabbat. Each class has its own traditions regarding the way in which they celebrate Kabbalat Shabbat. Your class teachers will discuss these with you. The children begin to learn of the traditions and prayers. They are asked to bring a coin on Fridays to be donated as part of the tradition of Tzedakah (charity).

LIBRARY

The Prep and Year 1 children have a library session weekly. Students will be introduced to new and upcoming as well as familiar authors and books. They will be shown e-books and e-audiobooks and exciting digital literature resources. Students will be introduced to print and digital information and resources that are linked to the curriculum. Children will have the opportunity to formally visit the library with their teacher once per week, however they are also encouraged to borrow books at other times.

TECHNOLOGY

Children today have many technological skills and understandings. Technology is an integral part of their lives and children demonstrate passion and enthusiasm for diverse technologies. We believe that children should be continuously exposed to technology daily within their classroom. Wherever possible, technology is naturally integrated into the curriculum and used to support and reinforce the children's learning. The children are empowered to use a diverse range of technologies to express their thoughts and ideas. Within the classroom they use digital devices such as computers, iPads and interactive whiteboards as well as a diverse range of programs associated with these technologies. They are regularly introduced to new and emerging technologies and skills as required and they are continuously scaffolded to develop and consolidate new skills which are guided by a school-wide scope and sequence and dedicated staff with expertise. The children are also encouraged to reflect on how these skills support their learning as well as building an awareness of their digital footprint. Through the Makerspace club, students are given opportunities to explore new and emerging technologies to explore STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) concepts as well as establish a foundational knowledge and understanding of coding. Our focus on technology in the ELC is achieved by using it as a tool for expression and communication across all areas of learning rather than a subject in itself.

DOGS FOR LIFE

An innovative program called 'Dogs for Life' is part of our Prep curriculum. Bialik College is the first school in Australasia to incorporate this program into a school. The program partners dogs with children and teachers in a safe and controlled environment, led by a team of highly competent, skilled and experienced trainers from the Centre for Service and Therapy Dogs Australia (CSTDA). The aim of the program is to educate the children on how to care for and model the correct behaviour around dogs; to share the wonderful bonding experience that can occur between a dog and a person; to deal with "animal fears", and much more. Using the dog as a catalyst for enhancing the emotional wellbeing of the students and their relationships with others, some of the educational outcomes that can be expected from this program include enhancing the child's emotional development with improvements in self-esteem, autonomy and empathy for others. Enhancing social interactions and group dynamics with the use of verbal and non-verbal communication, rights and responsibilities and conflict resolution, all of which is built into the program. The goal is to provide a stable, constant non-judgemental and calming influence through the introduction of an independent dynamic into the class.

MUSIC

Students have one lesson per week and also participate in small group sessions. The Year 1 children are further encouraged to join the choir.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Students participate in two physical education sessions per week covering a range of sports and activities which focus on skill development, fitness and teamwork. Additionally, in Terms 2 and 3 they take part in the Leaping Lizards gym program once per week and swimming lessons are conducted once per week in Term 4.

SCHOOL HOURS

The school day begins at 8.30am. School concludes at 3.45pm from Monday to Thursday and at 3.30pm on Friday. Please ensure that your child arrives on time each morning. The children are to assemble in their class groups for morning line-up in the Undercroft. At the conclusion of each school day, they will be accompanied to the Undercroft by their teacher for pick up. There is a teacher on duty in the playground from 8.15am in the morning and at the end of each day from 3.45pm until 4.00pm.

As noted, the College employs special services staff. These specialist staff members are available to the Prep and Year 1 students.

BEFORE AND AFTER-SCHOOL CARE

Prep and Year 1 out of school care and Holiday Program are run by Bialik's Out of School Hours (BOSH) Club and EXTEND. Children are provided with a nutritious breakfast at Before School Care and afternoon tea at After School Care. The program provides children with various activities.

Before School Care at BOSH

7:15am – 8:30am Monday to Friday

After School Care is run by EXTEND in the Primary School building. (Except for Fridays which is run at BOSH Club in the ELC)

3:45pm – 6:00pm Monday to Thursday (EXTEND)

3:30pm – 5:00pm Friday (BOSH)

Holiday Program (BOSH)

7:15am – 6:00pm

An exciting program that includes arts and craft, cooking activities, games, sports, drama, board games, dress ups and fun with friends.

All bookings should be directed to BialikOSHClub@bialik.vic.edu.au or support@extend.com.au

Please note that there is no supervision of children by staff before 8.15 am, after 4.00pm Mon-Thurs, or after 3.30pm on Friday. Children who remain at school after these times will be placed in the aftercare facility.

COLLECTION OF CHILDREN AFTER SCHOOL

Prep and Year 1 children must not leave the school premises unless accompanied by an adult.

DISCUSSION WITH TEACHERS

Teachers are always willing to discuss a child's progress or needs with a parent, but suitable arrangements to meet must be made in advance. Teachers are not able to meet with parents at the start of the school day as they must be available for the children in their classes at that time.

EXCURSIONS

Excursions are an important part of our school program. Permission forms must be returned by a parent to allow the child to leave the school grounds on these occasions. Please refer to the Excursion Policy in the Policy Section of this handbook. On occasion, parents are requested to assist staff with the supervision of students on excursions.

FOOD AND OTHER ITEMS

We encourage our students to eat good, healthy food. While the College does not prescribe which foods may be brought to school for students' lunches, parents are requested not to send to school lunches which contain those meats or shellfish which are forbidden by Jewish law.

Drinks brought to school must be in a disposable container or in a plastic bottle, which can easily be handled by the child. 'Play' lunches and midday lunches are eaten under teacher supervision. The school has an allergy-aware policy, details of which appear in the Policy Section of this handbook. Please do not send any food containing nuts to school or school events.

Children's lunch boxes, lids, smocks and all clothing including socks and shoes, should be appropriately labelled. Spare socks and underwear should be placed in the student's bag in case children need these items during the school day. We do not encourage children to bring toys to school, except balls and skipping ropes.

PRIMARY SCHOOL (YEARS 2-5)

Bialik College's Primary School is driven by the belief that the child is not a passive recipient of knowledge, but a curious being, full of wonder, a creator of culture and a person who can confidently construct and co-construct his or her own understanding of knowledge. We ask ourselves "What do we want the child we teach to be like as an adult? What does our society want for our children?" Our goal is to foster thinkers who listen, enquirers who negotiate, inventors who collaborate and individuals who are confident in themselves.

The Primary classroom is characterised by enjoyment, engagement, discovery and curiosity. Children experience wonder and excitement, take risks and learn through their mistakes. They take increasing responsibility and become more independent learners. Together, these features (enjoyment and responsibility) are the basis for life-long learning.

The responsibility for helping young people achieve personal development outcomes is a focus of the primary years. During these years, children develop ethically, gaining an understanding with integrity and treating others with respect and fairness. They develop their beliefs and values, including an understanding of shared foundational values and acceptance of different values and beliefs. They enhance their personal and social responsibility, learning about managing and taking responsibility for their own behaviour and responding to the needs of others within a community. They manage their health and safety, acting in ways which enhance personal health and safety and the safety of others.

During these years children form a strong sense of self, establish independent relationships and gain resilience. They begin to see themselves as part of a local and wider community.

Together with parents and the general community the Primary School aims to establish a set of responsibilities for the personal and social development of children. Some of these are addressed directly through the curriculum, some dealt with as occasions arise and some provide a wide range of opportunities for children to interact with others, take leadership roles and make a contribution to the life of the school and the wider community.

HEAD OF PRIMARY SCHOOL

KAREN FRIEDE

E: friedk@bialik.vic.edu.au



The Head of Primary School is responsible for the proper conduct, management and development of the Primary School. The Head of Primary School will support the College Principal to lead, manage and develop the College's educational philosophy and strategic vision.



PRIMARY SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION / ASSISTANT TO KAREN FRIEDE

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HEAD OF HEBREW & JEWISH STUDIES PRIMARY

TALI BARR-WAANDERS

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HEAD OF ROSENKRANZ CENTRE

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NUMERACY COACH

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**PRIMARY SCIENCE COACH, GARDEN EDUCATOR, KITCHEN GARDEN
PROGRAM COORDINATOR**

JULIE HART

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PRIMARY WELLBEING

SANDY WIENER

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ENGLISH LEARNING LEADER FOR YEARS 2-3

CANDICE SMITH

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ENGLISH LEARNING LEADER FOR YEARS 4-5

TANYA ZOHAR

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OTHER CONTACT DETAILS

Primary Teacher Librarian: Raffaella Grasso grassr@bialik.vic.edu.au

Primary eLearning Leader: Raffaella Grasso grassr@bialik.vic.edu.au

Kitchen Educator: Fay Pititto pititf@bialik.vic.edu.au

Student Services Coordinator: Deborah Reed reedd@bialik.vic.edu.au

SUBJECT ALLOCATION OVER 1 CYCLE (10 DAYS)

Year 2

Subjects	Number of Periods per Cycle
English/Humanities/Science	25
Hebrew/Jewish Studies	13
Mathematics	10

Physical Education	4
Art	2
Music	2
Creative Technology / Library	1

Year 3

Subjects	Number of Periods per Cycle
English/Humanities/Science	25
Hebrew/Jewish Studies	13
Mathematics	10
Physical Education	4
Art	2
Music + Drama	3
Creative Technology / Library	1

Year 4

Subjects	Number of Periods per Cycle
English/Humanities/Science/Kitchen Garden	26
Hebrew/Jewish Studies	12
Mathematics	10
Physical Education	4

Art	2
Music	3
Creative Technology / Library	1

Year 5

Subjects	Number of Periods per Cycle
English/Humanities/Science/Kitchen Garden	24
Hebrew/Jewish Studies	12
Mathematics	10
Physical Education/ Sport	6
Art	2
Music	3
Creative Technology / Library	1

HEBREW AND JEWISH STUDIES

ITALAM AND CHAVERIM B'IVRIT PROGRAMS

The iTaLAM, Chaverim B'Ivrit and *Ivrit Beclick* programs are the core foci of teachers and students in the Primary School. Hebrew and Jewish Studies lessons will be taught using the iTaLAM program in Year 2. In Years 3, 4 and 5 Hebrew will be taught using a linguistic program, Chaverim B'Ivrit and *Ivrit Beclick*, whilst Torah and Jewish Studies will focus on a unique Bialik curriculum model. The students will be exposed to the Hebrew language and Jewish culture through discussions, stories, posters, songs and technology.

The **iTaLAM** is a web-based adaptive program. The iTaLAM program uses a "blended learning" model, which draws on the Hebrew literacy and Jewish Heritage curriculum. iTaLAM has updated the curriculum to harness the benefits of technology and to facilitate adaptive and personalised learning. Our students will be able to experience learning activities in a multimedia environment using games, animated stories, and songs, making the learning process more enjoyable and effective. One unique aspect of iTaLAM is that the students can complete learning experiences in the classroom or from home as part of the process.

Chaverim B'Ivrit is a curriculum for teaching modern Hebrew as a second language. It is linguistically sequential both in texts and tasks. The Hebrew language is learned in context relevant to the children's lives and cultural backgrounds. The lessons revolve around themes of interest to children, including family,

friendship, traveling, food, and music. Each theme is presented from three perspectives: Jewish, modern Israeli culture, and general world knowledge.

Ivrit BeClick is an online, interactive teaching resource, written and developed for students that are learning Hebrew in diaspora. This program can stand alone and is taught as a supplement to the Chaverim B'Ivrit program. **Ivrit BeClick** is a teacher-led website and is not designed for children to access on their own. As children progress through the stages of this program, the spoken conversations become longer, the speed and range of language used increases, and students are gradually exposed to occasional use of unfamiliar language spoken at faster speed.

BILINGUAL PROGRAM

The Bilingual Program is an integral part of the philosophy of Bialik College in Years 4 and 5, designed for students whose Hebrew is a second language. It incorporates Hebrew, Jewish Studies, and Ulpan Ivrit. The ulpan is designed to teach language skills of conversation. Students will be learning through songs, dances, and roleplay.

HEBREW FIRST

As the College endeavours to offer opportunities for challenge for all our students, we have developed a program, called Hebrew First (עברית שפה ראשונה). We are excited to offer an extension Hebrew class based on the model of HebJ – Hebrew and Jewish Studies taught in Hebrew. The curriculum for this class is from Israel, tailored for native Hebrew speakers.

SHABBAT ASSEMBLY

Once a cycle, the Primary students participate in a communal Shabbat assembly. The children take it in turns to lead the blessing over the challah and wine and to light the candles. Our Informal Jewish Education team enrich these assemblies with songs and the playing of musical instruments. These festive Shabbat assemblies give children the opportunity to have a shared experience with other students across the Year levels.

MATHEMATICS

Mathematics across our Primary school is informed by the Victorian Curriculum: Mathematics. Over the course of a week, students participate in 5 hours of Mathematics focused upon the content strands of Number, Algebra, Measurement, Space, Statistics and Probability. This content is enacted through the proficiencies of Problem Solving, Reasoning, Fluency and Understanding. Classroom differentiation is driven by ongoing formative assessment and the planning of enabling and extending prompts. Students are actively encouraged to think like Mathematicians as they participate in a range of engaging learning experiences including open-ended tasks, mathematical inquiries, games and annual Family Maths Evenings. Our innovative number intervention program provides targeted and explicit teaching for students to further develop important number skills, knowledge and understanding.

ENGLISH (LANGUAGE, LITERATURE, LITERACY)

Our English curriculum is articulated in our Bialik Scope and Sequence documents which are drawn from leading contemporary research-informed resources and the Victorian Curriculum. The language, literacy and literature curriculums set out a comprehensive set of standards which ensures a continuum of English learning from the years before Prep to Year 10. At the core of English is meaning and our students are taught processes and strategies for meaning making that can be transferred from one setting to another. Our curriculum provides a balance between Reading and Viewing, Writing and Speaking and Listening. Spelling, while falling under the umbrella of Writing, is taught explicitly and is based on our spelling program, of Sounds Write. ". Students

learn to make sense of their world and their place in it by reading. They write for communication and self-expression.

The study of language skills involves students in identifying and using conventions of expression and organisation. A rich and varied literary experience means that students engage with the beauty of language and explore the possibilities of life which both reflects and extends beyond their own experience. As literacy is a fundamental skill for learning across the curriculum, close attention is paid to the development of these skills across the curriculum.

SCIENCE

The Science program provides opportunities for students to develop an understanding of important Science concepts and processes, and the practices used to develop scientific knowledge. In doing this, students discover the contribution of science to our culture and society, and its applications in our lives.

Students are naturally curious about the world around them and Science provides a fun avenue of answering interesting and important questions about the biological, physical and technological world. Students are encouraged to make sense of their world through exploring the unknown, making and testing their predictions and solving problems.

STEM

All our classes engage with the Maker Space provision. In this space our students are offered Project based learning, where novel problems are provided, and our students are encouraged to use low and high-tech tools and ways to solve them.

'Little Hands Big Ideas' program for our Year 2 supports our students develop skills in wood working and construction using a variety of equipment such as heavy card, Lego, Balsa wood and pine. Students are taught how to use construction tools safely making connections with concepts to physical sciences. Students will also engage in creative technology and digital technology.

KITCHEN GARDEN

The Kitchen Garden Program is an integral part of the Years 4 and 5 curriculum that develops students thinking skills and knowledge regarding the health benefits of fresh, seasonal food. The program is a specialist-delivered model where a garden science specialist and a kitchen science specialist team teach with the classroom teacher. This approach enables the program to be implemented in an authentic and meaningful manner incorporating all aspects of the curriculum. Using a range of scientific equipment to systematically collect, record, and evaluate data they learn the science behind growing, harvesting and preparing meals. Students create positive lifestyle changes in their own lives and the greater school community.

BIALIK IN THE BUSH

Bialik in the Bush provides positive environmental and social educational outcomes for our Year 3 students. Embedding Indigenous culture and knowledge into outdoor learning enables our students to gain an appreciation of land and, in our Acknowledgment to Country, what it means to, 'tread lightly.' In this investigative and experiential learning space the students learn how natural and human processes cause changes to the Earth's surface and the importance of making informed choices.

Students will use a range of scientific equipment to systematically collect, record, and evaluate data. Through a scientific lens they will design investigations to show that heat is involved in changes of state and explore the Wetlands to identify aquatic invertebrates. Through a range of engaging learning experiences students will identify the bird life in our Bialik environment.

ROSENKRANZ CENTRE

The Rosenkranz Centre for Excellence and Achievement was established at Bialik College in 1997 in honour of Betty and Shmuel Rosenkranz. The focus of the Centre is to provide opportunities for enrichment and extension programs for students from Kindergarten to Year 12. These programs support and supplement the College's curriculum and provide additional opportunities for children with particular strengths and learning abilities.

Students are encouraged to develop sophisticated thinking and research skills, to participate in open debate and to demonstrate commitment to communal responsibilities.

Mini courses, workshops, external competitions, weekly mentoring sessions, conferences, enrichment days and after school programs are amongst some of the opportunities offered to students within this centre.

TECHNOLOGY

The idea of digital natives refers to attitude, not ability. Technology is an integral part of life and children demonstrate passion and enthusiasm for diverse technologies. In the Primary School we believe that children should be exposed to technology as well as expressly taught how to harness its potential for learning. Our Years 2-5 students have access to a variety of digital tools and devices to support their learning such as iPads and Laptops. Technology is naturally integrated into all aspects of the curriculum and used to support, extend and reinforce children's learning. Children are empowered to use a diverse range of technologies to explore and present their thoughts, feelings and ideas. Students are regularly introduced to new and emerging technologies and the skills required are continuously scaffolded, underpinned by an awareness and understanding of being responsible digital citizens. The students are also encouraged to reflect on how technological skills support their learning. Teaching and learning with technology is supported by our Digital Technologies Coach and our Primary E-Learning Specialist/ Teacher Librarian. Our focus on technology in the Primary School is as a tool for reflection, expression and communication across all areas of learning rather than as a subject.

Through the Makerspace, students at all levels can undertake extended projects and experience technology such as 3D printers, 3D pens, laser cutting, virtual and augmented reality, robots and drones as well as foster creative problem solving and computational thinking. Students can access the Makerspace during lunch times as well as through curriculum connections.

