

# Admissions Policy and Procedures

## For entry to the Nursery in September 2011

Moriah is a United Synagogue School which teaches Orthodox Jewish belief and practice, embodied in the principles of Torah and Halachah. These include: creating a sense of belonging, encouraging and preparing for lifelong Jewish learning, spiritual growth and practice, mutual responsibility within the Jewish community and the wider world, and the importance of Israel in Jewish life. Jewish belief and practice permeate every aspect of Moriah's activity. All applicants are therefore expected to fully respect the ethos of the school.

There are 26 places in the Nursery.

**The school will give priority to those who meet a religious practice test based on guidelines from the Chief Rabbi. Those applicants wishing to be considered as priority applicants for available spaces will need to obtain a Certificate of Religious Practice (CRP) based on criteria such as the family's synagogue attendance, prior commitment to Jewish education and voluntary work within the community.**

### Oversubscription Criteria

If there are more applications than places available, then places will be offered in the following order:-

- 1 Siblings of pupils attending Moriah Jewish Day School at the time of entry to the Nursery (see note i) provided that they meet the Jewish practice criteria (see CRP)( see note iv).
- 2 Multiple birth children who meet the Jewish practice criteria (see CRP) (see note iv).
- 2 Children and/or their parents/guardians who meet the Jewish practice criteria (see CRP)( see note iv).

In the event that there are more applicants in any category than places available, priority will be given to children living nearest the School (see note ii). Where a child lives with parents with shared responsibility, each for part of a week, the home address will be where the child resides for the majority of the week (see note ii).

### Application Procedure

- 1 Application for a place in the Nursery is by completion of an Application Form and CRP, both of which are obtainable from the school office or the website ([www.moriahschool.co.uk](http://www.moriahschool.co.uk)). The closing date for applications for places in the Nursery for September 2011 is by 14<sup>th</sup> January 2011 Applications received after the closing date will be considered after those received on time.
- 2 Offers of places in the Nursery will be sent to parents from the School on 18<sup>th</sup> February 2011.
- 3 Parents must indicate in writing within two weeks of the offer date their intention to take up or decline the place.

### Waiting List Procedures

- 1 All remaining applications, at the time a place becomes available, will be wait listed according to the eligibility criteria.
- 2 If places subsequently become available the following will apply:
- 3 Places will be offered according to the order within the waiting list.
- 4 For these offers the School reserves the right to give parents 10 days only in which to decide to accept the place.

### Notes:-

- i Siblings are defined as brothers or sisters, half brothers or half sisters, adopted/foster brothers or sisters, and step brothers or step sisters living at the same address. In every case, in order to be given priority, the sibling/s must be children who meet the Jewish practice criteria as explained in the CRP.
- ii Distance is measured using a computerised mapping system based on Ordnance Survey data. In cases where applicants live equidistant from the preferred school and places cannot be offered to both children, the available place will be allocated using a random computer selection.
- iii Parents of children attending Moriah's Nursery class should note the following statutory proviso: Attendance in the Nursery does not guarantee admission to the School. A separate application form must be completed for transfer from Nursery to Primary school. (School Admissions Code 2010 – para 2.66)
- iv A new CRP must be completed for transfer from Nursery to Primary school.
- v There is no right of appeal for applicants who are not offered a place for the Nursery.

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## For entry to the School in September 2011

Moriah is a United Synagogue School which teaches Orthodox Jewish belief and practice, embodied in the principles of Torah and Halachah. These include: creating a sense of belonging, encouraging and preparing for lifelong Jewish learning, spiritual growth and practice, mutual responsibility within the Jewish community and the wider world, and the importance of Israel in Jewish life. Jewish belief and practice permeate every aspect of Moriah's activity. All applicants are therefore expected to fully respect the ethos of the school.

**The school will give priority to those who meet a religious practice test based on guidelines from the Chief Rabbi. Those applicants wishing to be considered as priority applicants for available places will need to obtain a Certificate of Religious Practice (CRP) based on criteria such as the family's synagogue attendance, commitment to Jewish education and voluntary work within the community.**

All pupils are expected to commence the Reception year in September. Any difficulties with this should be discussed with the Headteacher.

