

Security

Security within the Nursery and around it is of paramount importance. As well as a permanent security guard controlling access to the Synagogue grounds, and locked access to the Nursery itself, the perimeter of the grounds is covered by 24 hour CCTV.

Message from Rabbi Yisroel Binstock

The Jewish Journey Starts Here

Our children's Jewish journey begins at a very young age and we don't take these powerful childhood memories for granted. We view our little ones not only as the children of our community, but as our future leaders, and we want them to feel this sense of connection right from the start.

We have an integrated Jewish studies curriculum to enhance the EYFS, combining the relevant Jewish calendar themes with the EYFS learning objectives. They will experience our Jewish festivals, become familiar with the Alef Bet, learn to sing the songs of davening, and gain an awareness of the stories of the weekly Torah portion.

Hale Synagogue Nursery is a crucial part of Hale Synagogue, and myself and the rest of the Rabbinic Team will play an active role in facilitating this. From Shabbat morning concerts in Shule through to Chanukah lighting of our big Menorah, we want our youngsters to feel at home in our Shule. My personal highlight is "Singing with the Rabbi" on Thursday mornings!

As a proud parent, I know that our Nursery provides the highest quality of care for our children, while at the same time nurturing their unique spiritual potential.

I pray that this warm connection with Hale Synagogue and our Jewish faith which starts at our nursery will continue to last a lifetime.

Testimonials

The nursery team are so caring, they are like family to our children. We recommend the nursery to anyone looking for a home from home for their children.

The Mattisons

Aside from the warm environment and the friendships fostered between pupils, Hale Nursery taught my children the basics needed to become "school-ready." They gained the solid early years foundation that the Nursery set out to achieve. I'd have no hesitation in recommending Hale Nursery to other families in the community.

Lauren & Paul Basger

We feel extremely lucky to have Hale Nursery in our community. Thank you for all you do.

Charlotte & Jonny Cohen

Hale nursery has been the kindest most wonderful experience for both my children.

The staff could not be more helpful and everyone is always so friendly.

My children have learnt so much there and enjoyed it very much.

Alexis Rosenthal

The team are absolutely incredible, a pleasure to deal with and create the happiest environment for our children. They always come out smiling, convinced they prefer being at nursery than being at home! The staff at Hale Shul Nursery treat these children like they are their own and what more could we ask for?

Claudine & Benji Crammer

We have no doubt that our children's happy disposition is a reflection of their time and upbringing at Hale Shule nursery.

Charles & Vicky Sadler

Hale Nursery is a real community nursery and prepared our children for very happy and successful school years.

Rebecca & Craig Lewis

Our 4 children all attended this wonderful nursery. This happy & safe environment is run in a truly professional manner, allowing the children to leave for primary school with skills above the expected level. If there was a nursery which showed an exemplary balance of teaching according to the national curriculum and Jewish values we have been blessed to find it at Hale Nursery.

Michelle & Ben Sallon



Hale Synagogue, Shay Lane, Hale Barns
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"Our mission is to blend the highest quality care with the warm and loving community environment of Hale Synagogue"

Hale Synagogue Nursery creates wonderful memories in a safe and welcoming environment. We have a team of highly qualified and experienced staff, many of whom have been here for 10 years or more, headed up by Kat who joined the team in 2000. All staff have regular first aid training and a vast knowledge of the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS), which is combined with a Jewish Studies curriculum at each stage of learning.

We follow 7 areas of learning:

- Personal, Social and Emotional development
- Physical development
- Communication and Language
- Literacy
- Mathematics
- Understanding the World
- Expressive Arts and Design



We run a kosher, dairy kitchen which provides a healthy, varied and balanced menu prepared freshly on a daily basis by our own cook, meaning we can be as accommodating as possible to special dietary requirements.





Kochavim (stars)

This is where your baby starts his or her exciting journey into education. We have a basic daily routine, but at this age you and your child mainly set the routine as their needs change from day to day. We understand that each child is different and your baby will be assessed throughout their time in Kochavim.