In Years 2-5 students participate in sessions to develop their digital literacy skills, such as: developing an awareness of their online responsibilities to develop digital citizenship skills as well as the utilisation a variety of digital tools and apps to support learning. A snapshot of the different digital literacy areas explored in the Primary School are:
The use of the typing program 'Typing Club' across the Year 2-5 levels to support students in developing and extending their touch-typing skills. Students also use various technology tools to harness the power of digital storytelling as well as develop their knowledge and skill in coding and robotics through websites, apps and kits such as Lego WeDo. Students explore digital animation using a range of tools and technologies.

1:1 LAPTOP PROGRAM

All students from Year 5 on require a Windows laptop, either school purchased, or BYOD [bring your own device] that meets the school's minimum specifications. All details of our Laptop Program can be found [here](#).

Where available, students may purchase some of their textbooks electronically, negating the need to carry heavy textbooks.

SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL LEARNING (SEL)

Across our Primary School, Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) is a lived curriculum where relationships are built alongside academic skills. Our primary school students participate in SEL experiences with a focus upon developing their emotional and self-awareness, resilience, positive relationships, collaboration and confidence. Homeroom and Jewish Studies teachers work in partnership to enact a proactive SEL curriculum through fortnightly lessons drawn from the Respectful Relationships Program. Bialik Primary classrooms are restorative learning spaces, which seek to build a culture of caring and positive classroom management. Student wellbeing is enhanced with bespoke and strengths-based learning experiences including Dogs for Life, Body Awareness, Circle Time, Mindfulness, Bialik in the Bush and peer mentoring. Primary school parents are welcomed as partners and encouraged to join ongoing discussions through regular parent information sessions. SEL empowers all students to flourish as they journey through our Bialik primary school and into their future.

MANHIGUT (PEER LEADERSHIP)

The Manhigut program is a unique leadership program offered to Year 5 students at Bialik College. This innovative and dynamic program offers all Year 5 students the opportunity to learn about leadership and to take on roles across six embassies. Each student has an assigned mentor teacher. The aim of the Manhigut program is to promote 'the greater good,' as leaders through the embassies of Jewish Life and Zionism, The Arts, Marketing, School Culture, Environment and Health.

Our Year 5 leaders are involved in environmental projects at the school while learning to promote and collaborate with the College, the College Community and analyse global project management. Our Year 5 leaders work towards acquiring leadership skills together with valuing the College's identity and connection to our Jewish Heritage.

LIBRARY

Our Primary School Teacher Librarian, Raffaella Grasso actively supports students to develop a love of reading as they move from learning to read to reading to learn. Students are provided with many opportunities to read within and beyond their interest levels, through regular book promotions, displays, learning opportunities, special events and author visits.

The Library program also focuses on developing greater awareness of information literacy and research skills and understandings to support the investigations focus.

Students have access to an extensive fiction and non-fiction collection as well as a large eBook and eAudio collection available through the Bialik Library Digital BorrowBox and Wheelers ePlatform subscriptions.

LITERATURE

- Students have access to a wide variety of print and digital literature.
- Students are introduced to a broad variety of established and upcoming authors and texts.
- Students are guided in how to participate safely in online reading forums and access reputable review sites.
- Fiction is also available in Hebrew language for all levels as well as a selection of other languages.
- eAudio and eBooks fiction books are available.
- A range of dyslexic-friendly literature is also available.

CURRICULUM

- Students are introduced to print and digital resources and curated resource guides to support their classroom investigation focus.
- The library collection and displays promote and extend classroom investigations throughout the year.

BORROWING

- Children have the opportunity to formally visit the library with their teacher once a cycle, however, they are welcome to browse, return and borrow books before school and during recess and lunch.

- The library also welcomes parents or guardians to accompany their children after school for browsing and borrowing.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND SPORT

Years 2 to 4: Students participate in two hours of Physical Education classes per week covering a range of fundamental motor skills, sports and activities. The key focus areas include skill development, fitness, teamwork, confidence and resilience. During term 4 students participate in a swimming program as part of their curriculum.

Year 5: Students participate in three hours of activity per week. Semester 1 is Sport; where each student is placed in a team and competes in the Interschool Sport program. Semester 2 is Physical Education classes; covering a range of fundamental motor skills, sports and health topics. The key focus areas include skill development, fitness, teamwork, confidence, resilience and personal health and development. During Term 4 students participate in a swimming program as part of their curriculum.

Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4
Primary House Athletics Carnival	Primary Cross-Country Gala Day	Hooptime Basketball	Swimming lessons
Inter-school swimming	Inter-school Cross Country Day	Inter-school Athletics	Inter-House swimming gala
Year 5 Interschool Sport	Year 5 Interschool Sport	Snow Skiing	

Sport Academy

The Academy is designed to prepare, enhance and extend our students who will be representing the College in Interschool competitions. Program is dependent upon the seasonal requirements of competition with activities including swimming, cross country, athletics, triathlon and strength and conditioning. Academy runs Monday to Friday 7am-8am, with a program of events posted at the beginning of each term.. (Swimming program students are invited on merit).

MUSIC

The Primary Classroom music teacher is Shani Weiss Tzur.

CORE CURRICULUM

Year 2 students have 2 lessons per cycle:

- All lessons in Year 2 are general classroom music lessons aimed at building basic music skills and literacy.

Year 3 students have 2 lessons per cycle:

- Year 3 students study the recorder, as well as pitched and unpitched percussion.
- 1 session is Performance drama

Year 4 students have 3 lessons per cycle:

- One general Classroom Music
- Two Bialik Orchestral Program (Strings or Classroom instrument based)

Year 5 students have 3 lessons per cycle:

- One general Classroom Music
- Two Bialik Orchestral Program (Brass, Woodwind, Percussion & Strings, Ukulele/Guitar, Vocal)

EXTRA CURRICULAR

Primary Choir runs during a designated lunchtime every week.

Private instrumental tuition is available in the following instruments:

Flute, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, euphonium, trombone, French horn, violin, viola, cello, piano, voice, percussion bass guitar and guitar.

ART

The aim of the Art department is to provide all students with a broad-based Art program that supports students to develop diverse skills steadily and sequentially in Art-making. Each year we build on children's previous learning and introduce more advanced programs to develop their skills and knowledge. Art learning is centred around the understanding of the formal qualities of Art including the exploration of line, shape, colour and form. The program incorporates exploration of materials over a range of disciplines including drawing, painting, sculpture, ceramics and textiles. Students explore ideas, experiences, observations and imagination and express them through the subject matter in the visual artworks they create. Technology supports the curriculum and opportunities are provided for students to explore, create and reflect on their learning using a variety of tools.

Primary Art is taught by Lauren Scott. Two Art classes are allocated for each level over a ten-day cycle.

CAMPS

Year 2 - Sleepover at school

Organised to provide a familiar environment for our students to have their first experience of staying away from home for one night.

Year 3 - Portsea Camp

Outdoor Ed based (Abseiling, Indigenous Art Activity, Flying Fox, Initiatives, Jewish Life Activities)

Year 4 - Portsea Camp

Outdoor Ed based (Indigenous Art Activity, Beach activities, Canoeing, Raft Building, Flying Fox, Low ropes course, Giant Swing, Jewish Life Activities)

Year 7 - Lord Somers Camp

Outdoor Ed based (Kayaking, Rope Course, Stand-up Paddleboard, Swimming, Hiking, Flying Fox, Indigenous Experiences, Jewish Life Activities).

INFORMAL EDUCATION

Year 10 Madrichim (leaders/mentors) run fortnightly sessions, centred on chaggim and our school values, for all students in Years 3-5. The Year 10 Madrichim will be carefully guided and assisted in these sessions by the Informal Jewish Educators to ensure the continued success of this program.

In addition, our Informal Jewish Education team along with the Year 10 Madrichim will accompany students on Primary School camps, as well as being involved in all activities centred around the chaggim.

ASSESSMENTS

The College believes that assessment is a fundamental aspect of the teaching and learning that takes place. Bialik promotes self-assessment, peer assessment and teacher assessment to ensure meaningful evaluation of student progress. Feedback is released as continuous reports throughout the semester and end of semester are released twice a year with summative results. Parent Teacher Interviews are held in first and third terms and a 3-Way Learning Conference in fourth term.

In addition to formal written reports, parents or guardians may request comparative reports that show students' performance relative to other students in the year level.

Regular assessments take place to monitor individual and cohort progress, these include annual Progressive Assessment Testing and the National Assessment Program– Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) for all students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. The NAPLAN testing occurs in March. For further information regarding assessment, please refer to the policy in Compass.

AFTERSCHOOL PROVISION

With the school day ending at 3.45pm, all students must be supervised by a parent or carer from that time (including before and after school events which begin after the end of school). The school has a duty of care for the safety of each student and as such, students who are not collected by 4.00pm will be placed into Aftercare.

The College offers an After School Care program for students in Years 2-6. The program is run by Extend's professional educators and offers a blend of games, educational activities and afternoon tea.

The program is held within the Primary School, running from Monday – Thursday between 3.45 pm – 6.00 pm.

Fees for this service are \$33.51 per session (early bird rate, booked 14 days before), per child. Bialik College families typically would receive a \$10 - \$15 Government Child Care Subsidy (CCS) rebate based on family income and number of children attending.

After School Care can be booked up until 10 minutes before the start time however we encourage early bookings for more economical rates.

We strongly recommend that all families register with the platform even if you don't believe you'll use the service. This will allow for last minute bookings to be made as required as registration approvals may not be instant.

Information on how to register and the service more generally can be found at extend.com.au or by calling Extend on 1300 366 437.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- Punctuality: the school day begins at 8:30am. Please ensure that your child arrives on time each morning. Each morning the children line up in their assigned areas. Children who come late to class or assembly (line-up) often miss important announcements. These late arrivals also disrupt the flow of the class. Children who arrive late are required to report to Main Reception before attending class.
- Sunhats: Bialik College is a SunSmart school and therefore, each child must wear their Bialik hat whenever outdoors, especially during Terms 1 and 4. Baseball caps are unacceptable, as they do not offer sufficient protection from the sun.
- Excursions: Permission forms for excursions and camps are sent electronically.
- Lunches: We have one recess and one lunch break each day. Please send healthy food in your child's lunchbox. In Term 1 an extra piece of fruit is suggested. We also encourage the children to bring 'nude food', without wrappers, to preserve our environment. The 'shuk' has a fabulous online

ordering system which will allay any concerns about lost orders in bags or coins falling out. Please go to www.flexischools.com.au to order lunch on-line for your child.

- The use of energy drinks is strongly discouraged and drinks with infused/added contents i.e. caffeine etc. are not permitted on school grounds, on excursions or camps or at College events and activities.
- Meeting with teachers: The end of the day is not a suitable time to speak to teachers as they have a commitment of two after-school meetings every week as well as planning with their colleagues. If you need to talk to a teacher, please email the teacher concerned and he/she will make a suitable time to meet with you.
- After school pick-up arrangements: Parents should make a regular meeting spot with their child and give their child a back-up plan for those occasions when they are unable to pick them up. This gives children responsibility and the security of knowing what they should do. Parents are requested to make transport arrangements with their children prior to the commencement of the school day and to contact the College office with respect to changes in such arrangements only when essential. A phone call to Reception is advisable as teachers do not check their emails during class times.
- Early departure from School: In the event that your child needs to leave school early, before the end of the school day, please email your child's homeroom teacher, the Primary Office and Main Reception advising the day, date, time and location where they will be met by their parent/carer. Primary students will not be allowed to leave the school grounds on their own, they must be met at one of the following locations; Main or ELC Reception, Auburn Road gate or Toorong Road gate.
- Birthday Party Invitations: Please distribute birthday party invitations within the classroom only if the whole class has been invited.
- Birthday parties/performances/sports carnivals: Please note that as it is very disruptive, students are not permitted to leave their class during the course of the school day to be part of a sibling's celebration, performance or sports carnival.

MIDDLE SCHOOL (YEARS 6-9)

As students transition from the solo care of one homeroom teacher towards specialised subject teachers, our Middle School creates a dynamic environment where students are both extended and supported through this change. We encourage students to take more responsibility for their learning as they progress from Year 6 through to Year 9.

Whilst Year 7 is a year when Bialik College welcomes significant numbers of new students, entry to Middle School at Bialik starts at Year 6.

Bialik College has a vision of the developing Middle School child, who is brave enough to try new things, willing to take advantage of broad opportunities and become an upstander for themselves, their peers and their community. The middle years are a time for exploration and discovering new interests and passions through a wide range of electives and co-curricular choices.

The College recognises that adolescence is a period of incredible personal and social change and makes the pastoral care program a priority during these year levels. The atmosphere of community and support is a function that is particularly supported by the Year Level Coordinators.

The Middle School curriculum is deliberately flexible, enabling students the time to explore topics deeply and to take more responsibility for their learning as they progress from Year 6 through to Year 9.

Students have an increasingly wide array of curricular choices - from languages to the Arts, as well as the internationally recognised The Duke of Edinburgh International Award in which students learn a skill, improve their physical wellbeing, volunteer in their community and experience a team adventure in a new environment.

The Middle School relies on all teaching staff to be responsible for the pastoral care of its students. However, this function is directly supported by our Homeroom teachers, Year Level Coordinators, School Counsellors & Psychologists, our Student Services Department and our Health and Wellbeing Team.



HEADS OF MIDDLE SCHOOL

EMILY DONALDSON

E: donale@bialik.vic.edu.au

The Head of the Middle School is responsible for the proper conduct, management and development of the Middle School. The Head of Middle School supports the College Principal in leading, managing and developing the College's educational philosophy and strategic vision.

MIDDLE SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION / ASSISTANT TO HEAD OF MIDDLE SCHOOL

RHONDA NUSSBAUM

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YEAR 6 COORDINATOR

TOBY MAC

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YEAR 7 COORDINATOR

LEE HOWARD

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YEAR 8 COORDINATOR

ANGIE CARSON

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YEAR 9 COORDINATOR

KAREN GLANC

E: glacnka@bialik.vic.edu.au



THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S INTERNATIONAL AWARD COORDINATOR

GARY BRAND

E: brandg@bialik.vic.edu.au

MIDDLE SCHOOL CAMPS

Year 6 - Canberra

Year 6 students travel to Canberra to participate in a range of activities that supplement their Civics and Citizenship unit of learning in Term 3.

Year 7 – Phillip Island

In Year 7, students venture to beautiful Phillip Island. While on the camp, students participate in surfing, kayaking, art, indigenous activities stand up paddle boarding and hiking.

Year 8 – Mt Buller

From the coast in Year 7 to the mountains in Year 8. Students visit Mt Buller where they are challenged with mountain biking, hiking, outdoor camping and cooking skills. This camp also has a strong Indigenous focus as well as community building, leadership and wellbeing.

Year 9 - Entrepreneurship Week

In Term 4 our Year 9 students experience Entrepreneurship Week, where they visit the Melbourne CBD, Creative Cubes in Richmond and other Start Up Businesses in Cremorne. The aims of Entrepreneurship include students:

- Developing a taste of independence and responsibility as they visit a series of different businesses
- Gaining a sense of pride as they hear from a number of Start-up CEO's
- Working cooperatively as a member of a team in order to build a business proposal
- Thinking creatively to problem solve with their groups in order to pitch to Business Leaders on the final day

In Term 3 students attend the Zionist Seminar which is a unique opportunity specific to the Year 9 Bialik experience. The seminar is a five-night immersion experience, including Shabbat, exploring the students' Zionist identity and issues facing Israel today. The College brings out a team of Madrichim (leaders) from Israel specifically to run these seminars and bring this experience to life while strengthening the students' connection to Israel.

This seminar aims, through both educational and engaging programming, to further the students' knowledge, connection and open mindedness towards Israel. Additionally, as this is the year level's first extended Jewish educational immersion experience, it is also a unique bonding opportunity for the cohort.

MIDDLE SCHOOL CURRICULUM

YEARS 6 AND 7

The core curriculum includes Humanities, English, Hebrew, Jewish Studies, Maths, Science, Sport, Health & Physical Education and Digital Technology. Additionally, in Year 6 Art, Drama and Music are also compulsory subjects.

The Year 6 curriculum also includes the specialised 'Learning to Learn' Transition Program which assists students with a wide range of developmental skills including social and emotional learning, academic skills and general life lessons.

At Year 7, the curriculum offers a broader choice of subjects with students choosing two electives from Art, Drama, French, Economics & Business, Music, Digital Technology, and Health & Physical Education. Students must include at least one semester of either Art, Music or Drama.

Year 7 students are also afforded the opportunity to select another elective through the Bnei Mitzvah Program.

Both year levels also have fortnightly Health and Wellbeing sessions run through their homeroom program as well as standalone Health and Wellbeing intensives three times per term.

Year 6 and 7 students may also choose to participate in the 'Heb J' program where students undertake their Jewish Studies in Hebrew (in addition to their regular Hebrew lessons).

The Middle School Teacher Librarian works closely with classroom teachers to provide print and digital resources that support the curriculum and develop information literacy (research) skills as well as fostering a love of reading.

STUDENT ORGANISATION

Another element to Years 6 and 7 is the support towards their organisational skills. Gary Brand, Classroom Support Teacher, works with these year levels to help students with:

- Locker organisation
- Preparation for classes
- Correct use of Compass [to access information such as home learning]

Though available for 1:1 support if needed, Gary approaches each class, working with students to develop organisational skills for school, which of course become vital as they move up through the school.

1:1 LAPTOP PROGRAM

All students in Middle School require a laptop, either school purchased, or BYOD [bring your own device] that meets the school's minimum specifications. In order to best support students, teachers are trained in the use of PCs and we therefore recommend PCs are used by students.

Where available, students have the opportunity to purchase some of their textbooks electronically, which saves having to carry heavy textbooks.

YEARS 8 AND 9

A broad and comprehensive curriculum is offered, providing a sound foundation in General and Jewish Studies.

In Year 8 the following are compulsory core subjects: English, Hebrew, Jewish Studies, Humanities, Mathematics, Science, Sport and Health and Physical Education. The curriculum also includes study, organisational and leadership skills. In addition, students choose two electives from the following subjects: Art, Drama, Film and Literature, STEM, French, Music, Learning Essentials, Economics and Business, Digital Technology and Health and Physical Education.

Students in Year 9 are required to undertake the same compulsory core study subjects as those in Year 8. The change for students is their choice in the study of Hebrew. Year 9 students are afforded the opportunity to develop their Hebrew language skills through a pre-VCE/VET Hebrew Program or select an alternative 'Secret History of the Jews' or 'Secret History of Hebrew' subject. Students also choose electives - a choice from Art, French, Music, Drama, Digital Technologies, Learning Essentials, LEAP (Commerce, Legal Studies and Economics), Media, and Physical Education. Students in both Years 8 and 9 partake in The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award which provides opportunities to develop a holistic child in a diverse range of non-classroom based learning activities.

