



מתיבתא
שערי חיים
MESIVTA SHAAREI CHAIM

Gateway to Gadlus



"Mesivta Shaarei Chaim shines in its ability to engage all their talmidim, encouraging them to strive for unbelievable heights, giving them a gateway to gadlus with true role models in Torah, Yiras Shamayim and Mentchlachkeit."

**HaRav Pinchas Gross,
Rav of Derech Chaim, Parent of Current Talmid**



Gateway to Gadlus

Our Mission

Mesivta Shaarei Chaim is a gateway to growth through a strong foundation in learning - a gateway to gadlus and a true gateway to חיים itself.

We want each of our תלמידים to internalize the idea that becoming a true בן תורה who can skillfully and enjoyably learn for the rest of his life is an essential and realistic goal for every בחור. Our dedicated faculty are attuned to the intricacies and כוחות of each בחור, fostering a supportive, nurturing environment in which every תלמיד can achieve excellence in learning and genuine growth, which are the forerunners of true שמחת החיים.

“Mesivta Shaarei Chaim is a jewel right here in our community! With its remarkable staff and wholesome talmidim they are becoming an outstanding מקום תורה.”

Harav Yaakov Hopher, שליט"א
רב דק"ק שארית ישראל וראש ועד הרבנים דבאלטימאר

“We are so happy with Yeshivas Shaarei Chaim. The warmth the Rebbeim give, the growth he’s had in his learning, and the geshmak environment have really made a difference in our son’s life.”

Rabbi & Mrs. Moshe Chaim Lazewnik

Gateway to Growth

Excellence in Learning

Our Belief

Every בחור has the potential to become a מצויק.
We enable this by:

- Creating a warm, inviting environment conducive to growth
- Providing both group and individualized instruction geared to the specific כוחות and כשרונות of each individual בחור
- Developing the scope and breadth of a true תורה בן תורה through מוסר, הלכה, חומש, and חומש, in addition to the regular עיון of סדרים and בקיאות
- Guided חזרה with specific detailed instructions to properly review and maintain the learning
- Fostering maximum potential through close תלמיד רבי - relationships, encouraging learning by example
- Teaching the intricate skills of learning to stimulate independent learning

Beyond the day-to-day classroom learning, the בחורים gain from our additional learning opportunities such as:

- סדר מוסר led by the Rabbeim
- A weekly Yeshiva-wide "shmues"
- Prominent guest speakers in preparation for ימים טובים
- learning בורה geared towards enabling more תלמידים to complete the מסכת being learned in the Mesivta
- learning programs with exciting incentives and initiatives בין הזמנים

While opening the gateways towards advanced analytical skills and excellence in learning, our בחורים are challenged to delve more deeply on their own, inspiring them to "shteig" independently and become true עובדי השם.



"The Hanhala and Rabbeim of Mesivta Shaarei Chaim are so intuitive about the needs of the talmidim while keeping the standards high and priorities on growth in Torah and hasmada. We are eternally grateful."

Rabbi & Mrs. Pinchas Gross





Message from our ראש מתיבתא

Dear ק"ק ד'עיר באלטימאר,

After learning under HaRav Meir Stern שליט"א in the Yeshiva Gedolah of Passaic, and then under HaGoan HaRav Meir Soloveitchik's זצ"ל Brisk for 14 years, I moved to Baltimore and immediately became involved in חנוך הבנים. My goal has always been to share the "wealth" I have gained from my illustrious Rabbeim with young aspiring בני תורה. An עיקר, I believe, that is held sacred by the גדולים of Brisk is their "מהלך" in learning - how they approach a סוגיא and how they teach it to תלמידים. As Rav Chaim Volozhiner writes in a letter:

וגם העקר לאחוז בסברא הישרה כו. וכד דייקת שפיר תשכח שכל גדולי הראשונים והאחרונים ז"ל לא נשתבחו אלא בסברא הישרה [ו]כל הישר בסברא גדול מחברו עכ"ל

Rav Chaim Volozhiner is telling us that the more "glatt" a person is able to think, and the greater the clarity in his learning - knowing how to ask properly and answer properly - that is the measure of his greatness in learning.

This is something that can be taught to all בחורים, and this is the foundation upon which Mesivta Shaarei Chaim was founded. When בחורים learn in this way - with a special focus on clarity and "glattkeit" - not only do they develop into מצוינים, they are also inevitably filled with true שמחה in their learning and, by extension, in life itself. These בחורים are also כלי קבול for growth in all areas of their יהדות and menshlichkeit.

