



Sinai Jewish Primary School

Big school, big heart, big opportunities



"We know the children are just starting on their educational journey but the values they are taught from Nursery and throughout their time at Sinai will stay with them for life."

Juliette Lipshaw, Headteacher

happy children,
learn well

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www.sinaischool.com



Thank you for your interest in Sinai.

As Europe's largest Jewish primary school we pride ourselves on being forward thinking educators, always striving for the best for each and every one of our pupils. We are extremely proud of our students, our best ambassadors, who are polite and caring children and motivated to strive for the best. Our pupils are generous in mind and spirit and involve themselves in diverse charity work. Our aim is to prepare them for their future, giving them the learning skills that will guide them throughout their lives; encouraging them to be independent thinkers and developing resilience in all they do.

We are fortunate to be set in a large campus, which hosts amazing facilities for all of our pupils to benefit from. Children enjoy specialist teaching in French and PE and specialist facilities for ICT (Information & Communications Technology), Music and Art, as well as excellent teaching in the full curriculum. We are also proud to be a Maths Mastery school. Our commitment to our children is that they will have an excellent education across both the secular and Jewish Curriculum.

We have a strong Jewish ethos which fosters a love of our traditions and culture in a modern orthodox setting. Alongside this we believe that our pupils must be good British citizens, and pride ourselves in our multi faith work and our education of British values and heritage.

We strive to be a centre for excellence and this begins in Early Years where our provision is first class. We have developed a nurturing child centred approach where we foster a love of learning, through curiosity, investigation and exploration. Our staff in Early Years and across the whole school are passionate about teaching and always strive to do the best for their pupils, encouraging them to reach their potential and exceed their expectations.

Children at Sinai, love Sinai – happy children learn well. Behaviour is excellent and teachers have high expectations, through a warm and nurturing approach. We are proud of our achievements and are always aspirational for all our pupils.

We are a big school, with a big heart, offering big opportunities.

I welcome you to come and visit our school.

Juliette Lipshaw
Headteacher, Sinai Jewish Primary School

About Sinai School

Sinai Jewish Primary School is three-form entry, co-educational voluntary-aided school, admitting 90 children into Reception and up to 60 children into Nursery. It is the largest Jewish primary school in Europe – a big school, with a big heart, offering big opportunities.

The school follows the National Curriculum and strives to embed a lifelong love of learning and boasts a team of dedicated and driven staff who all believe that every child has the right to the best education. We have extensive sports facilities, including a purpose built gym and specialist French, Music, Art and PE teaching. We also have a SENd department and sensory room as well as an on-site school counsellor available to all our children.

Our size means we offer amazing opportunities both inside and outside the classroom whilst we nurture and care for the well-being of every child.

Sinai offers a wealth of extra-curricular activities including dance, drama, karate, football, Art, chess, choir and computer classes. We also support the working parent and offer daily breakfast and afterschool clubs as well as school coaches from Radlett, Elstree, Borehamwood, Mill Hill and Stanmore and Bushey.

Themed days, workshops, school trips, visits from speakers and theatre groups and cross curricular activities bring learning to life and enhance the varied and exciting learning environment for all the children.

As a United Synagogue school we embody a love of and commitment to Judaism and Israel. Hebrew and Jewish Studies underpin the whole educational character of the school. Jewish Studies is taught both as an independent subject and integrated into day-to-day lessons.

The Jewish Studies curriculum aims to develop spirituality and to make the children proud of their Judaism, with the necessary skills and knowledge to continue with their Jewish Studies throughout their secondary education and on into adulthood. Celebrating the festivals is a big part of Sinai life and we welcome parents and grandparents in on a regular basis to share this joy.

'A nurturing environment
for your child to learn
and develop'



Our Nursery

Starting Nursery is a big step for everyone in the family. Our priority is for your child to feel safe and nurtured, just as they do at home. Our Nursery is happy, warm and friendly with a calm energy that our children thrive on.

We believe that learning at this young age is all about exploring through play and developing the learning skills needed for future years. Our bright and modern Nursery setting is open plan and allows the children to use the space and equipment to its full advantage.

