

## **MINUTES OF THE JEWISH STUDIES STAFF ASSOCIATION**

Complaints that I was continually lodging with the Headmaster regarding the lack of Religious Jewish ethos in the School were soon forgotten. For mainly this reason, I set up in September 1974, a Jewish Studies Staff Association, whose membership was comprised of the Jewish Studies Staff of the High School. Regular meetings were held and all comments and complaints were minuted. Copies of these minutes were given to the Headmaster, the Deputy Head, the Senior Mistress and the general Staff Association.

KING DAVID HIGH SCHOOL. LIVERPOOL.  
JEWISH STUDIES STAFF ASSOCIATION.

Minutes of the first meeting of the above association held on Friday 13. 9. 74.

1. Elections

Rabbi Dr. Simons was elected Chairman, and Mr. Rothbard, Secretary.

2. Objects

The object of this association is that it should be a forum for the Jewish Studies Staff collectively, to discuss Jewish matters concerning the school and to pass on any comments and recommendations to the appropriate bodies (e.g. Governors, Jewish Studies Committee, Headmaster etc.).

Needless to say, this association does not conflict with the general Staff Association, who will be notified of any relevant resolutions and decisions.

Meetings will be held monthly.

3. The Association heard a report from Rabbi Simons on the proposals which had been made at the meeting of representatives of the Primary and High Schools held on 12. 9. 74. to discuss Holiday dates, and the following resolution was unanimously passed.

"The Association holds that a Jewish School should build its School Calendar around the Jewish Festival Dates as is the case in other Jewish schools. We therefore utterly reject any proposals which would have School on Tisha b'Av and Erev Yomtov, and we make the following recommendations regarding the School Calendar for 1975.

Purim Tuesday 25 Feb. to be a day of Celebration, and formal school to conclude after period 5. This would be followed by compulsory Mincha for all Jewish pupils.

Summer term to end Wed. 16 July (Erev Tisha b'Av)

Erev Rosh Hashanah Fri. 6 Sept. School closed.

Erev Succot Fri. 19 Sept. School closed.

Erev Shemini Atzeret Fri. 26 Sept. School closed.

Also in view of the fact that there are FOUR consecutive Sundays of Yomtov, we recommend that School is closed on MONDAY 22 Sept. to enable families to travel out of Town for the FIRST DAYS of Succot."

It was unanimously resolved to send a copy of this resolution to the Chairman of the Governors and to the Headmaster.

4. Great concern was expressed that on Fri. 13 Sept. the Jewish Studies lessons for the 4th and 5th Years was shortened in order to facilitate a Form Period.

The meeting was then adjourned.

KING DAVID HIGH SCHOOL. LIVERPOOL.  
JEWISH STUDIES STAFF ASSOCIATION

Minutes of a meeting held by the above association on Friday 18. 10. 74.

1. The Minutes of the meeting held 13.9.74. were confirmed and signed.
2. The Association was very concerned that in the school calendar for 1975, the Festival of Sukkot would be effectively neglected yet time could be found for an entire week's holiday in October. It was reported that pupils had asked during Chol Hamoed why we had school whereas a number of their relatives and friends in London Jewish schools had no school for the whole of Chol Hamoed.

The Association reiterated the Principle that a Jewish school should build its School Calendar around the Jewish Festivals, and added that there should be a definite pattern for Jewish Schools.

It was therefore proposed and agreed that the Chief Rabbi's Office and the N.U.H.T. be asked to set up a Committee to recommend holiday dates for Jewish schools in this country. The Secretary was instructed to write to these organisations with this suggestion.

