

August 2021

Dear Parents of Daycare Students,

Preparations are well underway for an exciting year in Daycare. We hope that you are enjoying your summer and looking forward to starting school in September. The Administration and your Daycare teachers have been working hard over the summer to further develop and refine our program.

Morah Dikla and Morah Vida will continue to bring their wealth of experience and boundless joy to our program. The teachers are working together, along with the VHA Administration, to plan for an exceptional 2021-2022 Daycare year!

Enclosed you will find supply/activity fee letters for your child. Please be sure to bring the requested items with you on the first day of school. Supply Fee cheques can be mailed to the office or hand-delivered, preferably prior to the first day of school. Enclosed you will also find a copy of our updated Family Handbook. Please take the time to familiarize yourself with the policies and procedures of our school.

In order to provide our youngest students with the most positive early educational experience, we have a Gradual Entry Policy which offers a modified schedule for the first few days of school. This helps ease new students into what might otherwise be an overwhelming change. While we understand this can cause scheduling challenges for parents during the first week of school, this graduated entry into Daycare allows for parents to aid with the transition to school and also provides the opportunity for the teachers to firmly establish classroom routines and expectations. Below are the detailed timetables for our Daycare students.

Wednesday, September 1st

- **Daycare 3 – “Orientation Day” 8:30am-9:30am**
Parents are asked to join us in the Daycare to introduce children to the classroom and teachers. We ask that younger siblings not accompany you on this day, so as to allow you to give your Daycare child your full attention.
- **Daycare 4 – “Welcome Back to Daycare” 10:00am-12:00pm**
This short first day gives teachers the opportunity to introduce (or

reintroduce) students to the guidelines and routines of Daycare. Parents are asked to join us for 1 hour, from 10:00-11:00am, and then come back to pickup your child at 12:00pm.

Thursday, September 2nd

- **Daycare 3 – “Transition Day” 8:30am -10:00am**
While the teachers help your child transition into Daycare, parents are invited to stay and have coffee and pastries in the library.
- **Daycare 4 – “Transition Day” 8:30am -12:30pm**
Students are introduced to the Daycare 3 students and prepare for a longer day. Parents are invited to stay for 1 hour, from 8:30-9:30am, and have coffee and pastries in the library.

Friday, September 3rd

****First Shabbat Party****

- **Daycare 3 – “Get to Know Your Day” 8:30am - 12:30pm**
The schedule increases allowing students to grow into their new environment. Students will spend their day with the Daycare 4 students today and get to participate in their first Shabbat party.
- **Daycare 4 – “Regular Schedule” 8:30am – 4:00pm**
We will move to the regular Daycare schedule as the children reacclimatize to the school setting. Parents do not stay with their child on this day.

Thursday, September 9th

- **Daycare 3 and 4 – “Regular Schedule” 8:30am – 4:00pm**
We move to the regular Daycare schedule for the entire Daycare.

Please note that Daycare students proceed directly to their classroom from 8:20am. The Daycare staff will be at the front doors of the school to welcome the children in.

We look forward to greeting you and your child on the first day of school!

Sincerely,

Rabbi Barak Cohen
Head of School

Shannon Brodie
Principal General Studies

Rabbi Tzvi Goldman
Principal Judaic Studies

Vancouver Hebrew Academy
Daycare 3 and 4

Getting Ready for Daycare

Dear Parents,

As you prepare for the exciting new year, we would like to share our vision for success for your preschooler.

The first few weeks of Daycare we will be working towards independent self-care, which is a foundation for all early learning experiences. With this in mind, we would encourage you to practice these skills at home in preparation for Daycare. This includes putting on and taking off shoes, opening and closing lunch boxes and food containers. This will ease the daily routine and transitions for your child in Daycare.

Within the first week of school, please bring the following items:

- Water bottle - to help the children to drink enough water during the day and also to be independent to help themselves, we keep the water bottles and wash and refill them daily.
- A set of either velcro close or slip-on indoor shoes (**no crocks** or sandals please). **No open toe shoes please.** These shoes to be kept in daycare.
- 2 snacks and lunch - we encourage healthy nutrition among the children. Our daycare is **Nut-Free Environment.**
- For nap/quiet time: Sheet, blanket, small pillow, stuffed animal (optional). All the children get some quiet time, and expanded activities are provided for those who do not need to take a nap.
- Child's family picture - to be displayed in the daycare classroom.
- A complete, labeled set of clothes in a labeled zip-lock bag (top, bottom, socks, underwear, tights/leggings). This extra set of clothes (appropriate for weather) will be kept in the child's cubby and be replaced when needed.
- For rainy days: rain/winter boots, muddy buddy (so children can enjoy playing in puddles), and warm clothing for cold days
- Five rolls of nickels for Tzedakah
- Smock or Dad's old shirt for messy art

Earthquake Emergency Kit (Required by Community Care Licensing)

Please bring these items in a large zip-lock bag the first day of school:

2 snacks (nut-free snacks that your child will eat)
family photo – or something familiar that will bring comfort to your child
small flashlight
candies (for comfort and energy)
small water bottle
2 liters of bottled water
2 cans non - perishable food
1 box of granola bars/crackers
1 solar blanket
small toy/small book

Thank you.

The Daycare Team



August 2021

Dear Parents:

Re: School Supplies – Daycare 3 and 4

The Daycare Teachers will be purchasing school supplies for your child for the 2021-2022 school year. Throughout the year, the teachers may require some extra specialized items and you will be notified when these are needed.

The cost per student for school supplies will be \$60.00. As well, there is an **activity fee of \$35.00** per student (for special projects and field trips) and a **PAC fee of \$40.00** per student (or \$120.00 family maximum).

Please complete and return the form below and remit the full amount by cash, cheque or e-transfer (to accounting@vhebrewacademy.com). If paying by cheque, only one is necessary to pay for the three items listed below. No post-dated cheques please. All payments should be made by the first day of school.

Thank you.

Sincerely,
 The Daycare Morahs

PLEASE COMPLETE AND RETURN THIS FORM to the school office by the first day of school in September 2021.

FAMILY NAME: _____

	Price:	
Supply Fee	\$60.00	
Activity Fee (field trips, special projects)	\$35.00	
PAC Fee (\$40 per child or \$120 family maximum)	\$40.00	
Total		

I will be paying by: Cash Cheque e-Transfer

For Office Use Only

Payment Received