Learning Essentials

Learning Essentials is offered to students in Years 8 and 9 as an elective. Students who would benefit most from this elective are those whose overall English skills are well below their year level [usually evident in poor results in most language based subjects], or well below the level of their skills in other subjects. Learning Essentials is skill based, aiming to build grammar, punctuation, writing, comprehension, vocabulary and spelling skills with individual students.

YEARS 8 AND 9: THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S INTERNATIONAL AWARD – AUSTRALIA

The Duke of Edinburgh Award is a prestigious award recognised internationally by renowned employers and Universities. Year 8 and 9 students are scheduled 2 hours each Friday afternoon to support them in the achievement of the award. A wide range of electives create opportunities for students to complete the four sections of the Bronze award – Voluntary Service, Physical Recreation, Skills and their Adventurous Journey.

Electives may include:

1. Aquatics Extravaganza [Terms 1 and 4]
2. Extreme Sports [Terms 2 and 3]
3. Start-up incubator
4. Bialik Cafe & barista training
5. Robotics
6. Photography & ceramics
7. Podcasting
8. DJing
9. Cooking for a cause
10. Trade school
11. Real Estate

Voluntary placements may include:

1. Challah for Hunger
2. Emmy Monash
3. Big Brother / Big Sister BCC, ELC & Primary School Mentorship
4. The Posh Opp Shoppe
5. The Shuk

MIDDLE SCHOOL: HEALTH & WELLBEING PROGRAM

The Health and Wellbeing Program explores a wide range of targeted age-appropriate activities to assist students in their social and emotional development at each stage of their Middle School journey. The program seeks to develop key skills and dispositions helping student become caring and well-rounded Menchen.

Some topics covered are:

- Growing up digital
- Sexuality Education
- Dealing with anxiety and stress
- Cooking
- Yoga
- Self-Awareness
- Nutrition
- Self defence
- Respectful relationships

Our Year 8 and 9 students have a slightly different focus for their age group which includes:

- Study habits and exam preparation [Year 9]
- Study habits [Year 8]
- Sex Education
- Cyber safety
- Cooking
- Respectful relationships
- Yoga
- Self-Awareness
- Nutrition
- Self defence
- Hip Hop

Identity and sexual Education is handled sensitively and honestly, with boys' and girls' sessions often taken separately.

SENIOR SCHOOL (YEARS 10-12)

The Senior School is, for most students, primarily about making choices and identifying pathways for their future. Bialik helps its students choose appropriate career and learning pathways, while reminding them through structured and informal activities that there is more to life than their VCE ATAR scores.

Bialik's staff help students make wise choices to deliver optimum results, not just in terms of the ATAR score but, more importantly, for their life direction and personal goals. The educational journey in Bialik's senior years also incorporates the expertise of a Careers Coordinator who helps our students choose future career and learning pathways and life directions.



VICE PRINCIPAL & HEAD OF SENIOR SCHOOL

GARY VELLEMAN

E: velleg@bialik.vic.edu.au

The Head of Senior School is responsible for the proper conduct, management and development of the Senior School. The Head of Senior School supports the College Principal to lead, manage and develop the College's educational philosophy and strategic vision.



SENIOR SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION / ASSISTANT TO GARY VELLEMAN

SHELLEY CAMERON

E: camers@bialik.vic.edu.au



VCE, VET & YEAR 12 COORDINATOR

JUSTINE SMITH

E: smithj@bialik.vic.edu.au

The VCE Coordinator is responsible for the management and administration of all aspects of the College's VCE program including enrolment, assessment, monitoring and ensuring that VCAA regulations and requirements are met.



YEAR 11 COORDINATOR

MELANIE FLEMING

E: flemim@bialik.vic.edu.au



YEAR 10 COORDINATOR

JOSH KOLSKI

E: kolskj@bialik.vic.edu.au



CAREERS COUNSELLORS

JENI RITTERMAN

E: rittej@bialik.vic.edu.au

The Careers Counsellors are responsible for the effective provision of career development programs and counselling by advising individuals and groups about career choices and assists individuals with self-development. The Careers Counsellors are concerned with the development of knowledge, skills and attitudes through learning experiences that help students make informed decisions about school and post-school options and enable effective participation in working life.



LINDY LIFSZYC

E: lifszl@bialik.vic.edu.au

SENIOR SCHOOL: INFORMAL JEWISH EDUCATION

Informal Jewish education at Bialik College is centred in the Mifgash, which itself is located at the very centre of the school. It creates opportunities for students to come together to participate in the rich tapestry of Jewish Life at the College.

Students are encouraged to spend time in the Mifgash at recess and lunchtime where they can participate in a variety of engaging Jewish Life activities with the informal educators. Each Friday morning Tefillah services are led by our Year 12 Mazkirut (student leaders). The Mifgash truly comes into its own during Jewish festivals when all our students partake in engaging, fun and educational activities, as well as meaningful commemorations.

Students also will enjoy a Whole School Kabbalat Shabbat experience once a term where the entire school from BCC to Year 12 gathers in the amphitheatre to celebrate Shabbat and chaggim together a kehilla (community). The Informal team also run a whole year level mini Shabbaton at Years 5, 6, 10 and 11 where students can experience a traditional Shabbat Shule service and dinner integrated with values driven Informal activities.

In Year 10, all students participate in the ADVA (Leadership) program.

Each fortnight, our Informal Education Staff run interactive, hands-on lessons for our Year 11 classes that focus on social issues and Israel and Jewish education, providing them with the tools and knowledge they need to make their own informed choices about their Jewish practices, connection to Israel and personal identity. Students are afforded the opportunity to participate in an Interfaith Program, Harmony Dialogues, which is an after-school program which enables students to meet, engage with, learn and befriend students from various religions from other schools.

All Year 12 students are afforded the opportunity to participate in the Year 12 Student Leadership Program (Mazkirut). This program gives students the opportunity to become leaders at Bialik College, enabling them to play an active role in the future of our school, whilst at the same time empowering them with the necessary leadership skills for life after VCE. Students are members of the Mazkirut for the duration of the Jewish year, from the end of Term Three through to the end of Term Three the following year. Mazkirut are allocated to portfolios, enabling them to take responsibility in their specific field of excellence or passion, whilst collectively and positively influencing the character and culture of the whole school.

Two additional immersion experiences are provided for the College's senior students by the Informal Jewish Education Department: Chavayah (Year 10 Israel Trip) and Autonomy Seminar for our Year 12 students. On the Chavayah Program, our Year 10 students travel to Israel for several weeks to live and explore the Jewish homeland and their own Zionist identity together with their classmates. This is a special time for students to build strong life-long connections to Israel through immersive experiences learning about its rich history, people, landscape and thriving culture. Autonomy Seminar focuses on the students' movement 'towards autonomy' in their lives after school, exploring beliefs, passions, Jewish identity and personal growth and development beyond the gates of Bialik College. An additional objective is to equip students with skills they can use for a successful transition from Year 12 to life thereafter.

SENIOR SCHOOL: SPORT

Students participate in two hours of activity per week. Sport is compulsory for Years 10 and 11 students and optional for Year 12 students. Each student is placed in a team during Terms 1, 2 and 3 where they compete in the EISM Interschool Sport competition.

Term Foci:

Term 1 Athletics Carnival

- Inter-school Swimming
- EISM Inter-School Sport Competition

Term 2 EISM Inter-school Athletics carnival

- EISM Inter-school Sport Competition

Term 3 Inter-house Cross Country

- EISM Inter-school Cross Country
- Snow Skiing
- EISM Inter-school Sport Competition

Term 4 Inter-House Sport Competition

Ongoing:

- Sport Academy comprising of Swimming, Running, Cross Country, Athletics, Fitness, Triathlon and Competitive Sport Monday – Friday 7am-8am.

SENIOR SCHOOL: CAMP

Year 11 – Lord Somers Camp

Outdoor Ed based (Stand-up Paddle Boarding, Surfing, Snorkelling, Kayaking, Hiking, Environmental and Indigenous Activities, Quidditch, Screen printing)

1:1 LAPTOP PROGRAM

All students from Year 5 on require a Windows laptop, either school purchased, or BYOD [bring your own device] that meets the school's minimum specifications. All details of our Laptop Program can be found [here](#).

Where available, students may purchase some of their textbooks electronically, negating the need to carry heavy textbooks.

YEAR 10 CORE / ELECTIVE SUBJECTS 2026

CORE (COMPULSORY) SUBJECTS

SUBJECTS	PERIODS PER CYCLE
English	8
Hebrew/Israel Connections	6
Jewish Studies	6
Mathematics	8
Science	6
Sport	4
Hadracha	2
Skills for Life	1

HEBREW / ISRAEL CONNECTIONS

Select (✓) one of the following Hebrew-content subjects	
Hebrew Units 1 & 2 (VCE 1 & 2)	Full Year
# Hebrew VET Applied Language Units 1&2	Full Year
Israel through Film Israel through Music	Single Semester Subjects

ELECTIVE SUBJECTS*

VCE BLOCK Choose ONE subject		PERIODS PER CYCLE
Business Management Units 1 & 2		8
Economics Units 1 & 2		
Modern History Units 1 & 2		
Psychology Units 1 & 2		
Religion & Society Units 1 & 2		
Visual Communication Design Units 1 & 2		
SEMESTER 1 Choose TWO subjects	SEMESTER 2 Choose TWO subjects	PERIODS PER CYCLE
Art	Art	5
Commerce	Commerce	
Drama	Drama	
French	French	
Health & Physical Education	Health & Physical Education	
History	History	
Literature	Literature	
Media	Media	
Music	Music	

This subject is offered in school but under the auspices of an external RTO.

- Students **must** select a History-content subject.
- Students may change their VCE Block elective at the end of Semester One if timetable and prerequisites permit.
- **PLEASE NOTE:** The College runs a Learning Essentials class, a small group-learning environment that supports students experiencing significant challenges with mainstream courses. Based on student profile, access to Learning Essentials is by direction, recommendation and invitation and classes run in lieu of the VCE elective.

VCE SUBJECTS OFFERED

UNITS 1 & 2	UNITS 3 & 4
Accounting	Accounting
Art Creative Practice	Art Creative Practice
Biology	Biology
*Business Management	Business Management
Chemistry	Chemistry
*Economics	Economics
English	English
	English as an Additional language (EAL)
French	French
	Health & Human Development
Hebrew	Hebrew <i>Jewish Content Subject</i>
	Hebrew: Tertiary (UMEP)
	# Hebrew: VET Applied Language <i>Jewish Content Subject</i>
*Modern History	History: Revolutions
Legal Studies	Legal Studies
Literature	Literature
Mathematics: General	Mathematics: General
Mathematics: Methods (CAS)	Mathematics: Methods (CAS)
Mathematics: Specialist	Mathematics: Specialist
Media	Media
Music Performance	Music Performance (Solo/Group)
Physical Education	Physical Education
Physics	Physics
Politics <i>Jewish Content Subject</i>	
*Psychology	Psychology
*Religion and Society <i>Jewish Content Subject</i>	Religion and Society <i>Jewish Content Subject</i>
Theatre Studies	Theatre Studies
*Visual Communication Design	Visual Communication Design

* Indicates subjects running in the same block, i.e. Year 11 students may only choose one of these subjects.

Please note that the number of enrolments for a subject will determine whether or not a subject will be offered.

Hebrew: VET Applied Language Units 3 & 4 (Certificate III in Applied Language 11074NAT) is offered in school but under the auspices of an external RTO. Upon satisfactory completion of all requirements of this course, students will attain AQF certified documentation. This course is delivered through Ripponlea Institute (RTO 21230).



VCE class numbers:

At Units 3/4 level, the College applies a cap on class numbers to optimise the learning opportunities for students. Once reached, the College may explore the viability of introducing another stream. Factors to be

considered include budgetary and timetabling constraints and the availability and capacity of staff. In the event a subject is fully subscribed, students may add their name to a waiting list (should a place become available due to movement out of a fully subscribed class), remain in their current class, or change into another subject (or class).

Where more than one stream of any class runs:

- VCE Units 3/4 class sizes are capped at 24 students
- VCE Units 1/2 class sizes are capped at 28 students other than in English, where the cap sits at 26 students per stream.


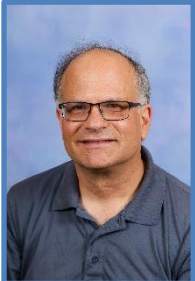

THE EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM

There are several distinctive features of the education program provided by Bialik College. These include:

- Imparting content and skills necessary for students to study and learn independently
- The provision of small and informal learning groups
- Close monitoring of each student's progress
- The provision of a variety of special programs designed to cater to the varied needs of our students
- The promotion of student participation in learning programs and special events
- Concentration on the development of individual responsibility and initiative

JEWISH LIFE

Bialik College strives to stimulate, enhance, and engage the cultural and spiritual life of our students inside and outside the classroom through a vast array of both formal and informal learning experiences which take place each day in our school community.

	<p>ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL & DIRECTOR OF JEWISH LIFE</p> <p>AMANDA CASTELAN-STARR</p> <p>E: castea@bialik.vic.edu.au</p> <p>The responsibility of the Director of Jewish Life is to oversee the Jewish and Zionist ethos of the College. The office of Jewish Life combines the Hebrew, Jewish Studies and Informal Jewish Education departments, ensuring a rich tapestry of Jewish life is afforded to all students.</p>
	<p>JEWISH LIFE ADMINISTRATION / ASSISTANT TO DIRECTOR OF JEWISH LIFE</p> <p>E: jlc@bialik.vic.edu.au</p>
	<p>HEAD OF JEWISH STUDIES (SECONDARY)</p> <p>BRYAN CONYER</p> <p>E: conyeb@bialik.vic.edu.au</p>
	<p>HEAD OF HEBREW (SECONDARY)</p> <p>ANAT TOBIAS</p> <p>E: tobiaa@bialik.vic.edu.au</p>



HEAD OF HEBREW & JEWISH STUDIES (PRIMARY AND EARLY LEARNING CENTRE)

TALI BARR-WAANDERS

E: barrwt@bialik.vic.edu.au

HEBREW

Hebrew is taught at all levels from Prep to Year 12. The Hebrew curriculum in the early years is based on the TaLAM and Chaverim B'Ivrit programs. In the Middle Years, the curriculum is based on the CET programs (Centre for Educational Technology). At Year 9 and 10 students participate in formal Hebrew classes and/or a range of Israel Studies electives. The Senior School offers VCE Hebrew, VET Hebrew and Tertiary Hebrew Studies. The primary goal of the program is communicative competence in the Hebrew language.

BILINGUAL-IMMERSION PROGRAM

A Bilingual Hebrew Immersion program operates in Years 4 and 5 at Primary School level. Key features of the program include:

- Sustained and enriched instruction through Hebrew while the English language is also promoted
- Subject area instruction through Hebrew occurs for most of the school day
- Teachers are fully proficient in Hebrew
- Clear and sustained separation of languages during instructional time

The Bilingual Immersion program aims not only to meet the needs of bilingual students but also to introduce students from a monolingual background to another diverse culture and language, providing students with the opportunity to take advantage of the linguistic and cultural diversity of the two cultures.

Further, in Years 6 & 7, the optional Heb-J program facilitates the instruction of Jewish Studies classes in Hebrew. The course follows the same curriculum as the mainstream Jewish Studies' classes yet provides students with the opportunity to spend more of the school day immersed in Hebrew language.

JEWISH STUDIES

Jewish Studies is divided into subject areas which include:

BNEI MITZVAH

A special program has been designed for students of Bar and Bat-Mitzvah age as part of the Jewish Studies syllabus in Year 7. This learning program emphasises community responsibility and social action, as well as acquainting students with the practicalities of performing mitzvot. Part of the program involves the presentation of a Bnei Mitzvah ceremony as well as completion of an individual family roots project.

Bar-and Bat-Mitzvah lessons are offered free of charge as part of the College's Jewish Studies' program. Before a child's Bar or Bat-Mitzvah, parents will receive a letter requesting details of the date and Torah portion. Even if parents choose not to utilise the services of the school, the completed form should be

returned. It is the responsibility of parents to make the appropriate arrangements with their synagogue and to confirm the arrangements before completing the form. The College should also be informed about special requirements of individual synagogues.

Students may be in Years 5-8 when preparing for their simcha. Students are withdrawn from class once a week, on a rotational basis. The students are taught the *Maftir* and *Haftarah* plus any additional texts or prayers required by individual synagogues. Following each lesson, work is set to be completed for the next lesson.

The College has a registry for Bar & Bat Mitzvah celebrations to help avoid double booking events. Please email communications@bialik.vic.edu.au.

ELECTIVE AND SPECIALIST AREAS OF JEWISH STUDIES

At both Year 11 and Year 12 levels, students may enrol for VCE courses in Religion and Society. Year 12 students have sessions from time to time in contemporary Jewish issues. The Year 11 Global Politics course, a VCE subject, focuses on modern Israel studies and the contemporary Jewish world. In Year 9, students are afforded the opportunity to choose their own Jewish Studies pathway through electives in both Semester one and two.

ISRAEL

A study of all the aspects of the country, which includes its geography, people, culture, history, society and politics. Bialik College prides itself on its modern approach to Israel education, which encourages both a love for and understanding of the complexities of modern society in Israel.

JEWISH HISTORY

A chronological and thematic study of Jewish history from ancient times to the contemporary period. This includes a study of ancient Israel, the changing faces of Zionism, Shoah (Holocaust), History of Antisemitism, the Establishment of Modern Israel and the story of our diverse Jewish communities.

SHABBAT, FESTIVALS AND NATIONAL EVENTS

The central prayers of the siddur are integral to the Jewish Studies' curriculum. On Fridays a model Kabbalat Shabbat program is held in each early learning and Primary class. Every festival receives special attention. The students learn about the festivals and celebrate these events. National and indigenous events are similarly observed.

In the Primary School, once a cycle, the Primary students participate in a communal Shabbat assembly. The children take it in turns to lead the blessing over the challah and wine and to light the candles. These festive Shabbat assemblies give children the opportunity to have a shared experience with students across other year levels. In addition, students in Years 2 and 3 have a combined assembly as do the students in Years 4 and 5. Throughout Middle and Senior School, students participate in both Tefillah and Kabbalat Shabbat activities. These provide our students with the Jewish literacy required to participate in Jewish communal life and to make informed choices about their own Jewish practice.

Our Year 12 Mazkirut (student leadership team) facilitate an optional interactive morning tefillah service each Friday in our Mifgash for all students and staff from Kindergarten to Year 12.

