



JFS School

Sixth Form Prospectus

1732



Dear Prospective Parents and Students

I have the great honour and privilege of being the Headteacher of JFS, the oldest and largest Jewish School in Europe. I have worked as a Science teacher at the School for over 30 years, alongside truly exceptional and talented colleagues. The School develops proud, confident and caring students with a strong sense of Jewish identity and we continue to set ever higher standards for them.

JFS is a school steeped in history and retains high aspirations for the future. For over 280 years, since 1732, we have provided opportunities which motivate our students to achieve their full potential. We equip them with the skills and confidence to achieve excellence.

We are consistently placed at the very top of the School League Tables and are one of the highest achieving non-selective state schools in the United Kingdom. Our success at nurturing every student's academic ability is reinforced by our strong reputation and the many accolades we receive each year.

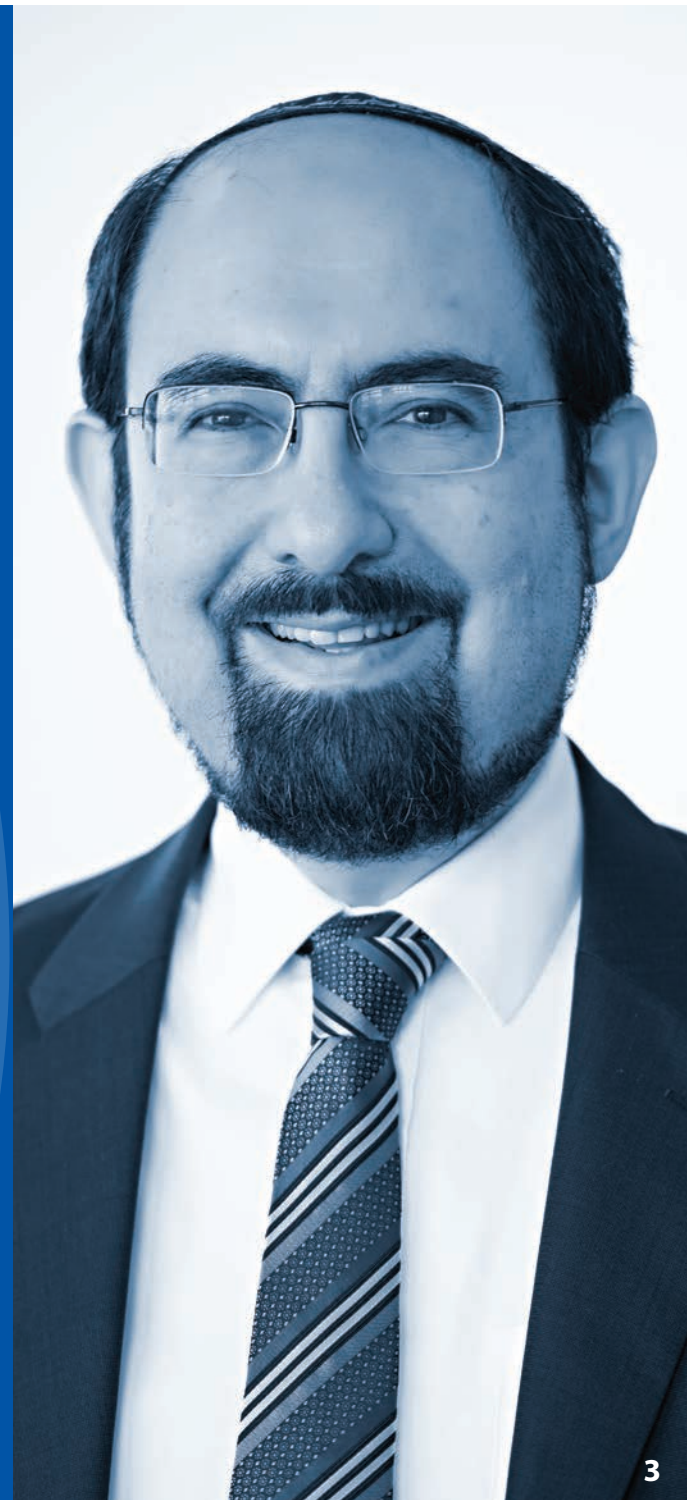
We were awarded 'Leading Edge' status in 2010, 'Investors in People' status in 2011, the 'NACE Challenge Award for Gifted Children' in 2012 and 'Investors in Careers' status in 2013. The Sutton Trust ranks us in the top five schools nationally for successfully helping students gain entry into Russell Group Universities and the 'ALPS' organisation ranked us in the top 1% of all schools at A Level.