Our Nursery and Reception lay the foundation for the children's future education. Our children are taught a blended mix of formal lessons, group work and independent free-flow activities.



The EYFS curriculum encompasses seven key areas of learning.

The three prime areas of learning are:

1. Personal, Social and Emotional Development
2. Communication and Language
3. Physical Development

The four specific areas, through which the three prime areas are strengthened and applied, are:

1. Literacy
2. Mathematics
3. Knowledge of the world
4. Expressive arts and design

In our school Jewish Studies forms the 8th area of learning, ensuring it is an integral part of the children's learning



2 outdoor spaces exclusively for our Nursery

Sinai Facts

Our Reception

The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) ensures that children learn through play, as play is vital for children's development. It is through play that young children learn, grow and have fun. It helps them understand the world around them and to develop socially and emotionally. The child is at the centre of the Early Years Foundation Stage and our staff will acknowledge and value your child's interests and abilities, building on them through play.

The children have a daily Maths meeting, Phonics and Maths lessons and weekly Literacy and Talk 4 Writing lessons which is supported with continuous provision inside and outside the classroom. Teachers and support staff lead focus group activities across all areas of learning.

All children work at their own individual pace and work is differentiated accordingly. By the end of the year, children will be working at, or ready to start, the Key Stage 1 Curriculum. We ensure that intervention groups and 1:1 support for those children identified with specific learning needs takes place, as well as ensuring support is given to any child who is not making the appropriate progress. We also offer extension opportunities for the most able/gifted and talented pupils.

The Early Years Foundation Stage is comprised of seven areas of learning. Each area of learning and development is implemented through a mix of adult led activities and child initiated play. Our staff will pick up on your child's interests and abilities and build on them through play – ensuring that each individual child reaches their fullest potential.



Prime Areas:

1. Communication & Language
2. Physical Development
3. Personal, Social and Emotional Development

Specific Areas:

1. Literacy
2. Mathematics
3. Understanding the World
4. Expressive Arts & Design

Sinai
Facts

4 outdoor
playgrounds
and play
equipment





The Curriculum

Year 1 – Year 6

We follow the National Curriculum which sets out a clear, full and statutory entitlement to learning for all children aged five to eleven and determines the content of what will be taught. This is preceded by the Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum which is taught to children aged three to five.

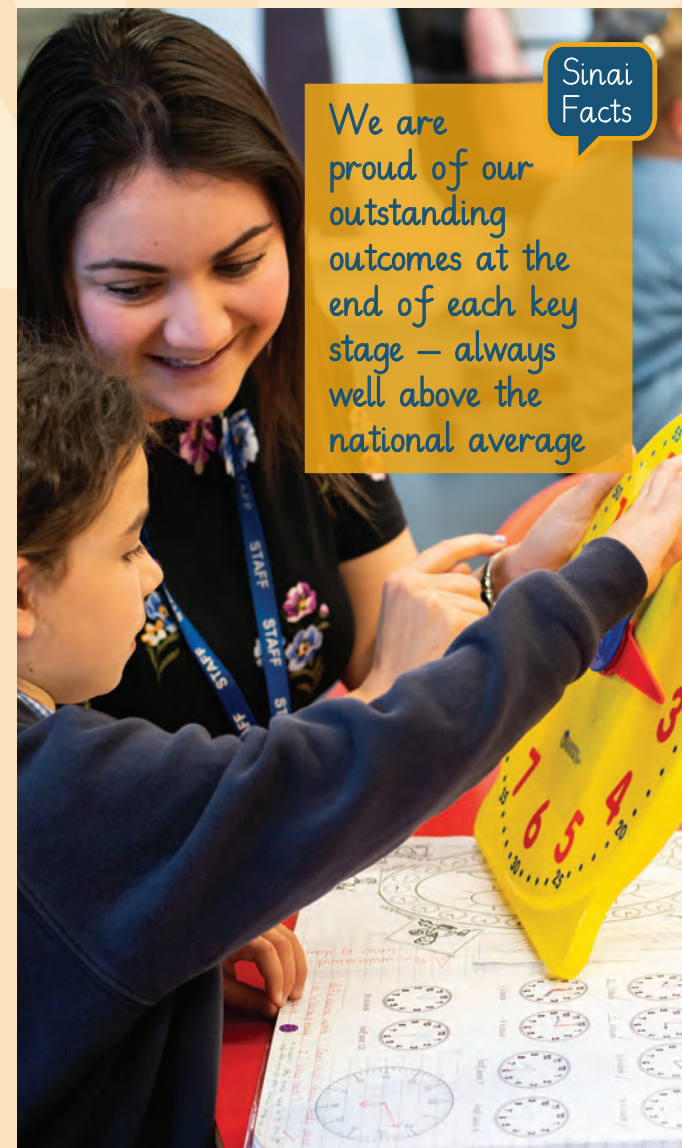
We place the children at the centre of their learning: immersing them in memorable moments; actively engaging lessons and creating meaningful links within our learning.