There are 30 places in Reception and all higher year groups.

### Oversubscription Criteria

The law provides a separate process for the admission of children with a Statement of Special Education Needs. Such children who have the school named in their Statement will be admitted to the school.

If there are more applications than places available, then places will be offered in the following order:-

- 1 Children who meet the Jewish practice criteria (see CRP)(see note v) who are looked after by a Local Authority.
- 2 Children attending the School Nursery (for entry to Reception class) (see note iv) provided that they meet the Jewish practice criteria (see CRP) (see note v).
- 3 Siblings of pupils attending Moriah Jewish Day School at the date of entry (see note i), provided that they meet the Jewish practice criteria (see CRP) (see note v).
- 4 Multiple birth children who meet the Jewish practice criteria (see CRP)(see note v)
- 5 All other children who meet the Jewish practice criteria (see CRP) )(see note v)
- 6 Looked after children of other faiths or none.
- 7 All other applicants.

In the event that there are more applicants in any category than places available, priority will be given to children living nearest the School (see note iii). Where a child lives with parents with shared responsibility, each for part of a week, the home address will be where the child resides for the majority of the week.

### Application Procedure

- 1 Application for a place in Reception and Years 1-6 in the School is by completion of a Local Authority Common Application Form (CAF). The form is available from, and should be returned to, the child's home local authority. A Moriah Supplementary Information Form (SIF) and a Certificate of Religious Practice (CRP) must also be completed. Both can be obtained from the School Office or the School website ([www.moriahschool.co.uk](http://www.moriahschool.co.uk)) and should be returned to the School Office.
- 2 The closing date for an application for a place in Reception for September 2011 is 15 January 2011.
- 3 Applications received after the closing date will be considered after those received on time.
- 4 The Guide to Primary Schools in Harrow is available from September 2010.
- 5 Proof of address and date of birth must be taken to the School together with the completed SIF and CRP. (See SIF for suggestions of suitable documents).
- 6 Offers of Reception places will be sent to parents by their home Local Authority on 4 April 2011.
- 7 Parents must indicate in writing by 19 April 2011 their intention to take up the place.
- 8 Parents must indicate within 10 days if they wish to be included on the waiting list if the child is not offered a place.

## **Waiting List Procedure**

- 1 All remaining applications, at the time a place becomes available, will be wait listed according to the eligibility criteria.
- 2 If places subsequently become available the following will apply:-
- 3 Places will be offered according to the order within the waiting list at the time.
- 4 For these offers the School reserves the right to give parents 10 days only in which to decide to accept (or otherwise) the place.
- 5 Waiting lists will be maintained for a least one term in the academic year of admission.

## **Appeals Procedure**

In the event of parents not being offered a place for their child in the Reception or Years 1 - 6 they are entitled to appeal by writing to the Clerk to the Governors c/o the School, within 14 days of receiving a letter from their Local Authority informing them that a place is not available.

### **Notes:**

- i Siblings are defined as brothers or sisters, half brothers or half sisters, foster brothers or sisters, and step brothers or step sisters living at the same address, including those adopted or others living permanently in the household. In every case, the sibling/s must be children who meet the Jewish practice criteria (see Certificate of Religious Practice).
- ii The school is committed to taking its fair share of children who are vulnerable and/or hard to place, as set out in locally agreed protocols. Accordingly, outside the normal admissions round the governing body is empowered to give absolute priority to a child where admission is requested under any local protocol that has been agreed by both the United Synagogue and the governing body for the current school year. The governing body has this power even when admitting the child would mean exceeding the published admission number.
- iii Distance is based on Ordnance Survey data using a Local Authority computerised mapping system. In cases where applicants live equidistant from the preferred school and places cannot be offered to both children, the available place will be allocated using a random computer selection.
- iv If a child is already in Moriah's Nursery class, please note the following statutory proviso: Attendance in the Nursery does not guarantee admission to the School for education. A separate Application Form must be completed for transfer from Nursery to Primary school. (School Admissions Code 2010 – para 2.66)
- v A new CRP must be completed for transfer from Nursery to Primary school.
- vi For September 2010, 47 applications were received for 30 available places in Reception.
- vii For further information contact the School Office on 020 8868 2001.