

# DARCHEI NOAM

## An Ethic To Live And Learn By

You will be a kingdom of priests  
and a holy nation to Me.

*Shemot 19:6*

וְאַתֶּם תִּהְיוּ לִי  
מְמַלְכֵת כְּהֹנִים וְגוֹי קָדוֹשׁ

שמות יטו,

Our school discipline policy is based on the Jewish values of Kavod (respect) and Derech Eretz (appropriate behavior). Our goal is for each of our students to become a "mensch" - a kind, respectful person whose behavior is based on solid Jewish values. Students, teachers, and madrichim (teen aides) alike are expected to demonstrate caring behaviors toward each other, the school and synagogue facility, the Jewish people, and humankind. Each and every student, madrich, and teacher must feel safe, respected, and valued while attending school or participating in school activities. At the beginning of each school year, each class participates in a "climate-setting" discussion to set clear expectations of appropriate behavior. These expectations include the use of inclusive, respectful, and positive language as well as respect for property and the authority of teachers and madrichim. By coming up with agreed upon norms and consequences, each class will develop a brit or covenant to help guide and support positive classroom behavior throughout the year. Should a behavioral problem arise that interferes with teaching and learning or causes emotional distress to any of our students, the following series of steps will be implemented at the discretion of the Education Director:

### **STEP 1: TEACHER INTERVENTION**

The teacher manages disruptive or hurtful behavior within the classroom setting, reinforcing positive behavior and enforcing consequences for negative behavior. If the disruptive or hurtful behavior is repeated, the teacher may contact the parents.

### **STEP 2: SCHOOL CONFERENCE**

Should a problem persist beyond the teacher's efforts to resolve it directly with the student, the Education Director will be notified. Elisha will meet with the student to discuss the problem and set goals for future positive behavior. Consequences for continued disruptions will be outlined. Parents may or may not be contacted immediately, depending upon the nature of the problem.

### **STEP 3: FAMILY CONFERENCE**

Should the student be sent to meet the Education Director a second time regarding disruptive or hurtful behavior, a conference will be held with the student, parents, teacher, and Director. This meeting is required before the student will be allowed to rejoin the classroom community.

At this meeting, an agreement will be made among all parties regarding expectations and consequences.

**STEP 4: WITHDRAWAL FROM THE PROGRAM**

If there is no improvement in behavior, the student may be asked to leave the class, and an alternative learning plan will be developed. The student's family must provide for a school approved tutor to enable the student to complete the learning expectations for the year. Prior to being admitted to the next grade level, the student and parents must meet with the Education Director and develop a behavioral contract that will be signed by all parties.

**SPECIAL NOTE: SEVERE INAPPROPRIATE BEHAVIOR**

Behavior that is dangerous, harmful, or blatantly disrespectful to another person's physical or emotional well-being will not be tolerated. A student who puts another child in danger or deliberately causes physical or emotional distress will be immediately removed from the group setting and taken to the Education Director, who will contact the parents to take the student home immediately. The student will not be permitted to return to class until an appropriate apology is made and a plan is set in place between the school and the parents to prevent such occurrences again.