The Informal Jewish Education department facilitates a number of Shabbat dinners for a range of year levels across the school. This wonderful cross-communal environment allows students to practise the rituals of Shabbat and Havdallah while exploring the meaning of Shabbat.

For students in Years 9–12, Shabbat is also experienced via a range of school camps, which similarly allows for our pluralist exploration of the meaning of Shabbat.

JEWISH TEXTS AND JEWISH VALUES

The narratives and ethical teachings of the Torah and other Jewish texts are introduced into the curriculum at all levels. Jewish values are taught as part of the course at both Primary and Secondary levels.

Students study a range of Jewish texts and develop traditional textual analysis skills required to obtain a deeper understanding of the Jewish ethics and values within these texts. In primary school, students study a range of biblical texts primarily from the Book of Bereshit. In middle school students study texts from the Tanach, including Megillat Ruth, Yonah, Lech Lecha, Vayera and Shemot. Students are also introduced to passages from the Mishna and Talmud, and more contemporary Jewish writings. In addition, correlating with our Year 7 Bnei Mitzvah curriculum, our students study elements of Pirkei Avot (Jewish Ethics).

The values of Tikkun Olam (perfecting the world) and Chesed (kindness) are entrenched in the curriculum throughout the College. Focus is placed on both the Jewish and wider communities.

The College enjoys an ongoing and collaborative relationship with the Melton Centre for Jewish Education at the Hebrew University, Jerusalem, focusing on areas of professional and curriculum development.

INFORMAL EDUCATION

Our Informal Jewish Educators add a vital component to Jewish life at Bialik. This enthusiastic team deals with areas such as Jewish literacy, lifestyle and peoplehood. Through topics such as; values, leadership, community involvement and personal development, our students experience a diversity of highly interactive activities presented in a dynamic and exciting manner. Informal Education classes, called Masei Chaim or 'Mach' for short, are held fortnightly for students in Years 5 – 11.

CHAVAYAH

As part of the Year 10 program, all students travel to Israel for an immersive multi week program. In Israel, the students study Jewish History, travel throughout Israel, and meet Israeli high school students. This initiative is aimed at shaping the students' Jewish identity and love for Israel and thereby impacting positively on the wider Jewish community for generations to come.

Limited means-tested subsidies are available for Chavayah by application, contingent on the student securing contributions from their family and their own paid work. However, no subsidy can be offered if a student has travelled overseas in the 18 months prior to Chavayah or plans to travel overseas in the 18 months after their return.

MIFGASH – THE CENTRE FOR JEWISH LIFE

The Mifgash (Centre for Jewish Life) was established at the College in 2011 and heralded a new era in Bialik's Jewish and Israel education. The Mifgash provides a dynamic experiential and interactive environment in which the Jewish identity of the Bialik community can grow and develop. The aim is to deepen our students' relationship with Israel, help them develop leadership potential, foster Jewish artistic, cultural and musical initiatives, and provide support for various Jewish cultural, traditional and religious needs.

Through experiential education and interactive learning, the Mifgash enables students to explore their heritage and develop their own individual Jewish identity. Chaggim, commemorative and celebratory days, the Bnei Mitzvah and other related programs are coordinated by the Informal Jewish Education Department.

PARTNERSHIP 2GETHER PROGRAM WITH ISRAELI STUDENTS



Each year a group of students from the Arava area of Israel visit our school and are billeted with Year 10 Bialik students for a fortnight. This program has operated for over 20-years under the combined auspices of the United Israel Appeal, the Jewish National Fund and now the Zionist Federation of Australia, which links Australian Jewry with communities in the Arava region. Bialik students participating in the Year 10 Chavayah program are able to spend time with our partners in the Arava as a part of fostering this reciprocal relationship.

TEACHING AND LEARNING

Bialik's approach to teaching and learning fosters independent learners, whose curiosity and creativity is nurtured through a diverse range of curriculum and co-curricular offerings. Our curriculum is underpinned by our Jewish identity, the Victorian Curriculum, and our research project *Cultures of Thinking*; developed in collaboration with Harvard's Graduate School of Education Project Zero team.

Students in our Junior Primary School are inspired by the Reggio Emilia Approach where they learn through the *hundred languages*. As students progress through the Primary, Middle and Senior Years they continue to acquire deep knowledge, skills and understandings across multiple learning areas, opening a multitude of pathways to be explored through our diverse subject offerings.

In their learning, students are encouraged to adopt the school motto *Step Forth with Courage*. This motto encourages students to rigorously pursue their interests, think critically and engage in the world with ethical understanding. Their learning is also supported by evidence-based teaching practices, individualised learning, and diverse learning support. Our holistic approach to education is also supported by our continuous assessment and reporting framework; a framework that allows greater connectivity in supporting the student from the perspective of the teacher and the parents.

	<p>ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL / DIRECTOR OF LEARNING</p> <p>MICHAELA STRANG</p> <p>E: stranm@bialik.vic.edu.au</p> <p>The Assistant Principal-Director of Learning leads and manages the development, implementation and evaluation of the schools' curriculum, its assessment and quality control and the professional development of staff, to enable its successful implementation.</p> <p>The Assistant Principal- Director of Learning enculturates the Cultures of Thinking pedagogy by making thinking visible and fostering thinking dispositions in our students.</p>
	<p>HEAD OF THE ROSENKRANZ CENTRE, CULTURES OF THINKING AND RESEARCH</p> <p>CAITLIN FAIMAN</p> <p>E: faimac@bialik.vic.edu.au</p> <p>The Head of the Rosenkranz Centre, Cultures of Thinking and Research is primary responsibility is for t the College's diverse enrichment and extension programs for high-ability students from Kindergarten to Year 12, in addition to sourcing and providing enrichment opportunities offered to students throughout the school. The Head of the Rosenkranz Centre, Cultures of Thinking and Research leads educational excellence through pedagogical practices, rigorous academic research, and strategic tertiary partnerships.</p>



STUDENT SERVICES COORDINATOR

DEBORAH ZYLBERSTEIN-REED

E: reedd@bialik.vic.edu.au

The Student Services Coordinator is responsible for ensuring our students' needs (academic, social, cultural) are met and for overseeing the programs for students with disabilities from Kindergarten to Year 12. The Student Services Coordinator, together with a team of integration aides and special educators, provides classroom, small group and 1:1 support to students with identified learning needs.

YEARS 2-5

Subject areas covered include Hebrew, Jewish Studies, Mathematics, Language, Humanities, Science, Physical Education, Sport, Art, Creative Technology and Music.

The curriculum is organised in integrated units to enhance understanding of the relationship between subject areas. Home Learning - reading and learning of tables are non-negotiable requirements for home learning. Teachers expect tasks to be completed at home on an as-needed basis or at the teacher's request.

YEARS 6 AND 7

In Years 6 - 7 students study core subjects including Hebrew, Jewish Studies, English, Health, Humanities, Informal Studies, Mathematics, Physical Education, Science, and Sport.

The Year 7 curriculum offers a broader choice of subjects; students choose two electives from the following domains: Art, Drama, Digital Technology, French and Music.

YEARS 8 AND 9

A broad and comprehensive curriculum is offered, providing a sound foundation in General and Jewish Studies.

In Years 8 and 9, the following subjects are core: Hebrew, Jewish Studies, English, Humanities, Informal Studies, Mathematics, Science and Sport. The curriculum also includes elective offerings from the following learning areas: The Arts- Drama, Art, Music, and Media; Digital Technology; French, Economics and Business; and Physical Education. Students also participate in the Duke of Edinburgh Program which provides opportunities to develop skills in a diverse range of non-classroom-based learning activities.

YEARS 10-12

Year 10 students undertake the following compulsory subjects: English, Hebrew or Connections with Israel, Jewish Studies, History, Mathematics, Science and Sport. Study, organisational and leadership skills are also integral to the curriculum. Students are also required to select elective subjects – one from several VCE Units 1 & 2 subjects and two from another suite of subjects.

In the latter part of Year 10, students are required to make subject choices for Year 11. They are assisted in making their choices through the College's intensive careers' program and are required to select their subjects in accordance with the prescriptive delineated by the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority (VCAA) which has responsibility for the Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE).

In Years 11 and 12, students are encouraged to undertake a balanced course of study. The following VCE subjects are generally available to Year 11 and/or Year 12 students: Accounting, Biology, Business Management, Chemistry, Drama, Economics, English, French, Global Politics, Health and Human

Development, Hebrew, History, Legal Studies, Literature, Further Mathematics, General Mathematics, Mathematical Methods, Specialist Mathematics, Media, Music Performance, Physical Education, Physics, Psychology, Religion and Society, Studio Arts, Theatre Studies, Visual Communication Design. English or Literature **and** either Religion and Society Units 1 -4, Hebrew (or VET Hebrew) Units 1 -4 or Global Politics Units 1 & 2 **are compulsory** subjects for Year 11 students. English or Literature is compulsory for Year 12 students.

Eight periods are allocated to each subject in Year 11, and nine periods to all Year 12 subjects, over a ten-day cycle. The College supports approved Tertiary (Enhancement) studies in Hebrew, Mathematics, Biology and Accounting. Subject offerings may change from year to year.

CULTURES OF THINKING

The Cultures of Thinking Project, sponsored by Bialik College in collaboration with Project Zero at the Harvard Graduate School of Education and under the patronage of Vera and Abe Dorevitch, commenced in 2005.

Project Zero's aim is to understand and enhance learning, thinking and creativity in the arts, as well as humanistic and scientific disciplines, at the individual and institutional levels. The Cultures of Thinking project focuses on further developing a school-wide culture that supports deep thinking and the development of thinking dispositions. It supports students in becoming more flexible and dynamic in their thinking and learning, develops critical and creative thinking and deeper engagement while also equipping students to become more comfortable in the face of ambiguity and uncertainty.

Teachers are provided with a unique opportunity to undertake professional development within a team environment, working with some of the world's leading educational thinkers on an ongoing basis over an extended period of time. Students are the ultimate beneficiaries of the project as it is focused on providing new strategies of learning to enrich their experience and develop thinking skills for their lives both within and beyond school.

THE HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS

The Physical Education program has been designed to provide an ongoing sequence of skill and motor development, considering the individual requirements and needs of growing students. The College takes particular care to offer activities which cater to all levels of skill. The Physical Education program has also been developed to take the interests of individual students into account.

THE SPORTS PROGRAM

The Sports Program operates from Year 4 onward. The program at Primary level aims to give students a firm grounding in the major sports. This is achieved by teaching students to play modified games, which involve practising all the required skills.

Years 7-12 student teams are selected on merit with the main objectives being that our students have maximum participation and representation of our College in meaningful sporting competition. All students have the opportunity to trial for a variety of sports and are placed in a team to represent the College. Training sessions occur weekly and run during the school day for the Middle School participants. As part of the EISM competition, all participants must wear the correct sporting attire as set out by the Sport Department. These items are compulsory for competitive matches, including mandated safety requirements like mouthguards. The College enjoys membership of the Kooyong District Sports' Association, the Eastern Independent Schools of Melbourne Sports' Association, and the Victorian Jewish Schools Sports Association.



DIRECTOR OF SPORT

MICK WHEELER

E: wheelm@bialik.vic.edu.au

YEAR 5/6 COMPETITION:

The Years 5 and 6 students compete in the Kooyong District Interschool Competition.

Girls: Winter: Netball, basketball, t-ball, soccer and cross country.

Summer: Athletics, swimming, softball, volleyball, hot shot tennis and kanga cricket.

Boys: Winter: Football, t-ball, soccer, cross country, basketball.

Summer: Athletics, swimming, cricket, t-ball, volleyball and hot shot tennis.

YEAR 7 SPORTS – Term 2

Girls: Badminton, Netball, Soccer, Hockey, Table Tennis

Boys: Badminton, Netball, Soccer, Hockey, Table Tennis

YEAR 7 SPORTS – Term 3

Girls: Indoor Cricket, Table Tennis, Volleyball, Football, Badminton

Boys: Indoor Cricket, Table Tennis, Volleyball, Football, Badminton

YEAR 7 SPORTS – Term 4

Girls: Basketball, Indoor Soccer, Softball, Tennis

Boys: Basketball, Indoor Soccer, Softball, Tennis

Senior Summer

Girls: Basketball, Soccer, Softball, Tennis, Table Tennis

Boys: Basketball, Soccer, Softball, Tennis, Hockey, Table Tennis.

Senior Winter

Girls: Badminton, Indoor Cricket, Volleyball, Netball, Football, IBoys: Badminton, Indoor Cricket, Volleyball, Netball, Football,

YEAR 8/9 SPORTS

Term 1

Girls: 5 A-Side Soccer, Soccer, Softball, Basketball

Boys: 5 A-Side Soccer, Soccer, Softball, Basketball

Term 2/3

Girl Indoor Soccer, Table Tennis, Ultimate Frisbee, Volleyball Football Boys Indoor Soccer, Table Tennis, Ultimate Frisbee, Volleyball Football

Term 4

Girls: Netball, Indoor Cricket, Badminton, Tennis

Boys: Netball Indoor Cricket, Badminton, Tennis,

Additional opportunities are also available in athletics, cross country, triathlon, snow sports, golf and surf lifesaving along with opportunities for EISM team representative selections. The school also offers an early morning Sport Academy for those students who are training for upcoming representative competitions.

ALLOCATION TO HOUSES

From Year 2, each child is placed in a House. Children from the same family are placed in the same House. The House names and colours are: Weizmann (green), Herzl (red), Szold (gold). The Houses have been named to commemorate famous personalities in modern Jewish history:

- Chaim WEIZMANN (1874-1952) – first President of the State of Israel
- Theodore HERZL (1860-1904) – father of modern Zionism
- Henrietta SZOLD (1860-1945) – founder of the Hadassah and Youth Aliyah movements

YEARS 2-12 SPORT: PERMISSION TO ATTEND

During the course of the school year, the Sport Department will hold several major and minor sporting events, both on and off campus. Some activities will be of a competitive nature, others recreational. Parents will be notified of these events via Compass or via class teachers.

Permission for your child's participation in these activities will be assumed unless the school is otherwise notified in writing. Because of the school's sporting commitments to several associations, it is imperative that we field full teams at every event. Please, therefore, do not make any medical, dental or other appointments for your child during Sport sessions.

OUTDOOR EDUCATION, CAMPS AND SEMINARS

Bialik College has developed a graduated camping program from Years 3 to 12 inclusive. The students spend up to a week in a residential or camp environment where emphasis is placed on developing skills related to personal development, camping, survival and the outdoors.

The camp program is designed to encourage the development of competence in new and challenging activities, self-confidence, leadership skills and an appreciation of the outdoor environment. From this the students move into situations where they are expected to be more self-reliant. Where possible, the class-based curriculum is integrated into the outdoor education program.


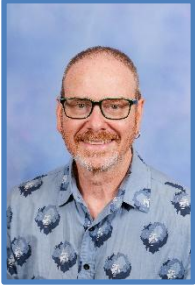
We hope that by the end of the program students will have developed a basic knowledge in a range of recreational and leisure-time activities.

All school year level camps are integral to the school's curriculum and attendance is compulsory.

Additional camps that are also made available to Bialik Middle and Senior School students include the Ski Camp and various leadership camps. Participation in these camps is dependent upon students being up-to-date on schoolwork and conducting themselves in keeping with the values of the College, as well as families being up-to-date with their fee account. Note that families receiving fee assistance should contact the Finance Office prior to making any commitment to the school or their child.

VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS

At Bialik, we believe that immersion and participation in the Arts connects people to culture, history and ideas. Through experience and practice in the Arts, our students can further articulate and express their understanding of their place within the world. A plethora of co-curricular activities that offer the opportunity for skill acquisition and development, as well as facilitating an appreciation of the Arts as a means of human expression, are available throughout the academic year.

	<p>DIRECTOR OF VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS DEBORAH FARAGO</p> <p>E: faragd@bialik.vic.edu.au</p>
	<p>HEAD OF MUSIC JULIAN DUBAND</p> <p>E: dubanj@bialik.vic.edu.au</p>
	<p>HEAD OF VISUAL ARTS</p> <p>TBC</p>

In the Arts, students are encouraged to discover opportunities beyond the classroom that extend and enrich the learning of skills and knowledge. Each discipline within the Visual and Performing Arts offers unique co-curricular opportunities for students, as outlined below.

SCHOOL MUSICAL

Musicals are a vehicle for students to display their creativity and performance ability on stage, as well as to develop their skills in stage production areas. The College offers students from Years 6 – 12 the opportunity

to participate in a school musical. Not only do students perform on stage, but they also can be involved behind the scenes and in the band. The musical is a collaboration between the Music and Drama departments and takes place biennially. Rehearsals take place outside school hours and the event is held at an external venue. This is a ticketed event.

ART AND DESIGN

The Art and Design Department offers students the opportunity to participate in a wide range of forward-thinking conceptual and practical art experiences. The Art stream allows students the opportunity to explore a range of methods including drawing, printmaking, painting, digital technologies, sculpture and ceramics, including wheel-formed pottery. The Design program focuses on the acquisition of design thinking and creating skills that cover a range of freehand and computer-based projects.

ART AND DESIGN EXHIBITIONS

Art and Design students can participate in several internal and external art exhibitions.

PRIMARY INSTALLATIONS

Students participate in a fully documented and presented unit of work completed by select primary levels.

YEAR 6-11 VISUAL ARTS SHOWCASE

A selection of students' work in progress is included in an exhibition in the Loti Smorgon Atrium that takes place in Term 4.

B'NEI B'RITH ANNUAL JEWISH YOUTH ART EXHIBITION

Exceptional students' work is selected for representation at this annual Jewish Youth Art Exhibition and Competition, held at the Glen Eira Town Hall.

ART & DESIGN GRADUATE SHOWCASE

An exhibition of student work and folios from VCE Units 3 and 4 for Studio Arts and Visual Communication and Design.

VCAA TOP ARTS / TOP DESIGNS

Bialik students' work is often selected for the prestigious VCAA Top Art and Top Design showcases.

DRAMA

The Drama department presents a range of performance showcases each year, varying in style and scale. Below are some examples of the performances that will be presented by Middle and Senior School students.

YEAR 9 AND 10 DRAMA PRESENTATION

Students enrolled in the Year 9 Drama Elective will have the opportunity to showcase their learning to both student and parent audiences at selected times of the year.

YEAR 8 DRAMA PRESENTATION

Students enrolled in the Year 8 Drama Elective class in Semester 2, study the performance genre of Melodrama. To showcase their learning in this theatrical style, the students present a Melodrama scripted play to other classes during the school day.