3. Appreciation was expressed for the interest and personal effort by the Headmaster and various other people in trying to find a suitable place for the December Seminar. It was decided to follow up the various possible venues, in particular, the one at Bangor.
4. Now that Jewish Novels have become available in English, it was suggested that a Jewish Home Reader should be introduced for Jewish pupils (in addition to the present English one). It was decided however that the matter required a lot of further discussion.
5. It was agreed that more encouragement be given to pupils to attend the services in the Beth David. In order that the J.S. Staff should be free to attend Minchah, Mr. Savitz will be asked to arrange the duty rota so that such staff will be on morning break duty.
6. The unsatisfactory nature of Assembly Periods was again discussed. However, since the Governors are going to make an attempt this term to improve the situation, it was agreed to take no further action at present.

The meeting was then adjourned.

KING DAVID HIGH SCHOOL. LIVERPOOL.  
JEWISH STUDIES STAFF ASSOCIATION

Minutes of a meeting held by the above association on Thursday 28. 11. 74.

1. The Minutes of the meeting held 18. 10. 74. were confirmed and signed.
2. The Secretary reported that he had written to the N.U.H.T. and the Chief Rabbi's Office regarding the Association's suggestion for Holiday dates for Jewish Schools in this country. So far he has received a reply from the latter which stated that they would pursue this matter.
3. The Association decided to make a formal protest regarding the bad citing of Half-term in the Spring term 1975.
4. Following the decision of the Jewish Studies Sub-committee on 5.9.74. that "increased time on these days (i.e. Purim and Chol Hamoed Succot) should be set aside for special activities", the Association recommended the following programme for next Purim.

School commences at 9 15. a.m. for ALL pupils.

9. 15.a.m. - 10. 40. a.m. Shacharit and Reading of the Megillah, followed by Mishloach Manot and Matanot Laevyonim.

10. 40. - 10 55. Break

10. 55. - 12 05 Periods 3 & 4.

1. 30. p.m. Mr. Onne of the Israeli Citrus Marketing Board might be approached - subject to permission having been obtained from the Headmaster and the Governors - with the view that he show a selection of his slides of Israel to the school, followed by the distribution of Israeli citrus fruits to the pupils.

The school day would end early with Minchah at approx. 2.45. p.m.

The general Staff Association would be asked to arrange a suitable programme from 9. 15. to 10. 40. a.m. for the non-Jewish pupils.

5. The Suggestion of pupils taking O-level S.K. in the 4th year within the present allocation of periods was discussed. The Association unanimously agreed that unless the number of periods were increased, the suggestion would be completely untenable.
6. It was agreed that the Association extend seasonal greetings to the non-Jewish Staff.

The Meeting was then adjourned.



JEWISH STUDIES STAFF ASSOCIATION.

MINUTES OF MEETING OF ABOVE ASSOCIATION HELD ON THURSDAY 4th DECEMBER 1975.

The Minutes of the last meeting were signed as correct.

The following resolutions were passed:-

1. The Association appreciates the efforts by the Foundation to provide a Jewish Subjects room and are grateful for the time spent by the Headmaster in arranging the details for the construction.
2. The Association hopes that the written commitment to integrate two periods of Jewish Subjects in both the 4th and 5th years from Sept. 1975, will be put into practice as soon as possible.
3. Whilst appreciating the difficulties in assembling over 300 pupils in the gymnasium, the Association regrets that the lighting of the Chanukah candles from Tuesday onwards did not extend to all the Jewish pupils. Unfortunately, for some of these pupils this would have been the only lighting they would see, and they were therefore deprived of the observance of this Mitzvah. We feel that these difficulties could have been overcome by the upper part of the school having their own kindling in a suitable room such as Room 20 or Room 22.
4. In accordance with the J.S. sub-committee decision to strengthen the observance of the Festivals at the school we suggest the following programme for Purim:-

Start of school for all Jewish pupils	9.15 a.m.
Shacharit and Reading of the Megillah	
in separate groups for lower and upper school.	9.15 - 10.40 a.m.
followed by Mishloach Manot and Matanot Laevyonim.	
10. 40 - 10. 55.	Break.
10. 55 - 12 05.	Lessons 3 & 4.
1. 25 - 2 15.	Lesson 5.
2. 20 - 2 30.	Minchah.
2. 30 - 3 30.	Fancy Dress and Purim programme.
3. 30 p.m.	End of School.

