

Headteacher: Mr Jeremy Stowe-Lindner BA, MBA, NPQH

Further Information

Learning support

We value all JCoSS students equally, and we understand that their needs, interests and abilities may be wide-ranging. All our staff, with the help and advice of the Learning Support department, aim to ensure that each student has the opportunity to fully develop their skills. Accelerated setting starts in half the curriculum in Year 7 and sets are adjusted in the light of academic profiling and testing throughout students' time at JCoSS to ensure the right balance of challenge and support. A staff team works together to identify the needs of individuals and, when necessary, produces an Individual Education Plan (IEP) to identify the support required and to monitor and review progress. Support is offered across the curriculum, in class or on a withdrawal basis, as appropriate.

Cognitive Ability Tests are held in the Autumn Term for all Year 7 students. These are used along with reading and spelling tests to establish the specific strengths of each student. The Gifted and Talented Policy, alongside a monitoring programme, is applied by all departments to ensure changing needs of the school population.

Careers guidance

Careers education begins from a student's first day at JCoSS. Much of our pastoral tutorial work is geared towards creating an awareness of each student's strengths and weaknesses. In Years 7-9 key work-related skills are developed and students are helped to make the transition to the upper school.

In Year 10 there is more emphasis on the nature of work in general, and the specific skills or qualifications demanded by certain careers; all students benefit from the opportunity of a week's work experience. By the end of this year many students will have a general idea of the type of work they might enjoy. Individual interviews in Year 11 help students to decide their learning and

career pathway at 16+ and whether to join the JCoSS sixth form or go to other establishments. All Year 11 students receive guidance on how to look for work or choose a course of further education. Information is also given on application and recruitment procedures used by colleges or employers, including wide-ranging advice on interview preparation.

Sixth Form students receive help in selecting and applying for college and university courses or employment. There are ample opportunities to visit open days at universities and large companies, hear outside speakers and admissions tutors, and to attend short introductory courses to see if a particular career appeals to them.

Work experience

All Year 10 students take part in a week's work experience during the Spring Term. This helps them gain an insight into the world of work and aids the transition from school to a working environment. Work experience also helps students' personal and social development by increasing self-confidence, communication skills and sense of responsibility. It gives them the opportunity to apply skills learned at school to a real situation. As this can be achieved in any work situation, placements may not be linked to their future career. Most that every child is extended to achieve their full potential.

Within the Learning Support department we have specialist staff who work to meet the needs of students with educational, emotional, social or behavioural difficulties. Students with physical disabilities enjoy the security offered by our caring environment.

Our support will be adapted to meet the students find it a rewarding and worthwhile experience, whatever job they are doing.

Inspection of documents – Freedom of Information

All Governors' documents relating to the school, which are available for

parents to see, are held in the school. Parents wishing to inspect any of these documents should contact the Headteacher.

Charging policy

JCoSS provides free education for children of all abilities. Parents are asked for a voluntary contribution to pay for Jewish Education, the unique Jewish ethos of the school, neither one of which are funded by local or national governments, and towards security costs. Voluntary contributions are in line with those requested by other local Jewish schools and for 2011-12 are £1350.

The Governors reserve the right to charge in the following instances:

- Where a family opts for a child to have private lessons (e.g. musical instrument, singing, bnei mitzvot classes).
- Where a family opts for a child to enter an examination that is not a normal part of the JCoSS curriculum.
- Where a family opts for a child to participate on a school visit which is not a compulsory part of the curriculum – the family will be invited to cover the costs involved on the understanding that if there is insufficient support the proposed trip will not take place.
- To cover the cost of ingredients/materials for practical subjects (e.g. Food Technology).
- As a deposit against the cost of public examination entries in certain specified circumstances.

Personal accident insurance

The school's rules and procedures are designed to ensure, as far as possible, a safe environment for all who work and study here. It should, however, be noted that no environment can ever be risk-free and that the Governors' insurance cover does not include personal accident insurance for students in schools. Parents may wish to make their own arrangements for such cover.