YEAR 7 ITALIAN NIGHT

Students enrolled in the Year 7 Drama Elective class in Semester 1, study the performance genre of Commedia dell' Arte. To showcase their learning in this theatrical style, the students present a Commedia scripted play in a theatre-restaurant inspired performance space for an audience of family and friends at the end of Semester 1.

YEAR 6 SHAKESPEARE PRESENTATION

The Year 6 Drama students present a Shakespeare presentation which takes place at the end of Semester 2. Parents are invited to attend this performance which showcases the students understanding of Shakespeare and the Elizabethan theatre style.

LUNCHTIME CLUBS

A range of clubs are offered at lunchtimes throughout the year. Each club has a different focus in terms of performance skills and styles. These clubs are designed to impart skills that help to prepare students for upcoming productions.

MEDIA

YEAR 6-11 VISUAL ARTS SHOWCASE

A selection of work from Media classes is included in an exhibition in the Loti Smorgon Atrium that takes place in Term 4.

MEDIA GRADUATE SHOWCASE

This showcase of student work selected from VCE Units 3 and 4 Media classes.

MUSIC

Bialik College provides a comprehensive music program that gives students the opportunity to develop skills, acquire knowledge, learn to appreciate music, and to perform in various ensembles throughout the year. Performances at concerts and soirées, assemblies, school and communal events, all aim to extend students' musical experience whilst nurturing their self-esteem and building their confidence as musicians. Our performance program includes Soirees and special events. To support these events a range of ensembles are offered outside class time as listed below:

AMAZON RHYTHMS

Amazon Rhythms is a percussion ensemble catering for more advanced and experienced students. The group performs for musical events both at school and in the wider community. This group rehearses before school hours.

THE MIDDLE HARMONY

The Middle Harmony Ensemble is open to all students in Years 6-9. The repertoire consists of contemporary and classic pop songs from multiple genres including songs in Hebrew and Yiddish to support the Jewish festivals, and commemorations that are an annual part of the school calendar. The songs are harmonized and sometimes they are accompanied by a band.

CONTEMPORARY BAND – JAZZ GROOVERS

The Contemporary Band caters for students from Years 10-12 who perform at an advanced skill level. The ensemble performs vocal and instrumental arrangements across many genres including Jazz, Latin, Pop, Funk and more, and play an integral role in such music events as the School Musical and Bialik Rising Star. This group rehearses on Mondays after school.

JUNGLE JUICE

Jungle Juice is a percussion ensemble for Primary students. This group rehearses at a designated lunchtime.

NORM'S HORNS

Norm's Horns is an ensemble for wind and brass players in Middle and Senior. The repertoire includes pop, jazz and contemporary arrangements. This ensemble runs at specified lunchtimes on a weekly basis.

PRIMARY CHOIR

Primary Choir is offered to students in Years 2 – 5. No audition is required. This group rehearses at a designated lunchtime.

THE MIDDLE GROOVE

Open to Middle School students, Years 6 – 9, The Middle Groove is a contemporary performance ensemble playing pop/rock genres and works as the accompanying band to the Middle Harmony Vocal Ensemble. This group rehearses on Wednesdays after school.

SPECIAL EVENTS

SOIREES

Three Soirees takes place over the year, and each is aligned with a season: Autumn, Winter and Spring. Students who learn an instrument as part of the College's private instrumental program or from an external music tutor are encouraged to perform in one of the programs, based on their readiness to perform in front of an audience.

MUSICA BIALIKA CONCERT

This is a concert program for the music elective students from Years 7 –10, with selected students from VCE classes and selected co-curricular ensemble groups that highlights the breadth of student talent. This is a compulsory requirement for the Music elective classes.

BIALIK RISING STAR

Bialik Rising Star is a bi-annual singing competition that takes place in Term 3 at an external venue. This event is open to all students from Years 4 – 12 and entry for the competition is via an audition process. Several of our ensembles and music elective classes are involved in this event as supporting musicians and vocalists. Rehearsals take place at lunchtimes and at selected times outside school hours. This is a ticketed event.

SCHOOL MUSICAL

The school musical is a bi-annual production that takes place in Term 2 at an external venue. This event is open to all students from Years 6 – 12 and entry for the competition is via an audition process. Several of our ensembles and music elective classes are involved in this event as supporting musicians and vocalists. Rehearsals take place at lunchtimes and at selected times outside school hours. This is a ticketed event.

CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

The College's goal is to extend our students' knowledge and awareness of the world at large through special programs and activities.

ROSENKRANZ CENTRE FOR EXCELLENCE AND ACHIEVEMENT

The Rosenkranz Centre, established at Bialik College in 1997 in honour of Betty and Shmuel Rosenkranz, is the focus of the College's diverse enrichment and extension programs for students from Kindergarten to Year 12. These programs support and supplement the College's curriculum and provide additional opportunities for children with particular strengths and learning abilities.

Students are encouraged to develop sophisticated thinking and research skills, to participate in open debate and to demonstrate commitment to communal responsibilities.

Mini courses, workshops, external competitions, weekly mentoring sessions, conferences, enrichment days and after school extension programs are amongst some of the opportunities offered to students within this centre.

DEBATING TEAMS

The College enters several teams in the Debating Association of Victoria's annual competition. College teams debate at all levels of the competition.

SCHOOL FACILITIES

LIBRARY

The Evelyn Hellen Library in the Bursztyn Family Learning Hub (The Hub for short) is an important learning and social hub for the school. The Hub has an extensive digital and print collection and resources that directly support the curriculum, information literacy, literature literacy and library literacy and learning as well as student's individual interests.

Reading and literature is promoted throughout the College. Students have access to physical books, e-books and audio books by a diverse range of authors on a wide variety of topics. The Hub team are always available to assist with book selection. With the right book, all students can become lifelong readers.

The highlight of The Hub is the annually celebrated Bialik Book Week, whereby students celebrate their love of reading through a variety of events and author presentations. The Hub spaces are flexible, facilitating a variety of individual and collaborative uses. These include:

- **News Cafe** - a social learning space that focuses on new and breaking news, current affairs, newspapers and magazines
- **Seminar Room** - flexible learning spaces
- **Year 12 Study Lounge** - quiet study space set aside for Year 12 students
- **Makerspace** - Interactive workshop where students can explore, create and design
- **Story World** - an engaging space that supports literacy among younger students

In addition, The Hub runs a large variety of lunchtime activities and clubs including Makerspace Club, Crea8ive Hub, Book Clubs, Colouring Club and E-Sports Club.

The Hub is open from 8am each day, with students from Years 2-12 welcome to read and use the space and facilities. The Hub is open for private study until 5pm Monday to Thursday and 3:30 Fridays for students in Years 6-12.

TECHNOLOGY

Bialik College has a range of technologies that help in supporting teaching and learning, such as the 1:1 Device Program, interactive whiteboards, robots, portable devices, professional music recording studio, electronic noticeboards, cameras, 3D printer and scanner, laser cutter, virtual reality systems and other cutting-edge technologies.

COMPASS

Compass is an online learning portal for parents, students and their teachers. The role of the Compass changes as your child assumes more responsibility. It is vital that all parents and students regularly check Compass as this is the key communication point between students, teacher and parents. Compass also provides access to continuous reports, end of semester student reports, school policies, notices and important dates, as well as access to booking parent-teacher interviews.

Compass is pivotal in supporting Continuous Reporting. Parents can log in to check their child's results, rubrics, feedback and feedforward for assessment items.

General news, events and links to posts from your child's specialist teachers, such as Music and PE will appear on Compass. At all levels, parents can view their child's timetable and contact individual teachers via Compass.

Parents can set their individual notification preferences to ensure no changes or new posts are missed directly in the Compass app which is available from the App Store and Google Play.

Further information on Compass for parents can be found [here](#).

PREP & YEAR 1

In Prep and Year 1, students are sometimes given home learning tasks, which are posted to Compass. It is expected that parents will regularly check their child's page to ensure they provide adequate support to complete the tasks.

PRIMARY SCHOOL

In the Primary school, Compass provides a link between home and school. It is a virtual classroom where the focus is on documentation and reflection of learning, rather than reporting on the day-to-day events. Home learning is posted to Compass and parents are encouraged to remind their children to check regularly to encourage positive organisational routines and prompt discussion and engagement with the learning. Students document and reflect on their learning in individual digital portfolios. Parents and teachers are encouraged to interact with the materials selected to deepen students' reflections.

MIDDLE SCHOOL

In the Middle school, the responsibility for checking Compass moves towards the student but is still shared with parents. Requirements for all major class assignments and tests, regardless of if they are to be submitted electronically or in hard copy, will be posted to Compass. Parents can view their child's due work and results. Class pages are for students to communicate and collaborate with teachers and peers and should be consulted regularly, especially during and following absences. Support staff also use Compass when supporting student learning. Parents are encouraged to view Compass with their child, to gain an insight into their learning and prompt discussion and support.

SENIOR SCHOOL

In the Senior school, Compass provides for the sharing of resources and learning between students and teachers. Peer to peer discussion on the learning is facilitated and students have 24hr access to class materials. While parents can still view critical SAC dates for their child, students must take full responsibility for checking due dates and upcoming assessments and for meeting deadlines.

1:1 LAPTOP PROGRAM

We have several different programs running through the college. ELC and Years 2-4 have access to shared iPads or tablet devices and shared laptops. All students from Year 5 on require a Windows laptop, either school purchased, or BYOD [bring your own device] that meets the school's minimum specifications.

For more information, contact laptopprogram@bialik.vic.edu.au

Where available, students may purchase some of their textbooks electronically, negating the need to carry heavy textbooks.

THE BESEN FAMILY ART AND TECHNOLOGY CENTRE

The Besen Family Art and Technology Centre combines art production, interactive media, music technology, computer science and other technologies in an exciting architecturally designed building that overlooks the amphitheatre.

Facilities include:

- Mac Lab
- Fully Equipped Recording Studio
- Performance Studio
- Atrium and Gallery Visual Display Areas
- Art Studios
- Ceramics Studio
- Printing Studio
- Art Library

- Theatrette

THE GRINGLAS SPORTS CENTRE

The Bialik College Gringlas Sports Centre comprises state-of-the-art facilities, among them the Kausman Mann Championship Court; the Parents' Association Basketball Court; The Helena Szental Memorial Swimming Pool which is 25 metres long with 8 swimming lanes; and The Jack and Robert Smorgon Families Gymnasium.

All after-hours access to the complex, including early morning sport, is via the 407 Tooronga Road entrance.

The Cato Street entrance is not to be used as a drop-off or pick-up point for students. To enter the Sports Centre from the campus, please gain access from the Tooronga Road entrance. From 4.00pm weekdays, the campus entrance to the Centre will be locked. After-hours parking is at 9-11 Cato Street from 3.55pm and 407 Tooronga Road from 4.00pm.

For swimming, gymnastics and other after-school activities, please refer to the College's website or contact the College.

THE GRINGLAS SPORTS CENTRE REGULATIONS

Swimming Pool Area

- Students must be supervised at all times
- No food or drink except for sealable water bottles
- Proper swimming attire, including swim caps must be worn
- Swimming goggles must be worn during swimming lessons

Gymnastics Hall

- Students must be supervised at all times
- No shoes: shoes must be removed upon entry
- No food or drink, except for sealable water bottles in the entry area only, will be permitted
- Each piece of apparatus should have no more than one person on it at any one time

Sports Stadium

- Students must be supervised at all times
- No food or drink, except for sealable water bottles, will be permitted
- Only non-marking sports' shoes may be worn on the courts
- High-heel shoes must be removed before entering the stadium

Fitness Centre

- Students must be supervised at all times
- No food or drink, except for sealable water bottles, will be permitted
- Only sport shoes may be worn

STUDENT SUPPORT

COUNSELLING & SUPPORT SERVICES

COUNSELLING

The Bialik College psychologists and Student Counsellor are available to the entire school community for professional help and advice relating to student welfare. The psychologists are part of a team of specialists responsible for, but not limited to:

- individual counselling
- intellectual/academic assessments
- individual/group social and emotional skills' education
- helping to establish appropriate programs for individual needs
- liaison with external professionals, agencies, and/or bodies

Referrals to Counselling services can be made by students, parents, teachers, and/or external professionals. In certain circumstances, our team may advise ongoing external professional support. All referrals and sessions are treated as strictly confidential.

The school psychologists, as agents of the school, provide services to students. In such instances, the child's name, initial date of service and the psychologist's name will be documented in the confidential section of the school's computer system. This section can only be accessed by the Principal, Heads of School and the pastoral coordinators.

SUPPORT SERVICES

When there is concern with the academic performance of a child, support services' staff members are consulted. These teachers work with members of staff to develop individualised programs, and with individual students as required. They are also available for consultation with parents.

Areas covered are:

- Literacy and Numeracy
- English Essentials
- Language Skills Unit
- Subject Support and English Support

Support is provided for students:

- With learning difficulties
- Whose language and/or maths skills are well below Grade/Year level
- Who require support with specific subjects
- Who have English as an additional language

Students may be referred to Student Services by:

- Themselves
- Their parents
- Their teachers
- Their Year Level Coordinators
- Bialik College staff
- An external professional

Referral forms are on Compass.

HOME LEARNING

In the Primary, Middle and Senior Schools, home learning serves to complement and reinforce the material covered in class. It also provides, at secondary level in particular, opportunity for research and inquiry-based investigation.

Reading is an essential element in a child's development. Each child is encouraged to borrow library books regularly to ensure constant access to quality literature. Thus, even if there is no set written work or revision, there is always reading to be done.

All home learning and major assessment are posted on Compass.

HOMEWORK CLUB

Middle School (Years 6-9) Homework Club is available to students on Mondays from 4.00pm-5.30pm in B212. Please contact Deborah Reed (reedd@bialik.vic.edu.au) for additional information.

Senior School Homework Club (Years 10-12) is facilitated by Nadine Judd and is available to students on Tuesdays from 4.00pm-5.30pm in B208. Please contact Nadine Judd (juddn@bialik.vic.edu.au) for additional information.

GENERAL INFORMATION

ALUMNI

Bialik College welcomes the ongoing involvement and support of its past students. Alumni are encouraged to hold their reunions on campus and are encouraged to join our Mentor and Volunteer Program, where they can connect with current students.

To stay involved with Bialik, please keep your contact details current by emailing the Communications Department on alumni@bialik.vic.edu.au.

ANNUAL CELEBRATION EVENING

Attendance at Celebration Evening is compulsory for students in Years 6 to 12. Students must wear the correct school uniform (not sport) and black school shoes.

Celebration Evening is held in Term 3 or 4 and awards are presented on this occasion. The program includes student presentations and highlights of the school year. Parents and families are welcome to attend.

BIRTHDAY PARTIES AND CELEBRATIONS

Parents are urged to be sensitive when organising birthday parties or other celebrations for their children and to ensure that invitations are not distributed at school unless the entire class is invited.

Parents are also requested to be sensitive to issues relating to *kashrut* when inviting their children's classmates to birthday parties or other celebrations and to avoid holding parties on Shabbat or *Yamim Tovim*.

CELEBRATING SPECIAL PEOPLE IN OUR LIVES – ORGANISING EVENTS

Parents are asked to ensure that only College-sanctioned/organised events are referenced as 'Bialik' events.

For all events outside of the College, families are asked to be mindful that there are single gender and single parent families (eg families with two mums or two dads, and/or families where there is not a parent of a particular gender present in a child's life). By way of an example, as a suggestion rather than calling an event a "Dad's event" or a "Mother's event", it could be called a "Dad and Special Friend Event".

CANTEEN – THE SHUK

The Shuk provides our students with the best nutritional value food and the selection includes gluten free and dairy free options. The Shuk is nut aware and all products are approved by Kosher Australia. Where possible, The Shuk uses herbs from our Shuk Herb Garden. The Shuk staff and volunteers recycle all glass, plastic and vegetable waste.

Lunch orders can be placed online the day before. Please go to www.flexischools.com.au and under "find your school" on the right-hand side, search for Bialik College and follow the prompts in setting up your account. It is an easy and user-friendly system.

We have considered many different dietary requirements and allergies and are sure you will find this menu easy to follow. Every item on the menu is colour co-ordinated in our own traffic light system to assist in food selections. Green foods are healthy food choices, amber foods are okay but not every day and red foods should be eaten in moderation.

The Shuk is fully Kosher.

CHEWING GUM

Chewing gum is not permitted at school.

CLASS SIZES

During Years 2-11, class sizes will have a maximum of 28 students, with an average class size of around 25 students. However, in certain subjects such as Media and Art, where access to material and bespoke technology is required, class sizes will be at the discretion of the College and this number will be lower.

COMMUNICATION BETWEEN PARENTS AND THE COLLEGE

Bialik College uses email as the primary communication method. Parents must supply at least one valid email address.

The following items are communicated by email:

- Notices of upcoming events in the school community
- All school notices, letters from the Principal and Heads of School
- Year-level specific notices including excursion details and permission slips

The following are not communicated by email:

- Personal information or communication about a specific student or family, unless authorised by the parent
- School information of a confidential nature

We attempt to ensure that all events and excursions are notified to parents two weeks before the scheduled date.

Whilst you are welcome to contact your child's teacher about any matter relating to your child, it would be appreciated if you could make a convenient time to speak. Please use email for home-school and school-home communication.

Parents are advised to regularly check their email. To change your email address, please advise the College immediately via email to: communications@bialik.vic.edu.au

CHANGE OF CIRCUMSTANCES, ADDRESS OR PHONE NUMBER

Requirement of all parents/guardians

College rules and regulations state that all parents/guardians are required to inform the College in writing immediately of any changes to their (or their child's) details or circumstances, including change of address.

CLASS LISTS (PREP-12)

Class lists with names, addresses, telephone numbers and email addresses are uploaded to the Syn portal. A parent may, however, request to have such details withheld. Requests to withhold details can be done via email communications@bialik.vic.edu.au

Class list details are **not** to be used for any purpose other than to facilitate social contact between parents and students. Please **do not** use this information for any other purpose. **Do not** share the information in the class lists with any outside organisations.

BNEI REGISTER

At Bialik College, we offer parents the opportunity to register bar and bat mitzvah dates/functions with the Bnei Mitzvah Register. This is purely a courtesy registry and families are not required to inform the school of their celebrations. However, registering helps to avoid double-booking events and maximises the opportunities for celebration and inclusion. Please email jlc@bialik.vic.edu.au for more information or to book in a date.

