



EARLY CHILDHOOD PARENT HANDBOOK

**School Year
2019 - 2020
5779 - 5780**

**5300 SW 40th Ave
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33314
(954) 989-6886**

Accredited by the Association of Independent Schools of Florida, CITA, and the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. Recognized as a Blue Ribbon School in 2009. Early Childhood accredited by NAEYC. Recipient of the Gold Seal from the State of Florida. A VPK provider.

Brauser Maimonides Academy admits students of any race to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the School and the School does not discriminate on the basis of race in administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship and loan programs, and athletic and other school-administered programs.



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WELCOME

from the Early Childhood Principal

Dear Early Childhood Parents,

The entire staff of Brauser Maimonides Academy's Early Childhood department would like to extend a warm welcome to your family. We are pleased that you have chosen our program for your child. We are committed to providing a loving, safe, and nurturing experience for your child and look forward to continued growth and communication in our relationship with you.

Brauser Maimonides Academy's Early Childhood program provides high quality care and education in a loving, safe and nurturing environment. The program promotes the positive growth and development of the whole child through a child-centered, developmentally appropriate curriculum within the framework of the Torah.

Our Early Childhood program is proud to be accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) and licensed by the Florida Department of Children and Families. Accreditation standards represent the highest quality and reflect research-based best practices in early childhood education. They indicate that services have moved beyond licensing and regulatory requirements. Our staff works collaboratively to ensure the program embraces best practices. On-going professional development is supported through multiple learning opportunities at BMA and in the greater early childhood community.

This handbook will assist you in understanding the philosophy, policies, and procedures of our program. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact us in the EC office. We appreciate the privilege we have in sharing this time with your child and with you.

Wishing us all a happy, successful year of growing, learning and fun!

Roni Kurtz
Principal of Early Childhood



Brauser Maimonides Academy

Parent/Student Handbook

At Brauser Maimonides Academy (BMA), we seek to develop halachically observant, well-educated Jews and citizens, who conduct themselves in a manner that is consistent with Torah values. Our care for the whole child is built upon three core values:

Academic Excellence

We encourage our students to excel academically in an atmosphere that encourages curiosity, creativity, critical thinking and integrity.

Religious Commitment

We strive to provide our students with a firm foundation in Torah and Jewish law, a desire for a meaningful relationship with God, and a love for Jewish learning and practice. We cultivate an enduring love of the people of Israel, and the State of Israel.

Character Development

We emphasize the highest standard of **דרך ארץ (personal conduct)** and seek to instill in our students sensitivity towards others through all of their words and actions.

We promote a deep sense of **אחריות (responsibility)** for ourselves, for each other, for the Jewish community, and for people around the world.

Brauser Maimonides Academy
5300 SW 40th Avenue • Fort Lauderdale, FL 33314
Phone 954.989.6886 • Fax 954.989.4548
www.brauser.us



COMMUNICATIONS

תקשורת

Personal communication, including the accessibility of the teachers and administrator, is key to each student's individual success. As always, should you have an issues or concerns regarding your child, the first person to contact is your child's teacher; most matters are often resolved through simple and respectful communication between the parent and the teacher. Teachers can be reached either by calling the Office at (954) 989-6886 or by email. All teachers' emails are their first initial and last name @brauser.us.

If you would like to speak with an administrator, please call the Main Office and you will be directed to an administrative assistant who will assist you and/or schedule a time for you to speak with that administrator. Administrators and their assistants can also be reached via email.