Core curriculum subjects are:

- English
- Mathematics
- Science
- ICT (Information and Communication Technology)

The Foundation subjects are:

- History
- Geography
- Design and Technology
- Religious Education
- Music
- Art
- Physical Education
- Personal, Social, Health and Citizenship Education



Music

Music reflects the culture and society we live in, and so the teaching and learning of music enables children to better understand the world we live in. Besides being a creative and enjoyable activity, music can also be a highly academic and demanding subject. It also plays an important part in helping children feel part of the community.

All children are given opportunities to perform, compose, listen to and appraise music. We encourage pupils to look at new ways of expressing musical ideas through classical music and interactive experiences.

In our dedicated and well-resourced music room the children have access to the following instruments as part of their lessons: violin, African drums, recorder, toot and ukulele.



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Music Room

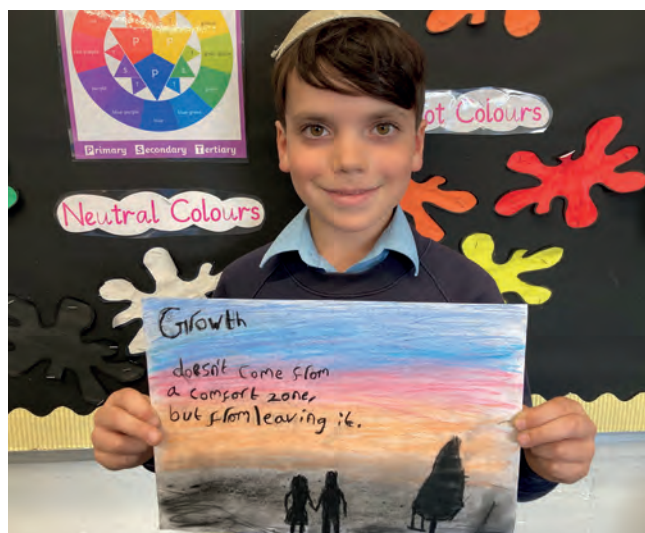
The teaching and learning of music enables children to better understand the world we live in.

Art / Design & Technology

We believe that Art provides children with a range of quality experiences which captivate and motivate them, allowing them to creatively explore various subjects including many of the topics they are learning in class.

At Sinai we aim to give children a wide variety of high quality art experiences, using a wide range of media for drawing, painting, printing, collage and sculpture that engage and challenge our pupils. Our schemes of work take inspiration from artists, styles and cultures from around the world.

Art is taught in our well-resourced Art room which houses an onsite kiln and a range of mixed media.



Sport

At Sinai we recognise the vital role that PE has to play in promoting a long-term healthy lifestyle that is both enjoyable and rewarding. We aim to provide a high-quality physical education curriculum that inspires all of our pupils to succeed and excel in competitive sport and other physically demanding activities. Physical education is at the forefront of our school culture and we believe this will enhance academic achievement, as well as the health and well-being of our pupils. We have a full time specialist PE teacher who is supported by specialist Sports Coaches to assist in the teaching of Football, Basketball, Tennis, Netball, Swimming and Multisports. The children also complete the daily mile on a track that loops our MUGA (multi use games area).