At the very onset of Mesivta Shaarei Chaim, I recruited my brother-in-law, Rav Yona Yaakov Lapidus, to join me to ensure that our בחורים are well taken care of and can grow in a healthy and happy way. Next year will be our fourth year בע"ה, and I am proud to say that our תלמידים are developing tremendously, both in their learning and as בני תורה. We have been very fortunate to engage Rabbeim who share our vision and have been doing a remarkable job spreading these values to all the תלמידים of the Mesivta.

I am constantly מתפלל that we should continue having the סייעתא דשמיא in creating a מקום תורה where Mesivta can grow into outstanding בני תורה, who have a true שמחה in their learning and עבודת השם.

Sincerely,

Rabbi Daniel Wilhelm
Rosh Mesivta

Gateway to Giving

Our Hanhala



שליט"א HaRav Daniel Wilhelm
ראש מתיבתא - מגיד שיעור

With his characteristic warmth, R' Wilhelm possesses the unique talent to gauge a תלמיד's capabilities and capitalize on them to maximize learning on an individual level. Rav Wilhelm's depth and breadth of knowledge in תורה inspires excellence from both the תלמידים and the הנהלה.



שליט"א HaRav Yona Yaakov Lapidus
מנהל

Rav Lapidus's keen intuition, perceptive understanding of בחורים and commitment to the highest standards of חנוך has enabled our תלמידים to maximize their potential in a happy, warm atmosphere. His love, concern and utter commitment to - and for - every תלמיד has become one of the hallmarks of our Mesivta.

Our Rabbeim



שליט"א HaRav Yisrael Meir Lebovits

In his role as Ninth Grade Rebbe, Rabbi Lebovits' trademark warmth and exceptional exuberance and dedication, coupled with his masterful and clear שיעורים, enable him to serve as a role model for all the בחורים of the Mesivta. In addition, he is a highly popular Rabbi par-excellence for the תלמידים of his שיעור.



שליט"א HaRav Avraham Yeshaya Rayman

Rabbi Rayman is an accomplished תלמיד חכם whose exuberance and dedication, coupled with his masterful and clear שיעורים, enable him to serve as a role model for all the בחורים of the Mesivta. In addition, he is a highly popular Rabbi par-excellence for the תלמידים of his שיעור.



שליט"א HaRav Chaim Dovid Lapidus

With his many years of extensive experience in the world of חינוך, Harav Lapidus serves as a מורה ודרך and mentor for both the תלמידים and הנהלה. He is much beloved by the recipients of his knowledge, sagacious advice, and ביקאות שיעור and שיחות מוסר.



שליט"א HaRav Aharon Jager

As a respected young תלמיד חכם, Rabbi Jager brings a one-of-a-kind combination of knowledge and infectious enthusiasm. Rabbi Jager's large following of תלמידים soaks up his high-level and geshmak presented with clarity and התלהבות.

General Studies Faculty



Rabbi Gershon Riselsheimer
General Studies Principal

With his impressive background in the field of education, Rabbi Riselsheimer oversees our secular studies department, ensuring high academic standards, while keeping to the Mesivta's השקפות. He is unique in his ability to be resourceful in guiding תלמידים to become the best versions of themselves.



Rabbi Alexander Seinfeld, PhD
Educational Coordinator

A teacher's teacher with decades of experience, Rabbi Seinfeld acts as our Educational Coordinator. The support and training that Rabbi Seinfeld provides to our capable staff ensures that all classes are delivered effectively.



Rabbi Pinchas Elbaum
9th Grade Jewish History/Nav
10th Grade American History



Mr. Yisroel Aharon Allen
Director of Operations
10th Grade Math



Mr. Levi Shor
10th & 11th Grade Science



Rabbi Gideon Benyowitz
9th Grade Math



Mr. Naftali Benyowitz
10th Grade Math



Mr. Meir Vegh
9th, 10th & 11th Grades ELA
11th Grade Jewish History

"The way this Yeshiva will do whatever it takes to facilitate the growth and well-being of their bachrim is something I could never imagine."

A Grateful Parent

Curriculum Overview

The General Studies faculty at Mesivta Shaarei Chaim is comprised of בני תורה who are knowledgeable and capable, serving as role models of השקפות טובות and מדות טובות, preserving our ideals while providing a comprehensive secular education.

Our desired outcome is that תלמידים will graduate with a complete skill set that will make them proud of their accomplishments and serve them well in their years ahead. Areas of study include history, language arts, science and math, following standard high school curricula. Mesivta Shaarei Chaim follows the guidelines of the Maryland Department of Education.



