



Leeds Jewish Free School

PROSPECTUS



Welcome to LJFS

Leeds Jewish Free School set out a decade ago to build and grow a vibrant Jewish secondary school in Leeds offering a first class education.

Our Orthodox Jewish values and ethos, offer a caring, supportive environment which is reinforced by high standards of behaviour, allowing each and every child to develop a lifelong love of learning.

We believe in small class sizes and a balanced curriculum that will help develop a wide range of skill sets to ensure stability and flexibility of learning.

We have the very highest expectations of both staff and students.

We balance individuality with collaboration, helping all students to discover what they love and a direction that will help them flourish in life. Preparing students for every stage of their school life and beyond is paramount. We ensure that the curriculum is matched to student needs and that every student is set challenging targets – both for academic work and for personal development.

LJFS will prepare young people to be thoughtful and responsible members of society in an ever changing world, ensuring that they are equipped for lasting success.

We look forward to welcoming you to our school in the near future.

Charlie Kelsey - Executive Headteacher

School Ethos

As a Jewish faith school our Jewish ethos is core to ensuring our students' success. We expect all our students to not only know our values but to live our values, whether it be in the relation of teachers to pupils, pupils to teachers, pupils to one another, as well as towards the outside world.

- ▶ **Tzedek:** Integrity & respect for one another and our different beliefs
- ▶ **Chessed:** Kindness, especially to the sensitive and the vulnerable
- ▶ **Mishpat:** Deep respect towards the rules and laws of the school and society
- ▶ **Rachamim:** Compassion & Forgiveness



“This is a school that values diversity, inclusivity and kindness.”

“Pupils feel accepted for who they are and appreciate the supportive environment created by their peers and the staff.”

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Guiding Principles

Our guiding principles are fundamental to our outcomes and they help guide everyday decisions and **CREATE** a better organisation:

COMMUNITY – The campus is at heart of a thriving, Jewish community and growing links and partnerships across Leeds and beyond. Our activities are intended to support local and global citizenship, intercultural education, and education for sustainable development.

RESILIENCE – Flourishing in everyday life and cope when things get tough. When an opportunity arises, we seize it and use a growth mindset to overcome challenges.

EMPOWERMENT – Promoting self confidence and helping all to discover their ability to make good decisions and thus become independent and self-reliant. We aim to challenge, motivate and excite all to become life-long learners.

ASPIRATION – Ensuring we set ourselves high goals and excel when striving for them.

TRUST – In supporting all staff and students to achieve at all times and in all that they do. Leadership are trusted in their consistent approach; staff are trusted to deliver and build upon best practice and students are trusted to follow clear expectations and boundaries, meaning that learning is built on trust.

EXCELLENCE – We seek to make excellence a habit and seek to do our best through creativity and effort. Everything is done to achieve the highest possible standards, consistently and relentlessly.

“This united school community has strength of vision and clarity of purpose.”

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At LJFS, our curriculum is designed with a clear intent to provide our students with a holistic and enriching educational experience.

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The Quality of Jewish Education at Leeds Jewish Free School is outstanding.

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VOTE

Core Purpose

The Leeds Jewish Free School is a Modern Orthodox Jewish School which aims to offer outstanding educational provision that ensures high academic standards, a strong moral ethic, a joy of learning, high aspirations and an expectation to contribute to the local community. This is underpinned by its strong Jewish ethos and an innovative educational model.

Every pupil will leave the school having enjoyed their education, achieved well and, if Jewish, proud of their faith, heritage and community. All pupils will see themselves as proud citizens or residents of Britain, respectful and understanding of all other members of its diverse community and contributing at all levels. These aspirations will be key drivers for our curriculum at all Key Stages and in all subjects. Our pupils will have access to education which meets these specific needs without family income being a barrier.

When our pupils apply to university their high academic achievement, matched with their unique educational experience, will ensure that they are always considered as strong applicants for their chosen course and are well prepared for the challenges of university life.

Jewish families relocating will see Leeds as a positive option because a full school life can be envisaged in Leeds, current families will stay for the same reason and all Leeds families, no matter their faith background, will see this school as a first choice for their child.

“ The school council embodies the spirit of empowerment among pupils. They advocate the importance of social responsibility and valuing the rights of others. ”

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Pastoral

We understand the need for children to feel safe, well and happy in order to achieve to the best of their ability. Day-to-day pastoral care is provided by our own specialist staff and members of the senior leadership team. We think this is crucial to ensure that every pupil is well known and can reap the full benefits of their small school setting.

Pupils are arranged into tutor groups, led by a form tutor who will stay with them throughout Key Stage 3 and 4 . The form tutor has a key role in ensuring that pupil's social and emotional needs are met within school and are supported by a Learning Mentor as required.

A real advantage of LJFS is our small class sizes, which means we can get to know each of our pupils and their families very well.





LJFS Student Voice

Student voice is students actively participating in decision-making at school on things which shape their educational experiences. It is more than just students 'having a say' and 'being heard'.

To be successful, student voice must value the perspectives and opinions of students and act on them in a way that genuinely shapes learning and decision-making at the school.

What do we want our students to do?