We regularly enter sporting competitions, in both local and Jewish leagues, and our full trophy cabinet is a reflection of the high standard of sport at Sinai.

We also offer a variety of lunchtime and after school extra-curricular sports clubs for the children, run by external suppliers.



Specialist teaching for PE

We recognise the vital role that PE has to play in promoting a long-term healthy lifestyle that is both enjoyable and rewarding.



Languages

Learning a foreign language provides a valuable educational, social and cultural experience in preparation for future life. At Sinai we have a dedicated Modern Foreign Languages teacher and we teach French throughout KS2 in a fun and enjoyable way through choosing interesting and relevant topics that will engage and stimulate learning and develop children's curiosity of language. They sing songs, read stories and perform role-plays.

At Sinai our aim is for children to begin to develop a love of learning a language at primary school, which should encourage them to continue to learn a modern foreign language at secondary school.



Jewish Studies

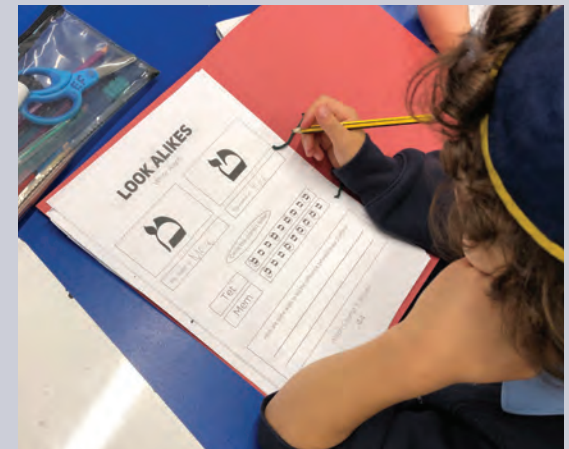
Hebrew and Jewish Studies underpin the whole educational character of the school and are taught in an interesting and meaningful way, complementing and enriching the secular studies across the school.

Our Jewish Studies curriculum aims to produce children who are proud, confident Jews with the necessary skills and knowledge to play a full part in the Jewish Community.

We aim to create in every child the desire to continue with their Jewish Studies throughout their secondary education and on into adulthood.

Children at Sinai have a daily Jewish Studies lesson as well as *tefillah* and *bensching*.

Celebrating the festivals is a big part of Sinai life and we welcome parents and grandparents in on a regular basis to share this joy, whether that be for candle lighting at Chanukah, our model Seder at Pesach or *Oneg*, where we mark Shabbat.