CONTACT BETWEEN PARENTS AND STUDENTS DURING SCHOOL HOURS

Parents are requested **not** to telephone the College with messages to be conveyed to their children **other than in cases of emergency**. In this case, communication should be made directly with the relevant Sub-School office.

Parents are requested not to text message or call their children during their class times. Any student's mobile phone that sounds in class is then confiscated for the remainder of the day.

Parents are also requested to make transport arrangements with their children **prior** to the commencement of the school day and to contact the College office with respect to changes in such arrangements **only where absolutely essential**.

DAYS OF HIGH TEMPERATURE

Every College building is fully air-conditioned. It is not, therefore, necessary to keep students at home on days when the temperature is expected to exceed 38 degrees. Once a child is at school, he/she should remain there for the duration of the school day to avoid disruption to the teaching program.

EXCURSIONS AND PERMISSION FORMS

Excursions are a valuable part of a student's educational program. As some of a student's learning occurs outside the confines of a classroom, excursions are a means of using resources to enhance and enrich student learning.

Excursions will be planned to support a curriculum area and will serve an educational purpose. Where possible, teachers build into their class-teaching program a lead-up to camps/excursions and a follow-up afterwards.

Parents are requested to respond immediately to emails from school requiring a return slip. Where outings or excursions are held, students cannot participate without written parental permission.

Students **MUST** wear the correct uniform as specified in the excursion outline (school uniform or sport uniform) with any deviation from this resulting in the student staying at school and not participating in the excursion.

Where a levy applies to a camp or activity and a student is unable to access the camp or activity (in whole or in part) by reason of his or her vaccination status, the School is not obliged to refund the levy (or any part of it).

FINANCES

The College finances are controlled by the College Council through the Honorary Treasurer and Director of Business. Financial matters are administered on a day-to-day basis by the Director of Business to whom queries and correspondence should be addressed.

All school fee account queries should be directed to the College's Accounts Team via email accounts@bialik.vic.edu.au or by phone 9822 7981.

Terms and Conditions of Ongoing Enrolment

The student's enrolment is subject to the terms and conditions set out in:

- The Enrolment Agreement a copy of which is provided to the parents upon enrolment;
- The Bialik College annual Schedule of Fees and
- School Policies which are set out in this Handbook and otherwise available upon request.

The terms and conditions of enrolment are subject to change from time to time. In signing the Enrolment Agreement, the parents agree that subject to any agreement in writing to the contrary, all signatories will be jointly and severally liable for all school fees and charges invoiced to them. The parents further agree to adhere, and ensure the student adheres to all terms and conditions of the Enrolment Agreement and School Policies.

Changing Enrolment

- Please note that families may switch between short and long daycare only once in any 18-month period.

Fees

- Fees and Levies will be sent to you in an annual school fee statement at the start of each year.
- Fees and Levies are determined by School Council yearly by December for the following year and may be subject to an annual increase.
- Fees must either be paid in full or a credit card / direct debit payment arrangement must be entered into prior to school commencing for the year.
- There is a tax-deductible, voluntary contribution of \$450 per child per year which goes towards either Bialik Hebrew College Building Fund or Bialik Scholarship Fund (or can be split between both).
- For current students, fees are not pro-rata to exclude days when a student is absent from school due to illness or any other reason, nor if the student does not commence on the first day of any Term. Tuition fees will be applied pro-rata for new students who commence at the College after the first day of Term 1 on the condition the student commences on the date specified in the letter of offer.
- A proportion of funds raised or fees collected by the school may be used to support the operation of the ELC.

Payment Options

The College offers a range of payment methods:

PAYMENT BY SCHOOL EASY PAY

This is our preferred method of payment. Prep – Year 12 school fees, supplementary charges, bonds and deposits are billed annually and payable in full within the calendar year.

The College accepts payments via School EasyPay through 4 or 11 equal instalments by using your choice of any credit/debit card or bank account to set up for direct debit.

Payment date options are set as follows:

- 4 instalments - 5 February, 5 May, 5 August and 5 November

Or

- 11 instalments - 15th of each month from February to December.

PAYMENT BY BANK DIRECT DEBIT

The College accepts and encourages bank direct debits. The College does not apply any surcharge to payments made by direct debit.

PAYMENT BY CREDIT CARD

Payments made by credit / debit card will be charged a 1.23% surcharge (1.75% for premium / corporate cards). There is no charge for EFT / direct debit / BPay payments.

Family Allowance

Where two or more children in a family attend the College the following discounts on Tuition fees will apply:

2nd child:	2% of the tuition and composite fees set out in the annual Schedule of Fees
3rd Child:	10% of the tuition and composite fees set out in the annual Schedule of Fees
4th child:	20% of the tuition and composite fees set out in the annual Schedule of Fees
5th child:	30% of the tuition and composite fees set out in the annual Schedule of Fees

LATE FEES

If fees are not paid by the due date, the College will be entitled to charge interest on overdue accounts at a rate up to the amount prescribed by the Penalty Interest Rates Act. The College's late payment fee is a fixed fee of \$100 per term and each day the account is overdue and an annual penalty rate of 5% is applied pro rata daily to the amount outstanding.

Where a tuition fee account is in arrears, the student is not permitted to incur additional costs by participating in non-curriculum elective activities.

Where there are significant outstanding fees and no payment arrangement in place, the College reserves the right to suspend or terminate the enrolment of the student(s).

The College may pursue all avenues, including legal action to recover any outstanding debt which includes all reasonable debt recovery and legal costs incurred.

All parents acknowledge acceptance of enrolment offer/s and further acknowledge that they are jointly and severally bound hereby to:

1. Inform the College in writing immediately of any changes to your details or circumstances.
2. Execute and maintain a payment authority in favour of the College for payment of school fees by credit card, debit card or bank account and will ensure that there are sufficient available funds in the nominated account when payments are due to be withdrawn.
3. Pay fees within terms and understand that a child's enrolment at the College is dependent upon fees being kept up-to-date (as per the annual Fee Schedule). I/We understand that All fees are payable even when a child is absent due to sickness or on holidays.
4. Provide the required notice for withdrawal as outlined in the Parent Handbook.
5. Comply with the College's Policies and Regulations (detailed here in The Parent Handbook, as amended from time to time), the Student Code of Behaviour, and the Parent Code of Conduct. Serious or repeated contravention of these Codes may result in the agreement being terminated. Staff members are available to discuss any policies that are not fully understood.

The terms and conditions of enrolment as set out in this Parent Handbook (and as amended from time to time) form part of the agreement with the College.

WITHDRAWAL

The Notice of Withdrawal of a Student must be given in writing to the College as per the “**Withdrawing a Student**” section in the Handbook, failing which the parents will be responsible for the payment of one term’s (Kinder - Year 4 and Years 7-12) or two terms’ (Years 5 and 6) fees in lieu of notice thereof.

LEGAL ISSUES

If legal matters arise which affect the student’s enrolment (including changes to guardianship or access), or which may impact upon the student’s education, the parents are required to promptly advise the Director of Business and Principal in writing. Copies of relevant legal documentation must also be provided.

Unless advised otherwise, the College will proceed on the basis that both parents have equal parenting rights in relation to the student, and that both parents are jointly and severally liable for payment of fees and charges. Unless provided with legal documentation to the contrary, the College will not accept an enrolment, nor a withdrawal of enrolment, unless consent of both parents is provided.

SCHOLARSHIPS

Bialik College awards scholarships for academic excellence, as well as sport and music scholarships. Details of scholarships offered are advertised in the media and on the website. Scholarship examinations are held annually. Full details are available on the website, under the “Enrolment” tab at www.bialik.vic.edu.au

BURSARIES

In addition to academic scholarships, the College may also make available a number of entrance bursaries. These take into account both the financial needs of the family and the academic standard of the student. Full details are available on the website, under the “Enrolment” tab at www.bialik.vic.edu.au

FEE ASSISTANCE

The College provides families in need with different forms of support and fee assistance depending on financial and personal circumstances. The benefits of fee assistance are numerous ranging from a culture of inclusivity and diverse thinking at the school as well as contributing to the continued growth and success of Melbourne’s Jewish community. Families receiving fee assistance are required to disclose detailed information about their financial circumstances so the College can determine the level of fee assistance to provide. Full details are available on the website, under the “Enrolment” tab at www.bialik.vic.edu.au. Applications for fee assistance can be made to the Relationship & Credit Manager at assistance@bialik.vic.edu.au

The College provides fee assistance to families who are unable to afford school fees because of either their limited income and / or their temporary financial circumstances. If false or dishonest financial information is provided and / or the fee assisted family acts in an unethical way to obtain fee assistance, the College reserves the right to immediately cease providing fee assistance and recover the fee assistance already provided.

HEAD LICE

Bialik College has developed a Head Lice Policy to outline the roles and responsibilities of the various people involved in the detection, treatment and control of head lice, to respond to reports of head lice quickly and effectively, to ensure that an effective process for treating head lice is well known and consistently followed and to ensure parents and guardians are well informed about head lice treatment.

The responsibility for the detection and treatment of head lice rests primarily with the parents/carers. However, the school community will work in a cooperative and collaborative manner to assist all families to manage head lice effectively.

Full details of the Head Lice Policy can be found [here](#).

HEALTH CONCERNS

Parents must advise class teachers of any health-related problems or difficulties affecting a student. Class teachers must be informed by parents, in writing, in cases where students are absent from school because of illness. Students who are ill should not attend school. Parents are required to review and update the health information and emergency contact (other than parents) phone telephone numbers on Compass at the beginning of each year. A reminder email will be sent with instructions.

If a student has an accident resulting in an injury, or shows signs of illness, the nurse or delegate (first aid staff member on call) will attend to the student. If deemed necessary, the student's parents will be contacted by the staff member and in some cases, arrangements facilitated for the collection of the student.

For these reasons, it is vital that emergency telephone numbers are kept up to date.

Any arrangements to be collected from school due to injury or illness must be organised by the nurse or delegate and **not** by the students directly.

The College must be notified if a child is taking medically-prescribed medication during school hours.

The College employs a full-time qualified nurse who oversees the First Aid facilities. If a child contracts any of the diseases listed below, it is a parent's legal duty to notify the school immediately. In these circumstances, the child must not attend school without written medical consent.

The diseases are: chicken pox, conjunctivitis, acute contagious impetigo, diphtheria or membranous croup, enteric fever (typhoid and paratyphoid), gonococcal infection (eyes or genitals), infectious hepatitis, measles, German measles (rubella), meningitis, meningococcal, mumps, poliomyelitis, ringworm (scalp or body), scabies or itch, scarlet fever and streptococcal sore throat, smallpox, trachoma, tuberculosis (of lungs), tuberculosis (other forms), typhus, and whooping cough.

MEDICATION

It is important that any medication required by a student while attending school is handed to the School Nurse. A parent or authorised person must complete the [Medication Authorisation form](#). The medication, either prescribed or over the counter, must be in its original packaging, with the pharmacy label (if prescribed), in date and clear instructions for administering.

Note: Medication to treat asthma or anaphylaxis does not need to be accompanied by the Medication Authorisation form as it covered in the student's Action Plan.

ANAPHYLAXIS MANAGEMENT

Bialik College will ensure the optimum safety and welfare of all children prone to anaphylaxis. We have procedures and processes in place to ensure the safety and welfare of all students prone to anaphylaxis.

Parents are to provide the school with an ASCIA Action Plan that has been completed by the student's medical practitioner. The Action Plan must be in colour and include the confirmed allergens, any medications and the medical practitioner's signature. An anaphylaxis management plan must be completed by parents whose child is prone to anaphylaxis. The plan must be reviewed at the beginning of each school year and can be reviewed again during the year if required.

The plan must clearly outline:

- The type of allergy or allergies
- The student's emergency contact details
- Practical strategies to minimise the risk of exposure to allergens for in school and out of class settings
- The name of the person/s responsible for implementing the strategies
- An ASCIA Action Plan, which sets out the emergency procedures to be taken in the event of an allergic reaction
- Information on where the adrenaline injector will be stored

Copies of this plan will be held by the School Nurse, homeroom teacher, Head of School Office and the appropriate Level Coordinator.

This policy should be read in conjunction with the DEET Anaphylaxis Guidelines.

The College will ensure that all staff are adequately trained in the safe and appropriate use of adrenaline injectors.

To see the full policy, click [here](#).

ASTHMA MANAGEMENT

Bialik College will ensure the optimum safety and welfare of all children prone to asthma. We have procedures and processes in place to ensure the safety and welfare of all students prone to asthma.

Parents are to provide the school with an Asthma Action Plan that has been completed by the student's medical practitioner. The Action Plan must be in colour and include asthma triggers, the number of puffs required and the medical practitioner's signature. An asthma management plan must be completed by parents whose child has asthma. The plan must be reviewed at the beginning of each school year and can be reviewed again during the year if required.

The plan must clearly outline:

- Known or likely triggers for the child's asthma attacks
- The student's emergency contact details
- Practical strategies to minimise the risk of an asthma attack for in school and out of class settings
- The name of the person/s responsible for implementing the strategies
- An Action Plan, which sets out the emergency procedures to be taken in the event of an asthma attack

Copies of this plan will be held by the School Nurse, homeroom teacher, Head of School Office and the appropriate Level Coordinator.

Please note:

- Children are required to bring their asthma medication to school
- Current stock of Ventolin inhalers and spacers are kept in the First Aid room and Reception areas. Ventolin inhalers are also kept in the camp First Aid kits
- The Asthma Management Policy should be read in conjunction with the Asthma Attack First Aid Guide provided by the Asthma Foundation of Victoria

DIABETES MANAGEMENT

Bialik College will ensure the optimum safety and welfare of all children suffering from diabetes. We have procedures and processes in place to ensure the safety and welfare of all students suffering from diabetes.

Parents are to provide the school with a Diabetes Action Plan that has been completed by the student's medical practitioner. The Action Plan must be in colour and the medical practitioner's signature. A diabetes management plan must be completed by parents whose child has diabetes. The plan must be reviewed at the beginning of each school year and can be reviewed again during the year if required.

The plan must clearly outline:

- Known or likely triggers for the child's hypoglycaemic incidents
- The student's emergency contact details
- Practical strategies to minimise the risk of a hypoglycaemic attack for in-school and out of class settings
- The name of the person/s responsible for implementing the strategies
- The routine procedures to be taken to monitor the child's blood glucose levels, eating routines and medication procedures
- The emergency procedures to be taken in the event of a hypoglycaemic attack

Copies of this plan will be held by the School Nurse, homeroom teacher, Head of School Office and the appropriate Level Coordinator. Please note that children are required to bring their insulin to school.

INCLUSION

It is incumbent upon the Bialik College community to acknowledge the uniqueness of every individual by creating a safe and inclusive environment for all children to thrive. We do not endeavour to promote any particular identity or lifestyle, rather to be kind and supportive with our words and in our actions.

We are a proudly Zionist school and value open dialogue and diverse perspectives which uphold the Jewish people's right to a national homeland in the land of Israel as a core part of our current and future identity. Within this tent, we encourage the exploration of different voices based on our intrinsic values of respect for all people, our environment, Judaism and Jewish life.

Narratives that in the College leadership's view delegitimise Israel, and promote divisive and misleading claims (including those that support BDS (boycott, divestment and sanctions of Israel), those that accuse Israel of genocide, and those that delegitimise the rights of Palestinian people) fall outside the boundaries of our school's ethos.

When questions are put to the Australian people in a referendum or when elections occur in our political system, Bialik College takes a neutral stance, encouraging respectful and kind voices from differing perspectives.

INTERNET USAGE AND COMPUTER SAFETY

Bialik College is pleased to provide students with access to its technology services and network, to enable participation in a wide range of educational activities that are part of the College program.

However, it is important for parents and students to be aware that these services and systems are not to be used for non-educational purposes and should not be seen as a private or personal resource.

STUDENT GUIDELINES FOR USING THE INTERNET

Use of technology and the Internet in the ELC is always monitored by teaching staff. All parents and students in the Primary and Middle School will be bound by the Acceptable Use of Technology Policy ([available here](#)).

In the Primary School (Years 2-5) parents and students accept these guidelines by signing the provided version of these guidelines which is written in age-appropriate language. Teachers will discuss with students in class. In the Middle School (Years 6-9) and in the Senior College (Years 10-12) students formally accept these guidelines by accepting this policy when logging into the school network.

JEWISH FESTIVE, NATIONAL AND MEMORIAL DAYS

Many significant events are celebrated throughout the school year. These include all Jewish festivals, indigenous, national and commemorative days.

PURIM INCLUSION GUIDELINES

To support all students having a positive day on Purim, the following guidelines must be adhered to by all members of the community:

- All costume choices will be listed on the Homeroom door / noticeboard 4 weeks prior to Purim. This will be coordinated by the Homeroom teacher.
- Any groups that agree to come together in similarly themed costumes must include other children if requested to do so.
- All pre- or post-Purim parties / get-togethers which invite more than 50% of a class or year level (or of a gender within a year level) must invite all of the class / year level / gender
- Costumes should be modest, have faces clearly visible, must not involve weapons and cannot mock a nationality, race or religion.
- Only current enrolled Bialik students may participate in Purim activities at the College.

LUNCHTIME CLUBS

Students are afforded the opportunity to participate in a variety of lunchtime clubs and activities. A host of popular clubs, run by staff and senior students, provide students with a variety of activities at lunchtime. Lists of the clubs offered and details of times and venues will be posted to Compass at the beginning of each term.

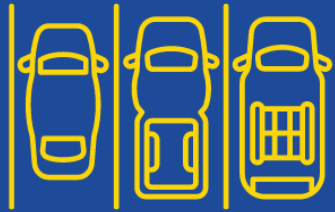
NAPLAN TESTING

As part of the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy [NAPLAN], national tests are held annually in literacy and numeracy for all students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. NAPLAN testing occurs in March of each year.

PARENT SECURITY GROUP (PSG)

PSG plays a vital role in protecting and keeping our students safe at school and the commitment to PSG can be as little as one hour per month. Training is held at Bialik College and offered at the beginning of each year. To register interest please email psg@bialik.vic.edu.au.

Our parent volunteers and security guards work hard to keep our school safe. They may not know every parent, grandparent or family member coming on campus so if you or a family member is questioned by a PSG volunteer or security guard then please be understanding it is a routine part of the screening process and your co-operation greatly assists them with completing this process to help keep our community safe.