Gateway to Geshmak

Mesivta Shaarei Chaim's high level of learning is matched by our signature warmth and geshmak, ensuring enthusiastic growth that happens in a non-pressured, wholesome setting.

Our warm environment is fostered by:



A large food budget to ensure hearty, high-quality nourishment



חזרה programs with exciting incentives



Emphasis on positive encouragement from our Rebbeim and teachers



Special Shabbos retreat with our staff and their families



Exhilarating summer getaway to foster freshness in learning and create unique opportunities for connecting with Rebbeim and peers



Everyday gestures to ensure our בחורים feel taken care of



"The Hanhala and Rebbeim of Mesivta Shaarei Chaim are the true classic leaders and mechanchim that Klal Yisroel needs so much. They will develop wonderful well rounded Bnei Torah & mentchen who can really learn well and properly prepare a blatt Gemara. They have been thus far tremendously matzlaiach and the best is yet to come. I personally recommend prospective talmidim to consider this Yeshiva very strongly. They are going to have it all!"

Harav Yaakov Bender, שליט"א
ראש הישיבה ישיבת דרכי תורה וחבר וועד ראשי ישיבה של תורה ומסורה



Daily Schedule

7:45 AM	Shacharis
After Shacharis	Breakfast
9:10 AM	Halacha Seder <i>(Sun. Tue. Wed. Fri.)</i>
9:20 AM	Halacha Seder <i>(Monday, Thursday)</i>
Following Halacha Seder	First Seder
12:30 PM – 1:30 PM	Lunch
1:30 PM – 2:40 PM	Bekiyus
2:45 PM	Mincha
3:15 PM – 6:25 PM	General Studies <i>(see below)</i>
3:15 PM – 3:55 PM	Period #1
4:00PM – 4:40 PM	Period #2
4:40 PM – 5:00 PM	Break
5:00 PM – 5:40 PM	Period #3
5:45 PM – 6:25 PM	Period #4
6:25 PM – 7:30 PM	Supper
7:30 PM	Night Seder
8:30 PM	Mussar Seder
8:50 PM	Maariv

I am truly impressed with the devotion that the Rebbeim and Hanhala have for the Talmidim. We have many Talmidim who are doing beautifully at Mesifita Shaarei Chaim."

Harav Moshe Tesser

Admissions Timeline

Potential bochurim and their families can request an application by contacting us at (410) 656-9827 or info@shaareichaimbaltimore.org, or alternatively, download an application or use a simple online application form at shaareichaimbaltimore.org/apply-now. Applications can be obtained from their current school office as well.

Applications must be submitted by January 18th either by mail:

**3702 Fords Lane
Baltimore MD 21215**

Or by email: office@shaareichaimbaltimore.org.

After submission, you will be contacted to learn more about the Mesivta and invited to come for a visit. Additional forms will be sent, including requests for transcripts and reports from מנהלים and Rabbeim. Farhers will be scheduled for Mid-December through February. Students will be tested on the Gemara they learned over this past year and may be asked to read a Gemara they haven't yet learned. The farher is also an opportunity for the potential תלמידים to meet members of the הנהלה, Rabbeim and current תלמידים.

Within the weeks following receipt of an acceptance letter, students who are accepted and would like to attend the Mesivta will have to submit a registration form along with a registration deposit.

"We've been so impressed by the warmth and dedication of the hanhala to each and every bochur individually. The Mesivta is run with great chochma. They're able to push the talmidim to really grow and maximize their potential while keeping the atmosphere happy and non-pressured."

Mr. & Mrs. Hillel Halberstam



"The hanhala at Shaarei Chaim goes above and beyond to help each boy maximize his potential, in his unique way. The individualized attention given to each boy makes it seem like he's an only child to the Yeshiva."

Mr. & Mrs. Moishe Danziger



"Our son joined Shaarei Chaim this year. From day one, he has felt the love and warmth of all the hanhala and appreciates the emphasis on individual growth. B"H he arrives home each evening with a huge smile on his face. We are forever grateful to the Yeshiva for helping Shlomo on the path to develop into a happy ehrliche Ben Torah!"

Rabbi & Mrs. Shaya Cohen





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שערי חיים
MESIVTA SHAAREI CHAIM

Mesivta in the Etz Chaim Center
3702 Fords Lane
Baltimore, MD

office@shaareichaimbaltimore.org