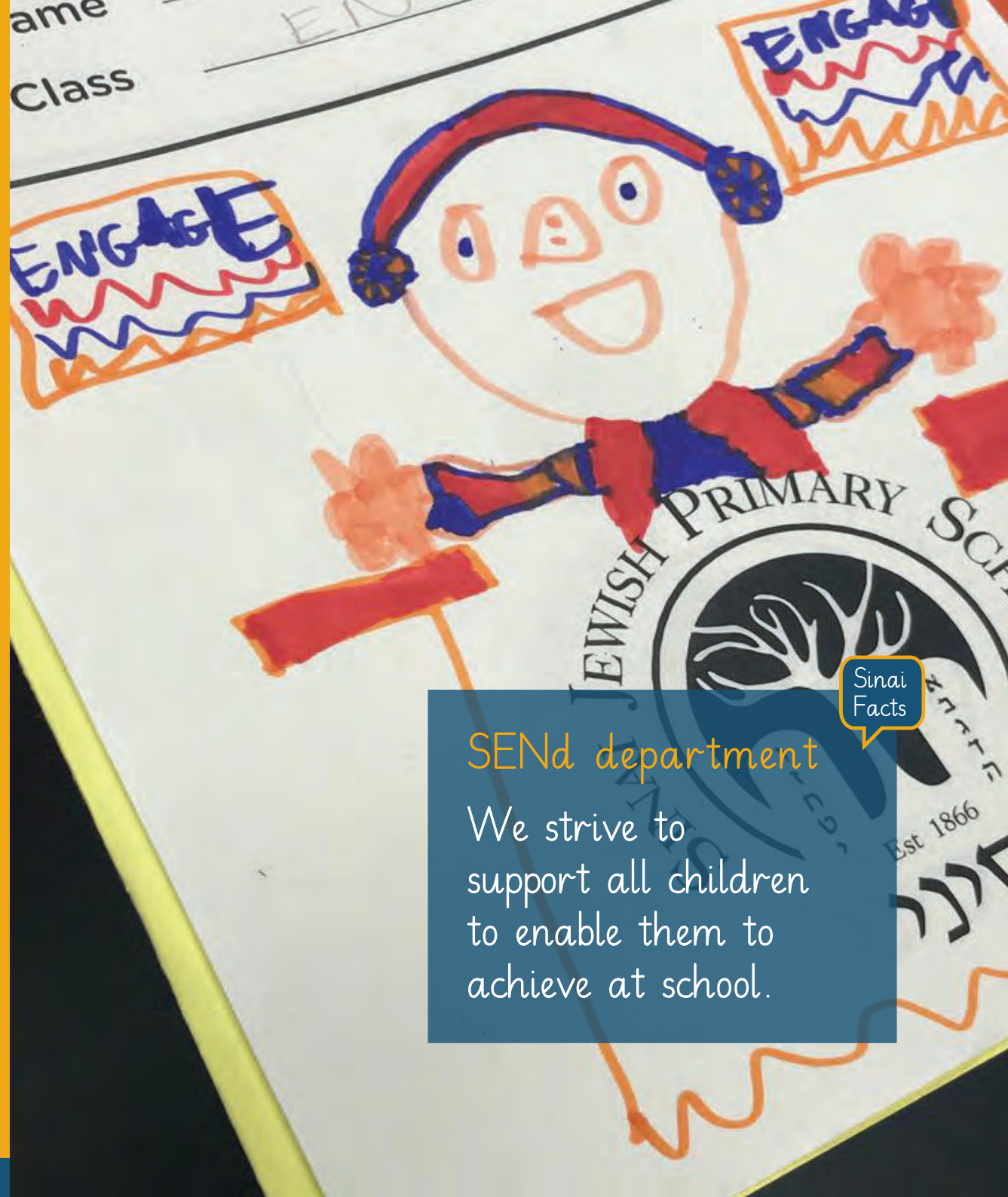
'Celebrating the festivals
is a big part of Sinai life'

SENd Department

We strive to support all children to enable them to achieve at school. In order to do this, many steps are taken to support them through their learning journey. For some children there are occasions when further additional support may be needed to help them to make the best possible progress in school.

Sinai is a fully inclusive school and aims for all pupils to achieve their potential, personally, socially, emotionally and academically in all areas of the curriculum (regardless of their gender, ethnicity, social background, religion, sexual identity, physical ability or educational needs).

Children are identified as having SENd when they have a significant learning need or disability which calls for provision to be implemented that is additional to, or different from, the provision that is typically in place for other children of the same age in a mainstream setting. The school, through our dedicated and specially staffed SENd Department, then have specific needs based plans that help support their development and accelerate progress.



Sinai
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SENd department

We strive to support all children to enable them to achieve at school.

Sensory Room / Wellbeing Room and Garden

We have a fully equipped sensory room available for all our children to use as a safe and calm space to meditate or take some time for reflection.

We also have a Wellbeing and Therapy Room where our therapists meet with the children under their care. It is a calm and adaptable space used for therapy, relaxation and discussion. By offering a space for the children to relax and think we are enabling them to manage their own stress and wellbeing.

We have a beautiful Wellbeing Garden with a variety of plants, outdoor seating and a relaxing water feature – all designed to benefit physical, mental and social wellbeing.