Each child has a 'Learning Journey' which you can ask to see at any time. They are filled out regularly as your child moves through each room at the Nursery, with 'wow' moments, photographs and memories of the activities your child enjoys. We hope the 'Learning Journey' is a special keepsake for when your child leaves to go to school and it aids our staff to look back on the children's interests and development. Planning is also very individual at this age to help the children to develop fundamental skills.

By the time they leave Kochavim, your baby will have started to walk unaided, be able to understand basic questions and instructions and will be starting to interact with other children. Communication books are used on a daily basis and information is passed on between parents and staff. This is a useful tool for parents to write any news you feel we should know, to supplement handover at the start of the day or session.

Yareyach (moon)

At around 16 – 18 months, your child will be ready to move into our toddler room.

Here they will have a slightly more structured day. There are set meal times, outside play times, story time etc. You will continue to receive your communication book with daily notes and are still welcome to write any comments, news or concerns in it.

The room is set out in such a way that the children can choose which area they would like to play in. Our planning is individual to every child's needs and activities are planned by assessing and observing them.

Children will begin to learn about their Jewish faith and festivals from around the world in an enjoyable way, using songs, jigsaws, books and games.



Keshet (rainbow)

When your child turns 2, they will enter Keshet. The classroom is divided into areas so that the children can be proactive in choosing what to play with. Mathematics and literacy are found in all areas. In Keshet we plan for your child on an individual child-led basis. This ensures that we can use your child's interests to engage them in learning experiences. We use these to target specific skill gaps.

Many topics are covered in Keshet from 'ourselves' and 'healthy bodies', environmental changes like 'seasons' and 'weather' to topics that may show off the children's individual interests, for example their favourite book or superhero. Jewish and multifaith festivals and the seasons form a general backdrop to activities.

Many life skills are introduced in this room, with the children managing their individual needs and becoming more independent in their self care, like toilet training, feeding themselves competently and drinking from an open cup. The children takes turns to be 'helper' and take pride in performing little jobs to support their friends.

Shamayim/Shemesh (sky/sun)

The Children move into Shemesh when they are 3 or just before. The overreaching aim of pre-school is to help the children continue on their journey towards completing the EYFS and getting them ready for their transition into Reception. The children are split into School years, and for the last year of Pre – School, Shemesh become Shamayim. The children start to wear a uniform and the level of learning is increased to make sure they are school ready. The classroom is set up as a continuous provision unit and is split over two rooms. The children are able to access the toys and resources independently. We teach the EYFS through the Jewish festivals and intertwine other significant topics throughout the year such as 'seasons', 'foods from around the world', 'growing' and 'people who help us'. We also make time to follow each child's interests through adult led activities and child- initiated play.

Here are some examples of what we will help the children to achieve:

- Look after themselves and their belongings
- Think about how they speak to people and how they would like to be spoken to
- Appreciate their friends and families
- Think about and understand the world and community around them
- Ask questions to help them understand
- Use a computer
- Develop creativity through role play, musical and craft activities
- Use creative tools safely and effectively
- Enjoy physical activity and make healthy life choices
- Recognise and write their own name
- Recognise letters and sounds (English and Hebrew)
- Recognise numbers, signs, shapes and symbols



Throughout Nursery life, ongoing informal assessments and observations such as pieces of work continue to provide memories to be added to your child's 'Learning Journey' which is presented to your child on their graduation from pre-school. The children take it in turns to be part of the Shabbat family in our Friday ceremony. In Shemesh we also study a weekly parsha and daven each day. Boys from 3 are invited to wear a kippah and tzitzit.

Playground

Our outside area supports all 7 areas of learning. The children particularly enjoy the Mud Kitchen, Sand Playpit and the sheltered reading area. There are a number of scooters and balance bikes to whizz around on and in the warmer weather the children get involved in planting and watching the wildlife on our doorstep.