The Staff Association to be consulted about a suitable programme for non-Jewish pupils.

The Meeting was then adjourned.

KING DAVID HIGH SCHOOL. LIVERPOOL.  
JEWISH STUDIES STAFF ASSOCIATION.

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD BY ABOVE ASSOCIATION ON TUESDAY  
13th JANUARY 1976.

The Minutes of the meeting held 4th December 1975 were signed as correct.

1. The disappointing results in the S.K. mock examination were considered and the association passed the following resolution:-
  - (a) One cannot compare the marks in S.K. with other subjects due to the fact that S.K. receives a much smaller allocation of periods.
  - (b) The J.S. Staff cannot hold themselves responsible for inferior results which may arise from this smaller allocation of periods.
2. The entertainment part of the programme for Purim was considered and it was agreed that in addition to the fancy dress there would be a Purim pantomime. This would take the form of the Book of Esther set in a High School instead of the Palace at Shushan.

The Association was also informed that in addition, Miss Herman had kindly agreed to put on a repeat performance of the Toy Symphony subject to Staff agreeing to participate.
3. Regret was expressed that on the previous Thursday, fifteen minutes were taken from the Assembly period in order to collect dinner money. This has also happened on a number of previous occasions, thus providing another example of the inferiority of Assembly periods.

It was also mentioned that towards the end of last term, a fifth year religious instruction lesson was cancelled in order to give a briefing before the mock examinations. The choice of a religious instruction period for such a briefing occurs with annual regularity, and it should furthermore be remembered that it has far less periods than any other subject in the timetable.

The meeting was then adjourned.

KING DAVID HIGH SCHOOL. LIVERPOOL.

JEWISH STUDIES STAFF ASSOCIATION

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD BY ABOVE ASSOCIATION ON  
TUESDAY 10th FEBRUARY 1976.

The Minutes of the meeting held 13th January 1976 were signed as correct.

1. It was agreed that the secretary of the Association be ex officio, N.U.H.T. correspondent.
2. The RAC resolution regarding the setting up of an RAC sub-committee was brought to the notice of the Association and it was agreed to recommend that Mr. Rothbard be the "member of the religious instruction staff" on this RAC sub-committee.
3. The Association passed the following recommendation:  
On occasions when it is necessary to hold a form period or to have dinner money collections etc. on a Tuesday, Thursday or Friday, the school day should begin as follows:

Lesson or Assembly ends	9. 25 am.
Form Period	9 25 - 9 40 am.
Period 1	9 40 - 10 10 am.
Period 2	10 10 - 10 40 am.
4. A report was given regarding the progress in arranging the Purim pantomime.  
Other suggestions for Purim were that pupils can come to school in non - school uniform and during the afternoon pupils can wear fancy dress.  
The Headmaster, Mr. Savitz and Mrs. Capek will be asked to judge the best fancy dress.
5. It was mentioned that the 9. 15 am. bell was often rung before this time and the Association asked that this bell should not be rung prior to 9. 15 am.

The meeting was then adjourned.



KING DAVID HIGH SCHOOL LIVERPOOL.  
JEWISH STUDIES STAFF ASSOCIATION

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD BY ABOVE ASSOCIATION ON TUESDAY

6th APRIL 1976.

The Minutes of the meeting held 10th February 1976 were signed as correct.