DROP-OFF & PICK-UP
AT TOORONGA ROAD ENTRY TO THE SCHOOL

To ensure the continued smooth and safe flow of traffic at the Toorong Road entrance to the College, please remind yourself of the following rules:

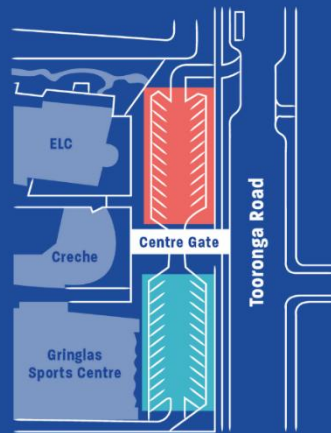
1.

Maintain a speed of no more than 5 km per hour at all times. Safety is our priority.

2.

During permit times: **No Permit – No Entry.**

TOORONGA ROAD



Kiss & Go: 7.45 - 8:40am
Kinder & Creche (PERMIT): 8.40 - 9am
1P: From 2.30 - 4pm (ALL)

1P for BOSH & Creche (PERMIT): 7am - 6pm

1P for Kinder (PERMIT): 8 - 9am
2.30 - 4pm



MORNINGS

Turning LEFT (**blue on map**) from centre gate has 1P PERMIT parking for:

1.
Disabled (2 spaces)
2.
Newborns (4 spaces)
3.
BCC and Bosh (7:00am-6:00pm)
4.
Kinder (8:00am-9:00am)

Turning RIGHT (**red on map**) from centre gate has:

- 1.

“Kiss & Go” drop off (7:45am-8:40am)

2.

PERMIT parking for Kinder & BCC (8:40am-9:00am)

3.

No parking (9:00am-2:30pm)



AFTERNOONS

Turning LEFT (**blue on map**) from centre gate has 1P PERMIT parking for:

1.

Disabled (2 spaces)

2.

Newborns (4 spaces)

3.

BCC and Bosh (7:00am-6:00pm)

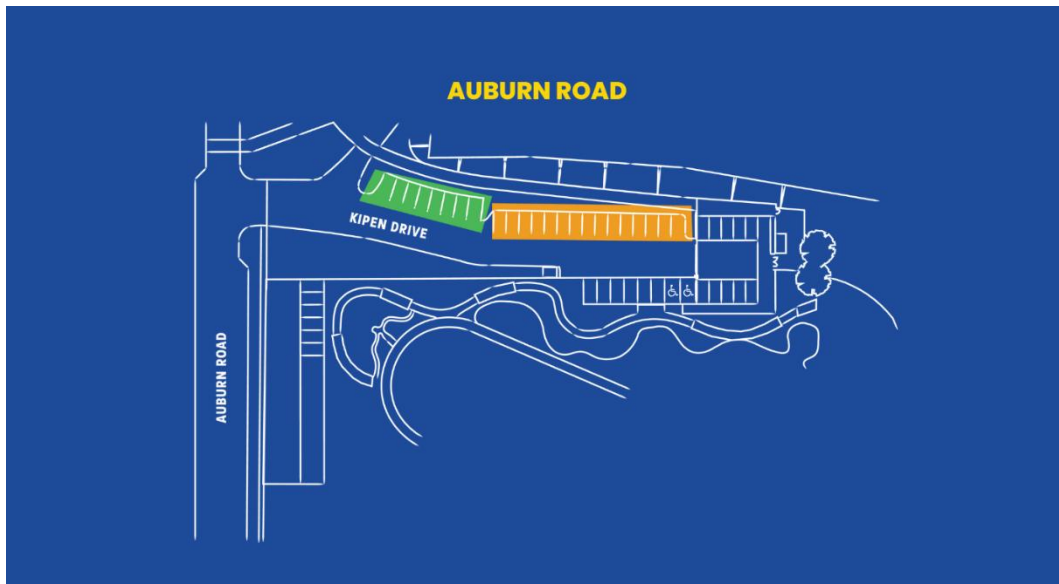
4.

Kinder (2:30pm-4:00pm)

Turning RIGHT (**red on map**) from centre gate has 1P parking for:

1.

Available for all to use (2:30pm-4:00pm)



MORNINGS

1.

There are 7 parking spots (green) available up to the small parking island.
From 7.30am – 8.45am the remaining area is a drop off zone only.

2.

After 8.45am, staff and parents may park in the 16 available spaces (orange) after the small parking island, up to the boom gate.



AFTERNOONS

1.

A member of Bialik College staff will be positioned at the entrance to Kipen Drive and once all car spots have been taken, the staff member will not permit additional cars to enter Kipen Drive.

2.

In the event no spots are available, parents are encouraged to utilise car spots on Auburn Road, car parks (opposite the Auburn Road entrance 50 metres towards Toorak Road) or in the surrounding streets.

3.

Parents who secure a car spot in Kipen Drive are asked to gather their children and exit Kipen Drive with some urgency, thereby allowing those waiting for a car space the opportunity to access one. When leaving

Kipen Drive, please note that ALL drivers of cars must perform a U-turn at the clearly designated area ONLY. For drivers and pedestrians alike, this provision will maintain certainty in the way the traffic will flow through the Kipen Drive precinct.

C) DISABLED PARKING

Disabled car spaces at both entrances are reserved for people with current disabled stickers.

D) STREETS SURROUNDING THE SCHOOL

1. On Auburn Road there are large, free car parks 50m downhill from the school entrance.
2. There is a combination of 1 hour and 10 minute parking zones close to the Tooronga Road entrance whilst on the other side of Auburn Road there.
3. The Auburn High School car parks are not available to Bialik parents.

E) OTHER NOTES

1. There is a maximum speed limit of 5km per hour. Parents are asked to limit the time that they remain in the car park thereby allowing more parents to be able to access it.
2. If you have concerns about the driving/parking conduct of a parent, it is generally best to contact the school rather than confront the individual. Details of the incident, with name and car description should be sent to info@bialik.vic.edu.au
3. The school "undercover parking", accessed from Cato Street is for staff during normal school hours. Although this is not an official student entrance (as the gate is locked with staff access only), students walking through this car park must be escorted by parents and they will need to wait for a member of staff to open the door. We do not recommend this entrance for students or parents and encourage all of the community to use the Auburn Road or Tooronga Road entrances.

FOR THE SAFETY OF OUR CHILDREN - PLEASE OBSERVE THE ABOVE RULES, DRIVE CAREFULLY AND COURTEOUSLY.

PERSONAL PROPERTY AND VALUABLES

It is the responsibility of students to ensure that personal property such as laptop computers and other valuables are kept under lock and key or placed in the care of staff, as appropriate.

Parents should ensure that items such as laptop computers are covered by personal insurance. Students must not bring large sums of money to school.

Weapons or dangerous goods etc. may not be brought to school under any circumstances.

LOCKERS

Lockers are available for students' use. The College reserves the right of access to all lockers at any time.

LOST PROPERTY

Lost Property is located in an area housed outside the Shuk and is the province of the Parents' Association. Parents must ensure that all articles of clothing are clearly marked with their children's names to facilitate the return of lost property.

PETS

Parents and students are not permitted to bring pets onto school grounds but may bring controlled and calm dogs to the school entrance at pick-up and drop-off times.

PHOTOGRAPHS

Student photographs are taken annually and are available for purchase. Students will also be issued with an ID card that will include their photograph. A \$20.00 replacement fee will be charged for lost or stolen cards.

REPORTS AND PARENT/TEACHER INTERVIEWS

Detailed Primary, Middle and Senior School reports are issued biannually. Parent/teacher interviews take place in Term 1 and Term 3. Parents are also welcome to make appointments to discuss their children's progress with teachers at other times. Heads of School, school counsellors, year level coordinators and class teachers may be consulted should the need arise.

SCHOOL BUS SERVICES

Five buses operate from the south-eastern and bayside areas. Details of routes can be provided by Main Reception.

Only students who have applied to use the bus service, and who have been permitted to do so, may travel on the school buses. Bus passes for occasional travel on the school buses are available for purchase at Reception.

The following rules apply to all children travelling on school buses:

- No child may stand up or move from his/her seat while the bus is in motion
- It is compulsory for all students to wear seat belts on the school buses
- No shouting, singing or unruly behaviour is permitted on the bus
- Children must not put their arms outside the bus window, nor throw any object out of the bus window
- Bus drivers are at all times responsible for the safety of the children and are authorised to act accordingly
- Students who fail to observe these regulations may be suspended from using the school buses

Bialik College assumes the responsibility for the coordination of school buses, including coordination of student passengers, payment of fares, and coordination of Disaster Plan procedures.

Bialik College will endeavour to provide school bus routes to service a large proportion of its student body. Staff will be rostered to supervise the children boarding buses at the end of each school day. Misconduct on the Bus will result in disciplinary action. Any inappropriate behaviour should be reported to the appropriate Head of School.

SUNSMART

All members of the Bialik Community are encouraged to take appropriate protection when they are outdoors, particularly from September to April.

To minimise sun damage caused by the harmful ultraviolet rays of the sun, children should wear protective head coverings and apply SPF 50+ broad-spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen. Students should make use of the areas of shade when outdoors.

Full details of the SunSmart Policy can be found [here](#).

UNIFORMS: RULES, GENERAL ATTIRE AND GROOMING

Uniforms can be purchased from Dobsons Pty Ltd: 667 Glenferrie Road, Hawthorn - Tel: (03) 9819 1122. For online orders, go to www.dobsons.com.au

Second-hand uniforms can be donated to or purchased from The Posh Opp Shoppe 484 Glen Huntly Road, Elsternwick VIC 3185 - Tel: (03) 9528 1777

UNIFORM RULES

Bialik College offers a dynamic school uniform (multiform) where items can be mixed-and-matched, in a reasonable combination. For example, school shorts may be worn with a long-sleeved shirt. While sport and school uniform may not be combined, it is permissible for student to wear the sport polar fleece as part of their school uniform.

Uniforms can be purchased from Dobsons Pty Ltd: 667 Glenferrie Road, Hawthorn - Tel: (03) 9819 1122. For online orders, go to www.dobsons.com.au

Second-hand uniforms can be donated to or purchased from The Posh Opp Shoppe 484 Glen Huntly Road, Elsternwick VIC 3185 - Tel: (03) 9528 1777.

General:

1. Only short sleeved white t-shirts may be worn under school or sport uniform. These may not be longer than the sleeve length.
2. Students must wear black regulation leather school shoes with the school uniform, and non-marking soled shoes with the sport uniform.
3. Socks worn with the school uniform must be Bialik blue-with-yellow-trim or plain white socks with no logos.
Socks worn with the sport uniform must be either plain white socks without a logo, or the school white-with-yellow/blue-trim socks.
4. Students may wear a Bialik College polar fleece or Bialik College jumper as part of the school uniform. The Bialik College polar fleece or fleece zip-up may be worn as part of the Sport uniform.
5. The College expects all Primary students to wear the College broad brimmed or legionnaire hat, not peak caps, for all outdoor activities. A school bucket hat is available for purchase for students of Years 6-12.
6. Students must be clean shaven, other than for religious purposes.
7. Hair longer than shoulder length must be securely tied back.
8. All uniform items should be clearly and indelibly marked in a prominent position (eg. at the inside neckline) with the student's full name.
9. Face masks may be worn as long as they are plain, without logos and of a single colour.
10. School uniforms may not be modified except for the purpose of fit. Trousers must be full length and skirts/dresses/shorts (including Sport shorts) must be of a modest length.

PERSONAL GROOMING, PIERCINGS & JEWELLERY

- Students are expected to attend school appropriately attired and groomed.
- Hair must be of a natural colour (unless permission has been obtained from the relevant Head of School, for fundraising purposes) and, for health reasons, it is advisable that long hair be tied back.
- Other than for religious purposes, boys are required to be clean-shaven.

- One piece of discreet neck jewellery (e.g. Magen David), discreet earrings (e.g. studs/ sleepers) and one discreet ring on a finger are permitted. Visible body piercing rings or studs of any description: eg. nasal*, septum, eyebrow, lip, mentolabial sulcus, nape etc. are strictly prohibited.
- Nail polish may be worn and must be of a natural or pastel pink colour.
- Nail extensions, eyelash extensions, false eyelashes, eyelash extensions and excessive makeup are not permitted.

* Senior School students only (Years 10-12) may wear a small, discreet nasal stud.

Sport and Health & Physical Education uniform items:

Bialik College sport shorts (either of two available styles)*
 Bialik College polo shirt
 Bialik College track suit pants
 Bialik College sport socks or plain white socks
 Bialik College full brim or legionnaire hat (Kinder-Year 5)
 Bialik College or plain navy bathers
 Bialik College or Bialik College House swim cap available from the Sports Department
 Bialik College polar-fleece tops (optional)
 Appropriate non-marking runners or similar

* Plain black or navy blue leggings may be worn underneath Bialik College sport shorts or Bialik College track suit pants.

Bialik College basketball singlets, netball skirts, football and soccer tops and socks are available as required for individual sports. These may not be worn to class and students should change before sport lessons.

CASUAL CLOTHES DAYS

Before any casual day, uniform expectations are to be shared explicitly with students at homeroom and/or assembly by Year Level Coordinators or Head of School.

Students must wear casual clothing that is respectful and appropriate for school. Students cannot come to school in singlets or exposed midriffs. Students must wear closed toed shoes such as runners for safety reasons. In the case that a student does not conform to these instructions, at the College's discretion, students may be removed from class and/or activities. Parents may be contacted by the Year Level Coordinator or Head of School to arrange for the student to be collected from school.

VCE GRADUATION

The Year 12 VCE students organise a special event, held towards the end of the year, to mark their graduation.

VOLUNTEERING, SUPERVISION AND WORKING WITH CHILDREN CHECKS

Bialik College is a community school which thrives as a result of parent and grandparent volunteering. In the context of child safeguarding, the following supervision/Working With Children check arrangements apply:

- For PMP (in the ELC), Kitchen, Garden and Duke of Edinburgh volunteering and other in-class volunteering, volunteers are directly supervised by the class teacher.
- For Shuk volunteering, volunteers are directly supervised by the Kitchen Manager.
- Parents volunteering for ELC swimming support (confirmed with and sighted by ELC reception), student mentoring (confirmed and sighted by supervisors) and for the PSG Parental Security Group (confirmed and sighted by CSG) require a Working With Children check.
- Youth Movements and visiting faith leaders require a Working With Children check sighted by the Jewish Life Administrator.

Working With Children checks (free for school volunteers) are completed [online](#) and lodged at participating post offices.

WITHDRAWING A STUDENT

Parents intending to withdraw a Prep-4 and 7-12 student must notify the Principal *in writing*. A full term's notice is required, otherwise a term's fees in lieu of notice is payable. For Years 5 and 6 withdrawals we require two full terms' notice, failing which two full terms' fees will be payable. **Notice must be given within the preceding school term (not during school holidays).**

Naturally we will want to understand why parents have made this decision and will be in touch to discuss their reasons.

If a student is to be withdrawn from the College for a limited period of time during the school year, prior permission to do so must be sought, in writing, from the Principal or Head of School.

SCHOOL POLICIES

Requirement of all parents/guardians

College rules and regulations state that all parents/guardians are required to follow, support and abide by the College's Policies and Regulations (detailed in this Parent Handbook and available on Compass). Staff members are available to discuss with parents any policies they do not fully understand.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY & EXAMINATIONS

The school upholds rigorous academic standards and emphasises adherence to the College's values and principles of academic integrity. Students are expected to submit original work, acknowledging all sources and assistance received, including texts, media, visual material, and websites. Any external assistance, whether from parents, family members, or tutors, must be transparently disclosed. Collusion with other students or third parties is strictly prohibited. Proper citation conventions must be followed, and students are prohibited from submitting the same work for assessment in multiple subjects or years.

Examinations and tests are to be completed under appropriate conditions, and adherence to assessment procedures is mandatory. Due to the complexity of the examination week/s, the College cannot reschedule examinations for students where families take holidays during the scheduled examination periods. With the exception of Year 12 practice papers that do not contribute to the students' final mark, examination scripts remain the property of Bialik College and are not returned to students. Depending on the subject and Year level, completed scripts will be held by the College for a period of 6 to 12 months. These may be used when applications for special arrangements are considered.

All students must adhere to the Bialik Academic Policy, available on Compass, and VCE students must also comply with the VCE administrative guidelines. The College advocates for an educative response to instances of academic misconduct, encompassing plagiarism, collusion, and copyright infringement.

ALCOHOL, TOBACCO, VAPING AND ILLICIT SUBSTANCE ABUSE

Bialik College has a legal responsibility to take reasonable measures to protect its students from risk of injury that should have been reasonably foreseen including risks associated with alcohol intake, active or passive smoking, vaping and illicit substance abuse.

Bialik College provides an environment that is free of alcohol, tobacco, vaping and illicit substance use, and safe for all staff and students.

We do not accept that any student or staff member use, possess, supply or be under the influence of alcohol, smoking, vaping or illicit substances at school, at a school function or in the vicinity of the school or its students.

Bialik College will act whenever cases of alcohol abuse, drug use, or illegal or criminal activity occur, or are suspected to have occurred at school. Such action involves staff members informing the Principal who may contact the police, contact parents, arrange counselling or support as necessary.

Whether or not the Principal informs all parents or students of incidents involving inappropriate alcohol, vaping or tobacco use, or any use of illegal substances at school is a matter of circumstances and degree. The Principal's legal duty is to ensure that the school environment is, as far as practicable, safe and free from risks.

Students suspected of bringing alcohol, vaping, smoking or illicit substances in school bags or personal clothing will be separated from other students and supervised while a course of action is determined.

Bialik College recognises that this policy, while serious, is of a sensitive nature. Each case will be considered by the Principal according to its specific circumstances.

Bialik College is a smoke-free environment.

ATTENDANCE

General

Attendance at ALL scheduled lessons is compulsory for ALL students.

All attendance notes (ie. absences, early departures and lateness) must be logged by a parent/guardian via the Compass App, as soon as practicable in the mornings, and including the relevant reason.

***** We remind parents not to share their Compass passwords with their children, as we cannot take responsibility for students who log attendance notes using parent passwords *****

In Middle and Senior Schools, attendance rolls are marked every lesson.

It is compulsory for ALL students (other than Year 12 students) to report to their class teachers in their Homerooms at 8.30am each morning (8.45am for ELC).

Year 12 students are required to arrive at school in time for their first scheduled lesson each day, and to be at school for Homeroom/Assembly at 10.50am on Fridays.

As a courtesy, parents are also encouraged to alert their child's teachers in advance via email, if their child will miss classes for planned events, ie. specialist appointments, external music exams, etc.