- ▶ **Having Voice:** Students develop skills and competence; their thoughts and opinions are heard and valued.
- ▶ **Having Influence:** Students have influence over decisions affecting them, their learning and interests.
- ▶ **Having Choice:** Students have choice about their learning.
- ▶ **Working Together:** Students have genuine opportunities to collaborate with other students and adults in meaningful ways.

We Aim To:

Offer high quality education within a strong Orthodox Jewish ethos that is available locally, accessible to all irrespective of faith, specific needs or family financial capacity.

We will ensure that no pupil has to leave the city, county and region to access the education their families want, and have an entitlement to.

Ensure that underpinning all aspects of the educational planning will be the need to ensure our pupils are equipped for the world in which they will move into after education.

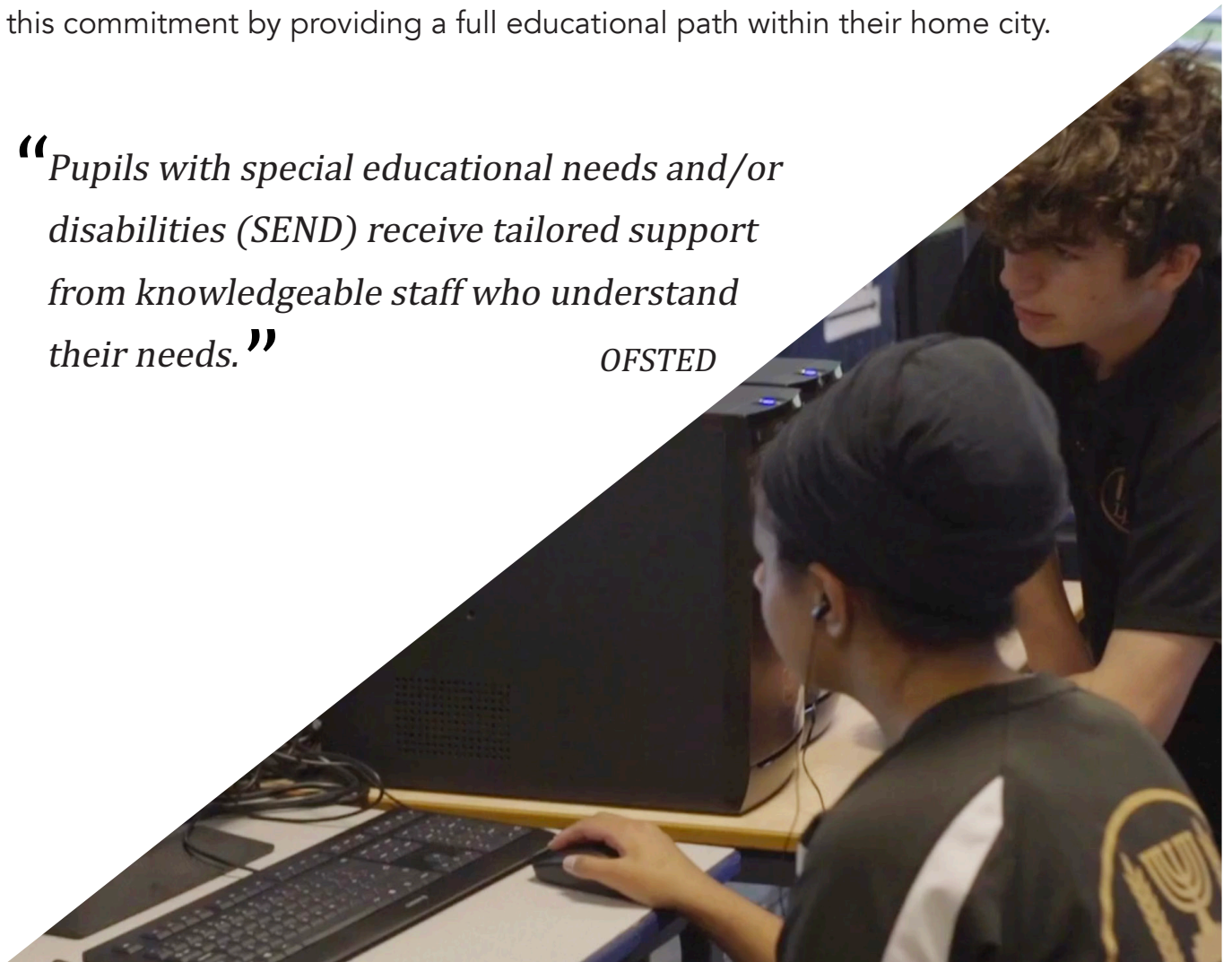
Ensure that our teaching methods will ensure that they develop the capacity to learn independently, adapt to changing technologies and the demands of a global work place.

Ensure that by operating in an innovative way, with secure partnerships across sectors and organisations the school will model to the pupils the world in which they will live and work.

Meet the needs and aspirations of a community that is committed to Leeds and secure this commitment by providing a full educational path within their home city.

“Pupils with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) receive tailored support from knowledgeable staff who understand their needs.”

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I promise every parent that I will personally ensure that your child receives the very best possible education and achieves to the absolute best of their ability at LJFS.

We will continue to deliver this high quality education and personal development, for the benefit of every student that walks through our doors, both now and in the future.

Dan Cohen (Chair of Governors)

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