Early Childhood Assistant Director: Laurie Berger - lberger@brauser.us

Front Office Assistant: Jeri Mann - jmann@brauser.us

Nurse: Esther (Esti) Fensterszaub – efensterszaub@brauser.us

Early Childhood Principal: Roni Kurtz – rkurtz@brauser.us

Head Of School: Rabbi Yoni Fein – rabbifein@brauser.us

HOURS

שעות

	Monday - Thursday	Friday
Toddler – N3: HALF DAY	8:00AM – 12:15PM	8:00AM – 12:15PM
Toddler – Pre-K: FULL DAY	8:00AM – 3:15PM	8:00AM – 2:15PM



CARPOOL GUIDELINES

הגעה ואיסוף

Your children's safety during carpool is our primary concern; keeping the traffic flowing smoothly is our secondary concern. Every family receives two BMA carpool decals. Please affix the sticker to the inside lower left hand corner of your windshield; it will identify you as a BMA parent and allow you access to the campus. Additional decals are available for \$1 in the Main Office.

Your compliance with the following procedures is imperative and will ensure the safety of the students and facilitate an efficient carpool.

Morning Drop-Off

Morning Carpool begins at 7:50am and will end promptly at 8:05am

Parents have the option to either:

1. Park your car in the designated parking area, in which case you must escort your children through the parking lot and across the crosswalk
2. Enter the carpool lane, where a staff member will meet your vehicle and bring your children to their classrooms.

If your child arrives after 8:05am:

- Early Childhood - Parents are **required** to park in the parking lot and escort their child to their classrooms.
- Elementary School - Parents are **required** to park in the parking lot and escort students to the main office to sign a late slip.
- Middle School - Students are **required** to go to main office to receive a late slip (No parent necessary)

Additional Guidelines to note:

- All children must exit through the right side doors of your vehicle only. This will avoid children crossing between cars, which may move suddenly, and risk injury.
- Once your children have exited your vehicle, DO NOT pull ahead of other vehicles to exit the carpool lane. Please wait until the car(s) in front of you finish unloading and then all the cars will pull forward and proceed to the exit via the circular (north) drive.
- Please do not drive down the first two parking lanes to exit. Children may be crossing the parking lot and may emerge from between parked cars unexpectedly and unseen.
- Please do not park in the handicap parking unless you have a handicap license plate and/or handicap sticker
- Never enter the school through the EXIT gate. Vehicles leaving the campus will not expect it and it could result in a serious accident.
- **Under no circumstances should a car be left unattended in the carpool line.** You risk getting ticketed, towed or fined.

Afternoon Dismissal

If your child is being picked-up by someone other than yourself or someone on your approved pick-up list, the office must be notified prior to pick-up. Please follow the outlined time guidelines so that the office has adequate time to inform your child's teacher of the change:

- Early Childhood by 2:30pm
- Elementary School by 2:45pm
- Middle School by 3:45pm



Half-Day Early Childhood Pickup – 12:15pm

Children not picked up by 12:20pm will be brought back to their classroom. Parents will need to park in the designated parking area and enter the EC building to pick up their children.

Early Childhood Pickup – Prior to 3:00pm

EC parents who wish to pick up their children from their classrooms must do so before 3:00pm. After 3:00pm, children may be picked up from the carpool area only.

Full-Day Early Childhood Dismissal – 3:10pm - 3:25pm

- Parents with ONLY Early Childhood children should arrive at 3:15pm. EC students will be dismissed and brought to the carpool area by their teachers at 3:15pm.
- EC only (EC children who do not have older students in their carpool) dismissal ends at 3:25pm. Children not picked up by this time will be brought to aftercare and parents will be billed accordingly.

Elementary School (grades K-5) Dismissal – 3:30pm - 3:40pm

- Elementary School students will be dismissed and brought to the carpool area by their teachers at 3:30pm.
- Please do not arrive before 3:28pm. We would like to clear all the Early Childhood only families from the carpool lane before the 3:30 dismissal begins. If cars begin to line up outside the campus, it will interfere with the normal traffic on Southwest 40th Avenue and may create a hazardous situation.
- Children not picked up by 3:40pm will be brought to aftercare and parents will be billed accordingly.