JFS offers extraordinary facilities, a strong Jewish ethos and an unrivalled dedication to professionalism. We provide our students with a nurturing and inspiring environment and we equip our students with the tools to navigate a path to meet and exceed their own expectations.

We look forward to welcoming the next cohort of JFS students who will take their place in the JFS community.

Yours sincerely

Jonathan Miller



Personalised Progression

The JFS Sixth Form is one of the largest and most successful in the country. Each year we have 150 applications from students wishing to transfer from other schools, mostly from the independent sector.

The reason for the high demand is simple – our 'A' Level examination results are consistently outstanding. We are one of the top performing non-selective state schools in the country year after year. With over 280 years of innovation in education and the best teaching resources and facilities available, JFS delivers proven academic achievement.

A Smooth Transition

Whether you come to us from a Jewish or non-Jewish school you will find the welcome you receive at JFS is warm and familiar. All our Sixth Form students are making a transition from Year 11 and support each other on this journey of discovery. JFS is highly sociable and an inspiring place to work and develop.

Our Sixth Form is fulfilling and stimulating for all; from positive Jewish experiences through to the enhancement provided by our comprehensive extra-curricular programme.

A Studious Environment

Students learn independently, act responsibly and demonstrate leadership, respect, care and commitment.

Sixth Form students benefit from the opportunity to lead and guide younger students, who in turn gain from this interaction. Our students are exceptional role models. They engage in charity work with Jewish and non-Jewish charities alike, locally and internationally.

The Sixth Form complex is a magnificent facility with its own dedicated Wi-Fi enabled cafeteria, study areas, photography laboratory/dark room and specialist media studio. The Sixth Form regularly hosts distinguished speakers, politicians and captains of industry who offer students inspiration and guidance for their futures.

Your Sixth Form career

Most students embark on four 'AS' Level subjects in Year 12 and will continue with three of these in Year 13, with some choosing to study four. A few students are enrolled on a three 'AS' Level programme in Year 12 whilst some may wish to take an additional 'AS' Level subject in Year 13. All 'AS' Level students will sit modular examinations at the end of Year 12.

Those studying Further Mathematics usually do this as a fifth subject in Year 12. There are GCSE re-sit courses in English and Mathematics.

A springboard for success

Our university preparation programme is nationally recognised. Our experienced staff utilise their expertise to provide individualised guidance and advice to students, helping every student to make the right choice of university and course. This is acknowledged by the Sutton Trust who rank JFS in the top five schools in the UK for successfully helping students gain entry into Russell Group universities and by the Schools Network who awarded JFS 'Leading Edge Status' as an outstanding Specialist School. We have produced a guide to Higher Education which is used extensively by other schools nationwide.

Academic progress is closely monitored by our dedicated and professional team of Tutors and pastoral Heads of Year. They are led by an inspirational Head of Sixth Form and assisted by a nationally recognised University and Careers Adviser.



“The philosophy, culture and ethos of JFS are extremely aspirational and all encompassing, resulting in a wealth of achievement.”

Source:
NACE Challenge Award Assessors

The Challenge Award, received in July 2012, recognises our provision for exceptionally able students



Lifelong learning outside the classroom

JFS offers students diverse and life-altering experiences. We provide a rich and varied programme of educational extra-curricular activities that enhance our students' academic progress and enrich their personal development.