Sinai is a nurturing school. We care for the whole child and have committed to providing the staffing and resources to facilitate this support.



Sinai
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Sensory Room

'We care for the whole child and have committed to providing the staffing and resources to facilitate this support'

Sinai
Facts

Wellbeing Room

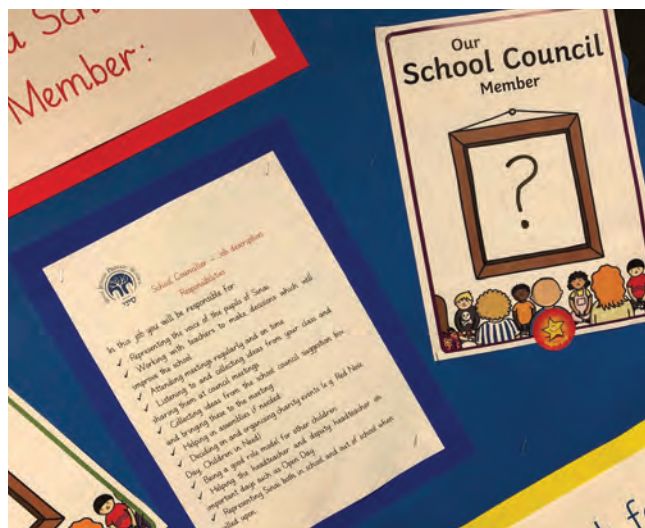
We also have a SEND department and sensory room as well as a Wellbeing Leader and therapists available to all our children.



School Council

We believe it is important to listen to our pupils and value the contribution they can give to making decisions about the school. Every year, each class (Y3 to Y6) elects two representatives to the school council. As proud British Citizens we follow the rules of democracy.

The Council's aim is to help the school improve in a number of different areas with ideas, comments and suggestions. If children have a comment to make, there is a 'Suggestion box' in every classroom. Meetings are held regularly in the Conference Room and the Councillors chair and Minute these meetings with guidance from Senior Staff.



Working with Parents

The school welcomes and encourages the active involvement of all parents and regards this as part of the partnership between school and home.

There are plenty of opportunities for Sinai families to come into school and experience the buzz of a school day.

At the beginning of each academic year we hold a launch meeting where parents get to meet the class teachers and learn about the curriculum for that year.

We will regularly update you on your child's progress and host two Parents Evenings per year as well as a detailed written report at the end of the school year.

We invite Sinai families in to celebrate Shabbat and the Jewish festivals, such as Chanukah, Pesach and Yom Ha'atzmaut and we are proud to be an open and welcoming school.

We know that children learn best when their parents are fully involved in their education and we ask your help and cooperation in ensuring this work is completed on time, regularly and to a high standard.

We also have plenty of volunteer opportunities for our parents. We have a lively and active PSA (Parent School Association) that put on fundraising events throughout the year and we have two class reps for each class to help disseminate school messages and to speak directly to the Senior Leadership Team.

'Happy children
learn well'





Sinai
Facts

Sinai encourages the active involvement of all parents.

We also have plenty of volunteer opportunities for our parents.

Extra-Curricular Activities

We are proud to offer a wide range of extra-curricular activities at Sinai. We know that activities outside the classroom are wonderful for building confidence.

Extra-curricular activities which take place outside the school timetable (lunchtime and after school) include:

Ballet, Chess, Drama, Football, Hip Hop, Karate, Netball, Keyboard, Violin, Dance, Musical Theatre etc.

Wraparound Childcare

We know that working parents often find it difficult to juggle work and the school day. To help our working parents we offer Breakfast Club daily from 8.10am – 8.35am for the children to enjoy a healthy start to the day, overseen by a Sinai staff member.

Our Sibling Club helps parents bridge that gaps between different year group finishes and we also offer an After School Club (Monday – Thursday) until 5.30pm where children can engage in games, outdoor play or read a book. A light supper is given.

Our playground is open every morning from 8.10am to allow parents to drop and go. The school has good transport links and is equidistant from Kingsbury and Preston Road underground stations, with both being only a short walk away.