Middle School will dismiss at 3:30pm on Tuesday/Thursday and 4:30 on Monday/Wednesday

Middle School (grades 6-8) and After School Program Dismissal – 4:30pm - 4:40pm

- Parents of Middle School students and Elementary School students attending after-school programs should arrive by 4:30pm.
- Children not picked up by 4:40pm will be brought to Aftercare and parents will be billed accordingly.

Friday Dismissal

On Friday, the Elementary and Middle School students all dismiss at 2:30pm (all year). All carpool procedures stated above remain in effect. The timing will change as follows:

- Early Childhood carpool will begin at 2:10pm.
- Parents of EC children wishing to pick up from the rooms must do so by 1:50pm.
- Elementary and Middle School dismissal will begin at 2:25pm
- Aftercare is available until 4:00pm on Fridays (5:45pm Monday-Thursday).

Please Note: When heading north on SW 40th Avenue (from Stirling Road), it is illegal to pull around the turning lane and onto school property. Although once you are on school property there are two lanes, the right lane for carpool and the left lane for parking, you may not use the center lane on SW 40th Avenue to turn into the school. The Broward Sheriff's Office has, and will continue to ticket.



DRESS CODE

קוד לבוש

The Torah considers an individual's appearance to be a reflection of his/her sense of קדושה and צלם אלוקים. The dress code reflects the schools commitment to the values of צניעות (personal modesty) and כבוד הבריות (respect for human beings). In addition, students' dress contributes in large measure to the atmosphere in our school. In keeping with halacha and following the prophet Micha's words, "Walk modestly with your Hashem", discretion should be used when choosing clothing, hairstyles and jewelry.

We believe that BMA students should dress properly not only during school hours and on school premises, but also after school, on Shabbat and holidays. The dress code should reflect a general way of living, not just a series of rules for school.

The BMA dress code is required for all students in Kindergarten - 8th grades. The dress code was designed to best meet the above-mentioned goals while allowing the parents and students some flexibility and easing the cost and/or the difficulty of finding appropriate clothing.

PARENTS:

A Jewish Day School is a *makom kadosh*, a holy place, comparable in sanctity to a synagogue. Therefore, we kindly request that all adults who come on campus set a positive example for our children and dress in modest attire. (No tight fitting exercise/gym clothing, sleeveless or tank tops, excessively tight pants or short skirts.) Men should wear kippot.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation in this matter.

CAMERAS AND VIDEOS

מצלמות ווידאו

Cameras and videos are often used around school to capture wonderful moments of celebration, amusement, and friendship. However, the permanence of a photographic record – and the ease with which it can be shared with others - makes it imperative that all use of cameras and video be with discretion and with full knowledge of those who are being photographed.

No audio or visual recording devices of any kind may be used in class without the expressed knowledge and permission of the classroom teacher and an administrator.

No videos may be used around school without the expressed, written permission of an administrator.



SECURITY

בטחון

For the safety of our students, BMA will adhere to the following security measures:

- A guard will be on campus at all times.
 - He will be posted at the front gate for the majority of the day, including duration of morning, half-day, and afternoon carpools.
 - He will perform periodic sweeps of the campus at random times throughout the day.
- The front gate will be closed and locked at all times, except during morning and afternoon carpool.
- Please be sure to remove last year's carpool decal and affix the new 2015 – 2016 decal to the inside lower left hand corner of your windshield. This will enable the security guard to quickly identify you as a BMA parent and allow you access to the campus.
- All visitors will be required to show picture ID before being allowed on campus.
- Video surveillance cameras are positioned at the front gate and around campus and are recording 24/7. They are monitored regularly.
- All outer doors to the building (except those leading to the Main Office) will be locked from the outside at all times (the doors will open freely from the inside).

FIRE SAFETY

בטיחות אש

Fire safety is an important aspect of school. During a fire drill, students must remain silent in order to hear and follow instructions and must vacate the building in an orderly manner. Classes are to stay together outside the building so that attendance can be taken.