LATENESS

Lateness to school and to class without a valid reason, is unacceptable.

Prep & Year 1 students: Students arriving late must sign in electronically at the computer in the ELC Reception foyer.

Students of Years 2-11 who arrive at school after the Homeroom bell must report to Main Reception where they will sign in electronically via the Compass iPad. The printed Late Pass must be handed in to their classroom teacher. Failure to present a Late Pass may result in an unauthorised absence being recorded against a child's name.

Middle and Senior School student lateness will accrue. Repeated, unexplained absences may result in further sanctions, including after-school detentions.

Senior School student arrivals after the start of their first scheduled class, without an attendance note having been logged on Compass by a parent/guardian, may be classified as an “unauthorised half-day absence”.

ABSENCE FROM SCHOOL

In the event of a long-term absence due to illness, teachers may provide work for the student, if able, to complete.

In the case of absence due to family travel, work is not provided and students will be expected to catch up on work that has been missed.

EARLY DEPARTURES

Prep & Year 1:

Parents must log attendance notes on Compass, and then also sign the student out at ELC Reception. A generated receipt must be stamped by Reception staff before the authorised adult (with the student) presents it to the security guard to gain egress from the campus. No student will be permitted to leave the campus without a stamped receipt.

Primary, Middle & Senior School students:

Students whose parents have logged an attendance note for an early departure on Compass, should sign out and generate a receipt at the Compass Kiosk at Main Reception at the appointed time. Main Reception staff will check that parents have logged an attendance note on Compass before stamping the receipt. The student must present the *stamped receipt* to the security guard in order to gain egress from the campus. No student will be permitted to leave the campus without a stamped receipt.

Departures due to illness or injury

Students who become ill or are injured during the course of the school day, must report to the School Nurse (or delegate) who will examine them and determine whether they should go home for the remainder of the day. The School Nurse will contact parents should it be deemed necessary for the student to be collected from school, and will log an attendance note on Compass.

Students are not permitted to contact parents directly to arrange to be collected from school.

VCE CLASS ATTENDANCE

Attendance to ALL VCE classes is compulsory. Students are expected to attend 100% of their classes.

It is compulsory that students complete all set SACs. Teachers will use these SACs to determine if a student has attained the standard required to achieve a satisfactory level in a subject unit. Failure to complete all set SACs may result in a student receiving an "N" for a particular unit.

If a student misses a SAC, unless the reason is associated with a College-approved activity; he/she must:

1. Inform the VCE Coordinator immediately (or by 8:30am on the day of the SAC); **AND**
2. Obtain professional documentation, such as a medical certificate. This evidence should be uploaded on the Compass attendance note or submitted directly to the VCE Coordinator, no later than the first morning the student returns to school.
3. When a student returns to school, he/she must complete the 'Rescheduling of SAC Form' available from the VCE Coordinator. In consultation with the student's subject teacher and the VCE Coordinator, new arrangements to complete the SAC will be documented. The student will be required to complete the SAC at the earliest possible opportunity.

If, for any reason, a student needs to reschedule a SAC or SAT they must speak to the VCE Coordinator. The necessary forms will need to be completed. Arrangements with individual subject teachers are not allowed.

It is the student's responsibility to get the necessary form signed and return the completed form to the VCE Coordinator.

HOLIDAYS OUTSIDE TERM BREAKS

Where a family decides to take a student on holidays outside a gazetted term break, teachers may provide work (when practical) beforehand or place on Compass for all the students in the class. Additional lessons to teach or catch up on missed work resulting from the above decision is not a requirement for teachers.

BEHAVIOUR

Bialik College expects its students to behave respectfully, courteously and with personal integrity towards themselves, their fellow students and teachers. Expectations placed on students include:

- Being courteous and well-mannered at all times
- Showing respect for teachers, fellow students and the College community
- Showing respect for the property and the environment of the College
- Avoiding use of foul language and swearing
- Respecting the rights of others to learn in the classroom environment by not engaging in disruptive behaviour
- Avoiding aggressive or antagonistic language
- Being punctual at all times
- Behaving outside of the College in such a manner that the image of the College is not brought into disrepute
- Displaying honesty and personal integrity

In all instances of a contravention of the above expectations, the College will treat each misconduct individually and impose a consequence ranging from a verbal warning and clean-up duties to an after-school

detention or a Sunday detention. Offences deemed by the Head of School or Principal to be of extra significance may result in suspensions or removal from the College.

These may include issues related to theft, swearing at members of staff, violence, vandalism or repeated class disruption. This is also the case in the event of repeated misbehaviours, even of a lower level.

Ongoing and repeated behaviour that causes concern to the College will have a cumulative effect on the level of consequence that will be administered. Where continued misbehaviours occur, suspensions or expulsion may result.

VCE students need to take particular note of the fact that where a suspension is put in place, their 90% attendance requirement may be adversely affected.

View the [Positive Behaviour Policy](#) and the [Parent Code of Conduct Policy](#).

BULLYING AND HARASSMENT

Every student has a right to feel safe at school. Every staff member has the right to expect that schools will be free of discrimination and harassment. Bialik College has effective strategies in place to provide students and teachers with positive and safe environments. Bialik provides a positive culture where harassment and bullying are not accepted and in so doing, ensures that the entire Bialik community has the right of respect from others; the right to learn, teach, work and play; and the right to feel safe and secure in the school environment.

The College reserves the right to suspend, to request the withdrawal of a student or to expel a student who violates the disciplinary code or behavioural requirements and the rules of the College.

Everyone has the right to feel safe at all times.

The staff of the College are fully committed to the prevention and elimination of bullying. In the course of their professional duties, teachers are required to observe signs of distress or suspected instances of bullying, to take immediate steps to protect the victim and to report any incident of victimisation to an appropriate staff member immediately. The College also asks parents to take note of signs of distress in their children, encourage their children to report any acts of intimidation thereby empowering them, where possible, to deal with potential instances of harassment, and to inform the school where bullying is suspected or ongoing.

CHILD PROTECTION

Bialik College is committed to ensuring child safety throughout our organisation, by protecting the safety and wellbeing of all children and students accessing Bialik College, including its events and activities.

In accordance with its commitment to a culture of child protection, Bialik College:

- has developed this Child Protection Policy along with a number of complementary policies. These policies provide clear guidelines safeguard against any form of abuse against children and students; and
- has developed a Child Protection Program outlining strategies to support all members of the College community enacting a culture of child protection. This includes strategies to promote the participation and empowerment of children.
- has appointed a Child Protection Team, specifically tasked with developing and maintaining a culture of child protection. This team may be seen as the 'go to person' for issues of child protection as they have an increased level of understanding

In addition, the school has developed a training module for volunteers, contractors and new staff to ensure everyone has access to up to date training in the area of Child Protection at Bialik College.

View the [Child Protection Policy](#).

CLASS PLACEMENT

Bialik College utilises a clearly defined, collaborative process for the placement of children into classes which will lead to greater efficiency, increased understanding and improved opportunities for learning.

The intent of this policy is to provide each child with the opportunity to be part of a class that will allow them the best opportunity to learn, to form well-balanced classes of children that take into account the social, emotional, academic and physical characteristics of each child as well as to ensure that optimum use is made of the prior knowledge that teachers, parents and others have of each child prior to class placement.

Requests for specific teachers will not be considered.

COMPLAINTS AND CONFLICT RESOLUTION

Bialik College has both a desire and a responsibility to ensure that high standards of conduct are maintained by staff and students at all times, and that complaints and conflicts are managed and resolved fairly, efficiently, promptly and in accordance with relative legislation.

It is the College's responsibility to provide a healthy and positive school environment that is free from unacceptable conduct ranging from interpersonal conflict to sexual offences, harassment, substance abuse, violent or criminal behaviour. In doing so, the Principal through his delegates ensures that staff and students are aware of their rights and responsibilities.

The methodology of mediation between students, staff members and parents, will be at the Principal's discretion, or that of his delegates. Bialik has counselling and conciliation facilities available to address complaints and resolve conflict.

All complaint and conflict matters will be treated with the utmost confidentiality and with professional respect at all times.

COVID MANAGEMENT

If you or your child/children have tested positive for COVID, it is **strongly recommended** you isolate for **five** days. Please note the day of the positive test result is considered Day Zero. We request that students only return to class when they are **symptom-free**. Rapid Antigen Tests are available from the BCC, ELC and Main Receptions.

DIETARY REQUIREMENTS

Bialik College has procedures and processes in place to ensure the safety and welfare of all students with special dietary requirements. When food is supplied by the College for special events, festivals and class parties an alternative menu will be provided.

Please ensure that the College is informed and updated of all dietary requirements including food allergies and intolerances.

DUTY OF CARE

Bialik College values the relationships between all members of the school community. As well as the educational and social aspects of these relationships, the College is also aware of its legal and ethical responsibilities in regard to the children in its care.

The College's Duty of Care in taking reasonable steps to protect students from reasonably foreseeable injuries or harm, and to take reasonable care for the health and safety of the students, includes:

- ensuring adequate supervision of students
- protecting students from dangerous situations
- eliminating risks to health and safety so far as is reasonably practicable
- reducing risks to health and safety so far as is reasonably practicable
- maintaining safe premises and equipment.

We are aware that the duties and responsibilities of the employees at Bialik College may extend to protecting the physical and emotional welfare of all children.

In addition, all staff have a duty to take reasonable care for their own health and safety, and to co-operate with Bialik College in respect of its efforts to ensure the health and safety of its employees and students.

Full details of the Duty of Care Policy can be found [here](#).

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Bialik College encourages and fosters the advancement of academic and educative work. We recognise that, due to the environment of learning and education at Bialik College, staff, students and consultants will develop intellectual property.

The Intellectual Property Rights most common to Bialik College are rights to copyright, relating to but not limited to website content, multimedia, educational management systems, other educational software and learning and assessment strategies including curriculum.

STUDENTS AND INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Bialik College does not assert ownership over any Intellectual Property created by a Bialik College student, except where Bialik College and the student(s) otherwise agree in writing.

Bialik College reserves its rights in respect of any disciplinary action it may wish to take as a result of a breach of this Policy.

Full details of the Intellectual Property Policy can be found [here](#).

INTERNET AND SOCIAL MEDIA

Bialik uses social media to promote enrolment, to engage with the community and to showcase the school and its achievements. We have a variety of mediums including Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, YouTube and LinkedIn. Each of these mediums serves a different purpose.

Bialik is also aware that using Social Media has some inherent risk. Bialik models responsible online behaviour and students are taught how to similarly behave responsibly online or to report to a trusted adult if they are experiencing harassment of any kind. Social Network Guidelines are disseminated to parents and students at various meetings at school, and students are bound by the College's [Acceptable Use of Technology Policy](#). Similarly, all Staff, Employees, Contractors and consultants are made aware of Bialik's Acceptable Use, Information and Communications Technology and Web Socialising Policy.

ACCEPTABLE USE, INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY AND WEB SOCIALISING POLICY

Parents need to be aware that students:

- are not permitted to engage in social interaction with teachers or other staff via Social Media, unless there is an educationally valid context
- should not send personal emails or 'friend requests' to teachers or other staff, or ask for any other personal information; and
- are not permitted to use or access any Social Media during school hours. All use of Social Media must occur in the student's own time.

Parents are also asked to remind their children frequently, to be careful with the material that they post and be mindful at all times that:

- inappropriate information or pictures may be accessed by other students or people who may consider the material 'fair game' for forwarding on to friends or even broader circulation
- their profile, photographs and related content should be consistent with how they wish other members of the community to perceive them - not just their friends
- they should not engage in any conduct which would not be acceptable at school or in your home, including cyber bullying. Disciplinary action will be taken for breaches and these may be severe depending on the circumstances.

Parents are also asked to bring their concerns to the attention of their child's home room teacher if they believe these guidelines are not being adhered to.

KASHRUT

Bialik College affirms its commitment to Kashrut and to the need for all members of the Bialik community to be sensitive to issues relating to Kashrut.

All Bialik College camps, seminars, staff functions and functions held under the auspices of Bialik College at a public venue or at the College will be kosher-catered. There is one exception to this rule which is for overseas trips outside of Israel. Overseas trips are catered 'kosher friendly' with an option for students requiring strictly kosher foods to elect for this option which will be catered for. Under no circumstances will food purchased from a delivery service (eg. Doordash, Menulog, UberEats, etc) be permitted.

The College Canteen, Kitchen Garden and the kitchen located at the Early Learning Centre, are kosher facilities. All foods, implements or utensils brought into these facilities must be supervised by those by whom these facilities are staffed.

All College functions held at the school or in a public venue will be kosher-catered. Where wines are provided, a selection of kosher table wines will be included.

Where Bialik College functions or activities are held in a private home, and these functions are catered by the host or by other parents, it is requested that those preparing the food be sensitive to and mindful of the issues relating to Kashrut. The same applies to parents who bring food to school to enable their children's classmates to celebrate a special occasion.

While the College does not prescribe which foods may be brought to school for students' lunches, parents are requested not to send to school lunches which contain those meats or shellfish which are forbidden by Jewish law.

The use of energy drinks is strongly discouraged and drinks with infused/added contents i.e. caffeine etc. are not permitted on school grounds, on excursions or camps or at College events and activities.

MANDATORY REPORTING

All children have a right to feel safe and to be safe. All Bialik College staff have a legal and moral responsibility to respond to serious incidences involving abuse and neglect of the children with whom we have contact, and to report instances we believe involve physical abuse, sexual abuse or neglect.

All members of Bialik's staff are mandated by law to report signs of physical and/or sexual abuse, and neglect.

Full details of the Mandatory Reporting Policy can be found [here](#).

MOBILE PHONE

Middle & Senior School Mobile Phone and Wearable Devices Policy

All students must switch off their mobile devices (including smart watches with a sim card). Middle School students must place them in their lockers upon arrival at school, where they must remain for the duration of the school day. For Senior School students, mobile phones are to be switched off or on silent mode and not used – this applies to any building, including “The Hub” and its study areas and during lesson times, private study times and during any school activity or event. Notifications through wearable devices should be at a minimum and not include social and/ or virtual media.

For Years 6-12 students, special exemptions, subject to the required professional evidence, may be granted for students who require mobile devices for assistive technology. At times, and with the explicit permission of a teacher, students may be permitted to use their mobile phones for educational purposes.

In the **Primary School** (Years P-5) students are strongly discouraged from bringing mobile phones and wearable devices. If they do, they must hand their phone to the teacher at the start of the day and collect it at the end of the day. Wearable devices should have notifications switched off.

For full details of the College's “**Use of Mobile and Wearable Devices**”, see the Acceptable Use of Technology (incorporating mobile phone policy) Student Guidelines, in conjunction with the Positive Behaviour Policy Incorporating Student Code of Conduct and The Bullying, Harassment & Violence Appendix, available on Compass.

ALLERGY AWARE

As part of the ongoing safety awareness at Bialik College, the school adheres to a TOTAL ALLEGY AWARE policy throughout the entire College.

Parents and children need to be mindful of any products containing nuts when preparing lunches or snacks. Parents of children, who, historically, have suffered any anaphylactic reaction to any foods or insect bites, need to provide the school with an up-to-date medical action plan, signed by their treating doctor.

The following are guidelines for all parents of students at Bialik College, which, if followed, will minimise the risk of an allergic, possibly life-threatening, reaction to a member/s of the school population.

Don't send to school:

- any fresh nut products
- any spread containing nuts (all nuts, eg: peanut butter, Nutella)
- any muesli bar, biscuit or other product THAT LISTS NUTS AS AN INGREDIENT
- packages of mixed fruit (eg: trail mix) that contain nuts as well
- recycled containers that may have contained nuts, eg: cereal, peanut butter jars, biscuits

Please:

- do not use 'nut' ingredients if preparing food for a special school event (eg: birthday cake, cultural food, sports day picnic)

- if your child eats a nut product for breakfast (eg: peanut butter on toast), washing hands before arriving at school will reduce the chance of exposing an allergic child to nut allergen at Bialik College (eg: on the bathroom taps, computer mouse, climbing equipment, etc.).

All children are to be discouraged from swapping food.

OPT-OUT OF PHOTOGRAPHY

To celebrate the efforts of our students, Bialik College takes pride in publishing photographs and reporting student achievement and participation in school and community events in our publications; internet - including the College website and social media; printed media including The Australian Jewish News; and in materials published by the school from time to time.

The press is invited to a range of school events and they are expected to follow school policy on the publication of photographs of students.

If you do NOT wish to have named photographs of your child/ren published in these forums as described above, please click here to access the [opt-out form](#).

PARENT CODE OF CONDUCT

Bialik College has 5 values, all of which are the principles of good communication. The values are Respect, Integrity, Perseverance, Empathy and Responsibility.

- **Respect, Integrity and Empathy:** parents will use courteous and acceptable written, electronic and spoken language in all communications with students, staff, other parents and members of the College community. Aggressive, threatening or condescending language, whether it is spoken, written or communicated electronically, is unacceptable. We value our diverse community and respect the rights, beliefs and practices of individuals and their families.
- **Responsibility and Respect:** parents will act in the interests of students, their families, the community and College staff. They will not engage in malicious or judgmental gossip and should ensure that anything that is said is fair and truthful.

Full details of the Parent Code of Conduct Policy can be found [here](#).

PRIVACY

Your privacy is important.

This statement outlines Bialik College's policy with respect to the way in which the College uses and manages personal information provided to or collected by it. Bialik College is bound by the National Privacy Principles contained in the Commonwealth Privacy Act.

Bialik College may, from time to time, review and update this Privacy Policy to take account of new laws and technology, changes to the College's operations and practices and to make sure it remains appropriate to the changing school environment.

The purposes for which Bialik College uses personal information of students and parents include:

- To keep parents informed about matters related to their child's schooling through correspondence, newsletters, magazines, email, internet and other technologies
- Day-to-day administration
- Looking after students' educational, school, medical, social and emotional wellbeing
- Seeking donations for and marketing Bialik College
- Maintaining relevant and appropriate relationships once the student has left the College
- To satisfy Bialik College's legal obligations and allow Bialik College to discharge its duty of care

How will Bialik College use the personal information you provide?

Bialik College will use personal information it collects from you for the primary purpose of collection, and for such other secondary purposes that are related to the primary purpose of collection and which can be reasonably expected, or to which you have consented.

Full details of the Privacy Policy can be found [here](#).

RECORDING

Under no circumstances should conversations be recorded without the consent of all involved in the conversation. This includes conversations that are face-to-face, on the 'phone, online and via any other medium, whether one-to-one or in a group / large group context.