1. The note from Mr. Felton regarding absence due to sickness of teachers whose salaries are paid by the Foundation was read to the Association.
2. The Association agreed that on the whole the Purim programme was very successful. Acknowledgements were made to the Headmaster, Staff and Pupils who helped in the day's arrangements. The Association was pleased with the Lubavitch Purim Kits which enabled all the pupils to observe Mitzvot of Purim.
3. The talk by Mr. Medad to the upper part of the school was considered to be successful. Acknowledgements were made to Mr. Savitz for making the arrangements regarding the accommodation and the chairs.
4. It was noted that once again on Tuesday 24th February, fifteen minutes were taken from the J.J.A. and the Assembly period to collect dinner money. It was noted that the general Staff Association had concurred with the recommendations of the J.S. Staff Association regarding the start of the day when it is necessary to hold a form period or to have dinner money collections. It was therefore hoped that this recommendation would be put into practice.
5. Regret was expressed by the Association that internal pressure had been put on some pupils attending the Beth David Morning Service. A parent had also mentioned this. It should be stressed that during the course of the last 4½ years, the start of the Assembly period has become about 13 minutes earlier, thus causing an overlap with the end of the service time. The service is not ending later than in the past.
6. Mr. Taiar gave a report on the Pesach magazine and stated that there had been difficulties with the typing of it.
7. Instructions regarding the Model Seder were given.

The Meeting was then adjourned.



KING DAVID HIGH SCHOOL, LIVERPOOL.

JEWISH STUDIES STAFF ASSOCIATION.

Minutes of Meeting held by above association on Tuesday  
8th June 1976.

The Minutes of the meeting held 6th April 1976 were signed  
as correct.

1. N.U.H.T.

It was announced that every member of this association is now a member of the N.U.H.T. It was agreed to have a much greater liason with the N.U.H.T.

A report on the latest activities of the N.U.H.T. was given to the Association. These included the conference on security in schools and the school voucher system. It recently came to the notice of the N.U.H.T. that in a London Jewish school, some non-Jewish pupils are registered as Jewish. As a result of this, the N.U.H.T. has asked the Chief Rabbi and his Court (London Beth Din) to give a ruling whether it is permitted to teach Jewish religious instruction to non-Jewish pupils.

2. Jerusalem Day.

From the comments received, the Jerusalem Day programme had been a great success. Acknowledgements were made to all those people who helped with the programme.

3. Compensatory Periods.

The Association observed that periods compensating for the 5 Assembly periods had not been marked with an X on the timetable this year. As a consequence, there was not even one period in the week when Jewish Studies Staff had not been called on to substitute. The Association therefore asks that those compensatory periods be actually marked with an X in next year's timetable.

4. Curricula.

A discussion on next year's curricula took place and it was decided that further meetings between the J.S. staff were required to discuss this question.

The meeting was then adjourned.

KING DAVID HIGH SCHOOL  
JEWISH STUDIES STAFF ASSOCIATION

Minutes of Meeting held 18th October 1976.

The Minutes of the previous meeting and special meeting were signed as correct.

1. Chol Hamoed.

Acknowledgements were given to the Headmaster and to Mr. Savitz for their help in Assemblies.

It was regretted that we were not permitted to once again organise a Lubavitch Chol Hamoed trip for the pupils on the Tuesday of Chol Hamoed. (The suggestion to hold it when the pupils were on holiday would have made it non-viable.) It was noted however that a geography trip was permitted to take place on that Tuesday.

2. The Association was glad to see that our suggestions regarding the timing of the Assembly period and periods 1 and 2 when an occasional form period was held was put into practice on Tuesday 5th October.

3. Magazine.

It was reported that the Jewish Studies Magazine has been completely sold out and it was decided to bring out the next magazine towards Pesach time.

4. O Level/CSE Results.

The Association was informed that 39 pupils in the 5th year had passed these examinations this year - our highest number ever. The Association was however disturbed by the fact that we are given less periods than any secular subject and are then criticised on the results, and consider this to be unprofessional. The resolution passed on 13th January 1976 that "the Jewish Studies Staff cannot hold themselves responsible for inferior results which may arise from this smaller allocation of periods" was reiterated.

5. It was agreed to put out feelers amongst the 2nd and 3rd years for a seminar in the near future.

6. A suggested date for a Chanukah programme - December 20th, 3-4 pm. - was put forward.

The meeting was then adjourned.