INCLEMENT WEATHER

שינויי מזג אוויר

Decisions to close school or delay the opening of school are made by taking into account the condition in and around the school campus and communities in the area.

On days that school closes or closes early due to inclement weather, all activities and meetings will be canceled.

School closure will be posted on the school's website and you will receive notification via text message.

LOST AND FOUND

מציאות ואבידות

The lost and found for K – 8 is located in the west staircase of the middle school building and EC lost & found is located in the EC office. Please note, we discard and donate all items that are not claimed before every holiday break.



FOOD SERVICE

שירותי אוכל

BREAKFAST:

We provide a morning snack and an afternoon snack for our EC students. As part of our health and nutrition curriculum, we serve fresh fruit, cereal and milk.

LUNCH:

You may either send a lunch from home or order from our lunch program.

OUTSIDE FOOD

אוכל מבחוץ

Lunch brought from home should have one of the following *kashrut* symbols on the packing:





NUT POLICY

ללא אגוזים

BMA is a Tree Nut and Peanut Aware Facility.

In order to ensure a safe environment for all of our students, BMA is a Tree Nut and Peanut Aware environment. Please be sensitive to the fact that there are students in our school with serious allergies. Failure to comply with this policy may be putting someone else's child in grave danger.

Being completely Nut-Free (as opposed to Nut-Aware) would disallow any outside food on the BMA campus. Since many of our families opt to send lunch and snacks for their children, and we would like to continue this policy, being Nut-Free is not our preferred option. We realize that being Nut-Aware may be inconvenient for some families, but the safety of ALL our students is of utmost importance to us. Please review the following guidelines and plan your children's lunches and snacks accordingly.

Children **may not** bring any type of nut including:

Almond	Coconut	Nangai Nut
Beechnut	Filbert	Pecan
Brazil Nut	Ginko Nut	Pine Nut
Bush Nut	Hazelnut	Pistachio
Butternut	Hickory Nut	Shea Nut
Cashew	Lychee Nut	Walnut
Chestnut	Macadamia Nut	

The following food items **are not allowed** in school:

- Chocolate, granola or snack bars containing any type of nuts
- Cookies containing any type of nuts
- Any item labeled "may contain traces of peanut and/or tree nuts" or "contains peanuts and/or tree nuts".
- Nutella is a nut product and will not be permitted. Please opt for the kosher, pareve chocolate spread alternative.

Additional Precautions:

- Peanut butter is not served as an alternative lunch option in the Lunch Room or in Early Childhood (Jelly, margarine and other similar pareve options will be available on meat days. American cheese and cream cheese also will be available on dairy days).
- Please do not send any items marked as "may contain peanuts" or as "may contain traces of peanuts".

Some nut-free items:

Fruit	Veggie Chips	Ritz Snack Crackers
Raisins	Publix Brand Graham	Rice Cakes
Craisins	Crackers	Yogurts
Veggies	Apple Sauce	
Cheez-it Crackers	Fig Newton's	

Please note, items labeled as being "produced in a factory that also produces peanuts and tree nut products" are allowed.



FORMS & DOCUMENTATION

מסמכים / טפסים

Health Forms

The following are obtained from your child's physician:

- Form 680: a record of your child's immunization
- Form 3040: shows your child has received a physical in the last two years

Emergency Information Form

All emergency information forms must be completed and signed. The office must be informed of any changes immediately.

- Authorization for Medication/Treatment Form
- Child Discipline Form
- "Know Your Daycare Center"
- Alternate Nutrition Form
- Flu: A guide for parents
- Pre-Kindergarten Only: VPK Forms

HEALTH ISSUES

ענייני בריאות

No Nit Lice Policy

BMA follows the Broward County Public Schools' No Nit Policy requiring anyone found to have head lice and/or nits to be sent home with instructions for treatment. Before being allowed to return to class, any child who has been sent home must come to the front office with a parent to be checked to see if he/she is free of nits. Students will not be allowed back into school until they have been properly treated and provide documentation of treatment. (Periodic lice checks are done in classes throughout the year. If lice have been found in your child's class, you will be notified by email.)