In the Sixth Form, our students participate in educational visits, both domestic and international. All students take part in Physical Education activities and are encouraged to engage in a multitude of extra-curricular programmes. These include our debating club, the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme, Young Enterprise, the student newspaper, a diverse array of societies.

Our students are given opportunities to expand their horizons and develop their individual interests.

A First-Class Education

The broadest curriculum, the best facilities

JFS has unparalleled facilities allowing us to specialise in the widest possible range of curriculum options.

Students flourish academically and all our staff are subject specialists. Our rigorous curriculum includes not only Art, English, French, Geography, History, Ivrit, Mathematics, Music, PE, Religious Studies, Science and Technology but extends to Computing, Dance, Economics, Psychology, Sociology, Theatre

Studies and much more. The full list of subjects on offer is detailed in the course booklet enclosed at the back of the prospectus.

We also provide a Childcare Course and a BTEC in Hospitality. We pride ourselves in offering a programme which enables every student to reach their full potential. Our dedicated pastoral team support each student and nurture their individual ability and talent.

“I really appreciate how much time you and the rest of the staff put into my university application and I'll be forever grateful for that. The support at JFS is second to none and, though I was only there for two years, I feel as if it became a home for me almost overnight. It's a really special place and I am proud to be a part of it.”

Source: **JFS Alumnus**



A Journey of Discovery

The outlook and practice of the School is Orthodox. However, our students come to us from diverse Jewish backgrounds, with varying levels of knowledge, experience and practice. This diversity is our strength, with a broad spectrum of youth developing Jewish values together.

Our formal Jewish Education programme engages students in lively debate on moral issues and dilemmas that are relevant in today's world.

We use Jewish texts as a springboard to inspire and challenge. The option of joining the Text Programme provides an opportunity for the close study of Mishnah and Gemara and associated skill development in preparation for time in Israel at a yeshiva or seminary.

We pioneered Informal Jewish Education and continue to lead the field. With innovative programmes and extensive learning opportunities, stimulating social activities are available for all. Students take part in the daily Minyan, Mishnah Shiur, 'Lunch and Learn' Programmes and individual chavrutot.

Israel at the heart of the school

As a Zionist school, every student develops a relationship with Israel.

Students engage with Israel through our active Israel Society and the celebration of all Israeli festivals. We are proud that many go on to complete a year of further study, volunteering and social action in Israel before commencing university.

Prayer

At JFS we believe spirituality must be embraced and not imposed. Services are held daily and led by our students in our beautiful, purpose-built Synagogue.

Student-led social causes

Our Sixth Form led Charity Committee successfully directs the charitable activities of the whole school. JFS is committed to raising awareness of the needs of others. Students regularly raise funds for a wide range of causes, Jewish and non-Jewish, domestic and Israel based.

Students are given an introduction to communal awareness via our volunteers fair and participate enthusiastically in social action. This is the start of our students' lives as energetic volunteers within the community and their accomplishments are impressive and varied.

“Jewish ethos permeates the entire fabric of the School.”

Source: **Pikuach**

Inspection 2009



Exploring Individual Talents

Anyone who visits JFS for the first time appreciates the university campus feel of the School. We provide facilities of exceptional quality with a sense of space, light and openness.

Such facilities and equipment would normally only be available at the most expensive private schools. JFS provides considerable scope, opportunity and added value for all our students.

The whole campus is equipped with a 21st Century ICT infrastructure. Our entire curriculum is supported with dedicated facilities. All classrooms, laboratories and other teaching spaces are equipped with computer and audio-visual technology.

All these features are an aid to learning, in an environment designed to meet the needs of our students as individuals. Whatever a student's interests, we have outstanding facilities which will set them on the road to success.