School Buses

We offer a number of transport options through our fleet of school buses to help parents coming in from Mill Hill, Edgware, Radlett Borehamwood, Elstree, Bushey and Stanmore. Please contact admin@sinai.brent.sch.uk to learn what options are available to you. (Other areas will be considered based on demand)





Healthy School

All the food served at Sinai, from our 5 star hygiene rated kitchen, meets Government nutritional standards. As part of the policy we also encourage healthy packed lunches. We serve high-quality hot meat, chicken or fish meals with fruit and vegetables. There is also a daily fresh soup and salad bar, jacket potatoes and pasta options.



Example menu:

<div>   </div> <h2>Sinai Lunch Menu 2022 – Week 1</h2>					
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Daily Soup	Soup of the day	Soup of the day	Soup of the day	Soup of the day	Soup of the day
Main Course	Chicken Shwarma	Breaded Escalope of Chicken	Shepherd's Pie	Chicken Meatballs	Haddock Goujons / Fish Fingers
Side dish	Rice	Chips	Garlic Bread	Spaghetti	Potato Wedges
Vegetarian Option	Vegetable Chilli	Vegetarian Schnitzel	Vegetable Pie	Vegetarian Salami	Herby Crumbed Macaroni Cheese
Vegetable sides	Mixed Salad / Green Beans	Broccoli Ratatouille	Side Salad / Sweetcorn	Coleslaw	Peas / Tomato Wedges
Food Bar	Sandwiches / Salads	Sandwiches / Salads	Sandwiches / Salads	Sandwiches / Salads	Sandwiches / Salads
Dessert	Chocolate Mousse	Peach Melba Crumble	Fruit Salad	Apple Pie	Orange Wedges

Governing Board

The Governing Board provides strategic leadership and accountability for the school – catering to the needs of the whole school community. They ensure the school provides the best environment for learning notably across scrutiny of curriculum, pupil wellbeing and finance, within the school's modern Orthodox Jewish ethos.

"I am determined to ensure that the children at Sinai have the best we can provide. I take great pleasure from visiting the school and observing the good behaviour and focused learning, knowing that this is a result of the broad and stimulating curriculum and dedicated and enthusiastic teaching provided throughout the school."

Mr Darren Simons, Chair of Governors

Attendance and Punctuality

Your child is expected to attend school every day. School starts at 8.45am and we want all children here on time and ready to learn. We are proud that our attendance rate is 97%.

The gates to our school open at 8.10am for pupils to arrive early and enjoy the space our playgrounds offer.

Safeguarding

We have an excellent reputation for safeguarding our pupils and staff. We have a robust Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy in place. Our Safeguarding Lead and team along with a nominated Governor are responsible for Safeguarding. We run annual training for all staff and all our volunteers are DBS checked.

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility. Everyone who comes into contact with children and their families and carers has a role to play in safeguarding children. Everyone who works with our pupils ensures that their approach is child centered and they consider at all times what is in the best interest of the child.

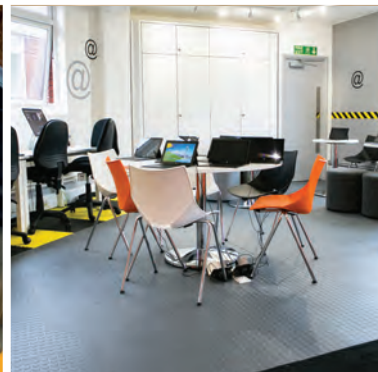
Security

Our campus is a secure site, which has controlled entry, mag-lock doors, 24 hour CCTV and a security patrol team. We ask all people visiting the site to abide by our security procedures. Visitors, volunteers and parents must only enter through the main entrance and after signing in at our Reception desk.



Parent Tours

The Headteacher or Head of Operations conduct tours of our wonderful school. Parents wishing to view the school should contact admin@sinai.brent.sch.uk to request a tour.



Sinai School Rules:

Be Respectful

Be Responsible

Be Ready

Be the best you can be



Notes





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