Immunization

Parents should check with their pediatrician to assure that all immunizations are complete. Children will not be allowed to attend school unless all immunization information is on file as of the first day of school. All dates of immunization and vaccination must be provided prior to admission.

PHYSICAL ACTIVITY

פעילות גופנית

Brauser Maimonides Academy recognizes the physical, social and developmental benefits of regular physical activity and fundamental movement skills (gross motor development) for young children. BMA is committed to including physical activity and skill development as an integral part of our daily routine. Learning opportunities include structured and unstructured movement activities and skill development, both indoors and outdoors. During inclement weather teachers provide physical activities in their classrooms. In addition to our EC playground, the Activities Room across from the main office is also an indoor space provided to the Early Childhood classes for physical activity.

Please dress your children appropriately for active play and sun protection. Children must wear closed-toe shoes (sneakers).



INJURIES, ILLNESS AND EMERGENCIES

פציעות, מחלות ומקרי חירום

Illness

While we understand that our parents may have other commitments during the day, we make every effort to maintain a healthy environment for everyone. If your child has a fever or any other contagious symptoms, please keep your child at home until symptoms have subsided or you have a doctor's note. If during the school day, a child has a fever, vomits, has diarrhea, an undiagnosed rash, or exhibits excessive cold or flu symptoms, a parent will be called to pick up the child from school. While waiting for the parent or guardian, the ill child will remain in the Nurse's Office or in the EC Office under the supervision of the administrative staff.

A child must be fever-free for 24 hours before returning to school. A child must be symptom free for **24 hours** regarding vomiting and diarrhea. Children with yellow or green discharge or heavy coughing should remain at home until these symptoms are gone. If a child has been diagnosed with contagious illness such as pink eye or strep throat, the child may return to school after having been on antibiotics for at least 24 hours. **We follow childcare licensing regulations regarding when children may return to school. Please read and follow the licensing protocols that may be sent home with your child during the year.** 'When in doubt, leave them out' is a good way to help prevent the spread of illnesses.

Injuries

Minor injuries such as superficial cuts and bruises will be handled in the classroom or front office. If there is any question as to the severity of injury, **911 will be called first, followed by the parents.**

Emergencies

It is important that each parent keep the school informed of the current telephone number where he/she can be reached during the day, as well as current numbers of friends or relatives who are authorized to act on behalf of the parents if parents cannot be reached, should an emergency occur. No child will be permitted to attend school until all emergency information is on file.

MEDICATION

תרופות

Children who need to receive medications on a regular basis or keep medications at school for an emergency must send in a medication permission form, signed by the child's pediatrician, along with the medication in the original pharmacy bottle. Only the school's designated representative may dispense medications. Medication is kept in a locked area and all administration of medicine is recorded.

Parents will be called when medications run low, but it is a parental responsibility to ensure their refill. Parents must notify the school if and when medication is changed or discontinued. Changes in medication must be accompanied by a physician's note. Verbal orders will be accepted by the school from a physician or nurse as long as written documentation follows.



ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE AND INTEGRITY

הצטיינות אקדמית והגינות

The Talmud teaches us that Hashem's "seal" is אמת, truth and we are enjoined to stay far away from any falsehood. Honesty in all of our affairs is an extremely important human quality that serves as the basis for all of our relationships. At BMA, we cherish the concept of honesty and insist that it pervade school life, both in academic work and in inter-personal relationships.

In an academic setting, honesty goes to the core of what we present as evidence of our learning and thinking. Any violation of this trust calls into question much of what takes place in our school. For this reason, we expect honesty and integrity to pervade school life in all of its aspects, both in our academic work and in our inter-personal relationships.