A tradition of innovation in arts, music and sport

Our striking Theatre hosts assemblies, drama and music productions as well as workshops and seminars covering topics of citizenship, diversity and multi-faith

education. Our recently developed Drama Studio provides a dedicated space for theatrical pursuits.

Our students produce magnificent works of art in our art facility. Utilising extensive, professional apparatus the stunning results adorn the corridors of the School.

Our comprehensively equipped Music Department houses individual practice rooms, keyboard labs and a recording studio. There are a whole host of bands, choirs and performances throughout the year and students are given the opportunity to flourish and shine musically.

JFS has Sportsmark Status. Our two sports Halls, Dance Studio, Fitness-Suite, all-weather surface, sports fields and tennis courts enable the PE department to provide an exciting, seasonal programme, focusing on Athletics, Games, Gymnastics and Dance. Additionally our bespoke climbing wall has literally taken our PE curriculum to new heights.

Anyone who visits JFS for the first time can appreciate the university campus 'feel' of the school providing not only custom built facilities of exceptional quality but also a sense of space, light and openness.





Navigating a Successful Future

We have a comprehensive intake and yet over 90% of our GCSE students proceed onto 'A' Level courses in our Sixth Form. On leaving JFS, our students join the best universities the length and breadth of the United Kingdom.

Our stimulating Sixth Form programme is academically rigorous and challenging. Students enjoy exceptional opportunities to address the issues of the day, welcoming members of Parliament, economists and television personalities as well as engaging CEOs of blue-chip companies. Our students achieve success in competitive debating, honing their skills and building their confidence.

Whilst JFS invariably appears near the very top of 'A' level league tables, it is our ability in consistently helping students to achieve well above expectations which really demonstrates our success.

Developing the next generation of leaders

At JFS we have a deserved reputation for high ethical and disciplinary standards. Our students are well-behaved, respectful and motivated to thrive and achieve at their best inside and outside the School.

We prepare students for a life of leadership with impactful training programmes. These include public speaking, communication and people

management skills, as well as engaging with many communal leaders. Our students perform a broad range of roles in the School and help to enhance our community.

Caring for all students

Outstanding success in public examinations is vital and JFS students achieve this. However, in order to thrive, students must learn in an environment where their overall welfare is regarded as paramount and their social, moral, cultural and spiritual needs are met.

The Sixth Form Team share responsibility for the pastoral well-being, academic progress and overall development of every student in their care and focus on the needs of every student throughout their time at the School.

Joining the JFS Family

Generations of families have attended JFS. Students who are lucky enough to receive an education at JFS will feel part of a close family, proud of our history and clear about our future.

“JFS was awarded this status having achieved the most exacting standards of excellence in careers education, information, advice and guidance.”

Source: Investor in Careers Assessors
JFS received the Investor in Careers Award in July 2013

“ I am quite convinced that there cannot be a better fully non-selective state comprehensive school anywhere in the United Kingdom and that is an achievement of which you can be inordinately proud. ”

Source: Mr Speaker, The Right Honourable John Bercow MP



An Enduring Legacy

When joining JFS, students are taking their place in a chain of tradition that goes back centuries. For 280 years students have come to JFS to prepare for a future as an educated, literate member of the Jewish community. For generations we have excelled at providing students with opportunity and helping them to achieve. We know the time it takes to develop confident, intelligent, tolerant and respectful young adults and have the experience to ensure that every student fulfils their potential.

As both a new school and an old school we offer the best of both worlds. As a new school we enjoy a modern, phenomenally well equipped, state-of-the-art campus; yet as an old school we have the knowledge and expertise with which to ensure excellence. We have a proven track record of ensuring our students achieve above and beyond their potential.

When our students finish their seven years of education at JFS they leave as members of a diverse, committed community of alumni ready to meet the challenges and maximise the opportunities that come their way. The achievements of our alumni in fields as diverse as the arts, law, media, medicine, politics, economics and education illustrate that the skills learnt at JFS enable future success.





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