# Code of Conduct

As Jews, we are expected to conduct our lives with love and respect for others.At Temple Shaarei Shalom, we stress the following kinds of respect: Respect for others and ourselves, respect for educators, respect for subject matter and respect for our surroundings.

## Respect for Others and Ourselves

We do not hit, tease or hurt others in any way. **We have a zero tolerance policy for verbal or physical bullying.** We allow others to express their opinions in a safe environment, without any negative attitude toward one another. This type of respect includes caring for the emotional well-being of schoolmates. No one can say hurtful things or use harmful language in the classroom or in the school. One must also respect the possessions of others.

## Respect for Educators

The Rabbi, Cantor, teachers and the school administrators provide students with a rich Jewish education. They are devoted to teaching the students, have much to offer and hold a respected place in Jewish life and history. Inappropriate language and actions towards the educators will not be tolerated.

## Respect for Subject Matter

Torah is at the heart of all we teach. Within every subject, we study Jewish heritage, culture, beliefs and values. These are essential for conveying Judaism from generation to generation. Textbooks and all educational materials must be treated with care, and assignments must be taken seriously; all are Kadosh-Holy at the core.

## Respect for Our Surroundings

The Temple and other school facilities are sacred buildings and should be treated with dignity. We pray in the sanctuary, learn in the classrooms and socialize in the hallways. It is inappropriate to misuse these facilities in any way. If our students abide by these basic rules, then the Religious School experience, both individually and as a community, will be rich with opportunities for learning and friendship.

**Dress Code**

Children should never wear clothing or accessories to Religious School that would be unacceptable at public school—no short shorts, spaghetti straps, or bare midriffs. In addition, because ours is a religious school, students often go into the sanctuary. They should refrain from wearing t-shirts or other items that might have inappropriate language or be otherwise disruptive or inappropriate in a synagogue environment.

**Cell Phone Policy**

All cell phones need to be in a backpack or pocket and turned off unless used as a resource by the teacher. If they are taken out at inappropriate times, **the teacher has a right to take it from the student**. At the teacher’s discretion, it may be given back during class or given to a parent at the end of the school session.

**Other Policies**

In order to facilitate the Code of Conduct, students need to:

* Arrive on time and limit class absences.
* Come prepared with the assigned books, notebooks, pencils and any other materials requested by the teacher.
* Conduct themselves in a respectful manner within the synagogue and school buildings.

Consequences for Code of Conduct Violations

If there is a violation of any of the above, the following consequences will result:

* **First occurrence:** Verbal warning. The teacher will speak with the child.
* **Second occurrence:** The teacher will call the child’s parent(s) and inform the Education Director.
* **Third occurrence:** The child will be sent to the Education Director, who will contact the parent(s).
* **Fourth occurrence:** The Education Director, Vice President of Education, or other designated person, and parent(s) will meet to determine what the next steps will be which may include suspension or removal from Religious School. Each occurrence will be documented and put into the student’s file.

## Zero-Tolerance Policy for Physical Altercations

We have a zero tolerance policy for any physical altercations. If such an event occurs, parents will be called immediately to pick up the involved students. Students will not be able to return to class until a conference has been set up with parents and Education Director.

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**Religious School**

**Parent Handbook and Code of Conduct Signature Page**

**2017-2018**

Please return one Signature page for each child to his or her teacher.

**I have read and I understand the contents of the Parent Handbook.**

Parent’s/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**I have read and discussed the Code of Conduct with my child, and we agree to abide by it.**

**Student’s Name (Print): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Grade:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

Student’s Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent’s/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_