FIELD TRIPS

טיולי בית הספר

In Early Childhood we provide outdoor experiences such as nature walks around our beautiful campus for our Toddlers to Pre-Kindergarten children. In addition we have on campus 'field trips' such as visits from a dentist, the fire department, and a petting zoo.

RELIGIOUS COMMITMENT

מחויבות דתית

At BMA, we strive to provide our students with a firm foundation in Torah values and *halacha*, a desire for a meaningful relationship with HaShem and a love for Jewish learning and practice. We cultivate an enduring love of the people of Israel, the land of Israel, and the State of Israel. The Torah is the foundation of our belief and of our religious practice. Studying Torah, observing *halacha* and building a relationship with HaShem are central to our identity as Jews.

HALACHIC QUESTIONS

שאלות הלכתיות

All halachic questions involving the school are to be directed to the Head of School. The Head of School will, at his discretion, consult with the school's Orthodox rabbinic authority, Rabbi Edward Davis, before making a decision. The decision of the Head of School is final.



ACTIVITIES OUT OF SCHOOL פעילויות מחוץ לבית הספר

We educate our children to follow the dictates of the Torah in all aspects of their lives and we expect the home to support us. All activities hosted by BMA students for their classmates should keep to the following guidelines:

1. All gathering should be planned so as to contain nothing objectionable from a halachic point of view. The kashrut of all food must be assured. Movies and other forms of entertainment should be carefully chosen with an awareness of the maturity of the children involved and with respect for our Torah's laws and values. Alcoholic beverages should never be made available, even on Shabbat and Purim. All forms of recreation and entertainment should be planned in a manner to allow all BMA students to feel comfortable.
2. Parents must supervise and take responsibility for any of their children's parties. The school expects parents not to allow parties un-chaperoned by adults to take place in their homes and not to allow their children to attend such gatherings in the homes of others. This includes students of all ages.
3. Birthday party invitations for parties held outside of school are to be mailed outside of school. Delivering invitations in school often causes hurt feelings of student who do not receive invitations and also disrupts precious minutes of class time. Care should be taken not to exclude a small number of kids from a grade from any party or gathering.
4. The rules of conduct set forth in this handbook that relate to basic behavior, respect and *DeRech erez* are expectations that are independent of any one place or time. It is the hope of the school that our students will incorporate these most important aspects of their education into their daily lives and serve as *kidushei* (exemplars) as well as ambassadors of BMA.

BIRTHDAYS

ימי הולדת

EC Birthdays – We believe that celebrating milestones such as birthdays are an important part of each child's growth and we look forward to celebrating with you. Parents and family members are welcome to join the class for a birthday celebration. A cake will be baked in school with your child and his/her classmates. In addition, the children will create a special book and sing and dance together for this special occasion.

Due to the varied special food considerations, no outside food may be brought into the classroom for birthdays. This includes cakes, candy and party bags.

Parents may purchase a book or game for the classroom in honor of the child's birthday. Please ask your child's teacher regarding a gift for the class.

CELEBRATIONS

During celebrations such as our Family Chanukah Program, Pre-K Show, etc. we provide catered fresh fruit and desserts.



SPECIAL EVENTS

אירועים מיוחדים

Creating a *Kiddush HaShem* is an obligation incumbent upon all Jews and our behavior during all activities associated with BMA reflects directly upon our community and upon Hashem. Students must behave themselves respectfully and with dignity during all school gatherings. Students should participate actively and positively in all such activities, including arriving on time, listening to directions, and giving their full cooperation. Graduation and other ceremonies associated with special occasions marked by the Jewish or American calendar when school is in session, such as Chanukah, Yom HaShoah, Lag B'Omer, Veterans Day, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, Yom Ha'Atzmaut, and Yom Yerushalayim, are all to be treated with holiness and appropriate behavior at all times.



CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT

פיתוח אישיות

סג דרך ארץ DERECH ERETZ PERSONAL CONDUCT

We emphasize the highest standard of דרך ארץ (**personal conduct**) and seek to instill in our students a sensitivity towards others in all of their words and actions.

We promote a deep sense of אחריות (**responsibility**) for ourselves, for each other, for the Jewish community, for America and for people around the world.

As Jews, we recognize that everyone is created *Be-tzelem Elokim*. We are committed to treating each other with respect, dignity and courtesy.

A STUDENT'S RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES IN OUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY

Every student has the right to be safe.

Every student has the right to be treated with dignity and respect.

Every student has the right to be treated fairly.

Every student has the responsibility to act responsibly and in a safe manner.

Every student has the responsibility to demonstrate honesty and integrity.

Every student has the responsibility to talk to and treat his or her peers, teachers and other adults with respect.

Every student has the responsibility to be kind to one another.

Every student has the responsibility to display appropriate behavior during the school day and at extra-curricular activities.

Every student has the responsibility to display the good judgment, behavior, attitude and religious observance reflecting positively (a *Kiddush HaShem*) on the entire school community.



HARASSMENT AND BULLYING

הטרדות והצקות

All students have the right to learn and go to school in a safe environment.

We believe a Safe School is:

1. Free from violence
2. Nurturing, caring and respectful of everyone
3. Physically and psychologically healthy
4. Enhances the self-esteem of all

Bullying can be defined as unwanted, aggressive behavior among school aged children that involves a real or perceived power imbalance. The behavior is repeated, or has the potential to be repeated, over time. Bullying includes actions such as making threats, spreading rumors, attacking someone physically or verbally, and excluding someone from a group on purpose.

We believe that all students have the right to be safe from the fear of physical or verbal abuse from their classmates. This would include such actions as a physical attack, a verbal attack or behavior that is intended to exclude, humiliate or embarrass a student. Bullying has no place in a safe school. **BMA has adopted a zero-tolerance policy toward bullying**, a copy of which is available from all school counselors. Harassment of any kind, even in jest, will not be tolerated. We also regularly incorporate bullying and harassment education into our curriculum at all levels.

Bullying: Bullying will not be tolerated. Bullying is considered a serious matter. No individual can subject another to deliberate mistreatment at BMA. Bullying occurs when an individual or group repeatedly use power with the intent of hurting or humiliating another in a physical, verbal or emotional manner. What do bullies do to intimate their victim?

BEHAVIOR/DISCIPLINE

התנהגות/משמעת

Children at BMA are treated with equality and respect. Unacceptable behavior is pointed out to the child and alternatives are explained. We use behavior modification techniques including redirecting behavior and a social skills program called Conscious Discipline. Repeat issues may require the child to be temporarily removed from the immediate group for a brief period, attended by a teacher.

Please note, humiliation, corporal punishment and verbal abuse are never among our methods of discipline.



BITING POLICY

נשיכות

If another child bites your child, the bite area will immediately be cleaned with soap and water and you will be notified of the incident by your child's teacher.

Please take note of the following biting policy:

1. If your child bites another child, you will be notified by phone as well as in writing.
2. If there is a second offense, the parent will be notified and a meeting will be scheduled to discuss the situation. We will address the issue together and come up with a plan.
3. If your child bites a third time, you will be notified to pick the child up from school immediately. The child will be permitted to return to school when arrangements have been made for an individual – hired at the parent's expense to follow the child throughout the day and help direct the child toward more positive and socially acceptable behavior.
4. If all of the above steps have been taken and this behavior continues, we may dismiss the child from school until some additional maturation has taken place.

CELL PHONE, TABLETS AND OTHER ELECTRONICS

טלפונים סלולריים ואלקטרוניקה

Students are not permitted to use cell phones or other electronic devices during the school day between the hours of 7:45am – 4:30pm. While cell phones may be brought to school for use after school, they will be confiscated if they are used during the school day. Students who bring cell phones to school must ensure they are turned off and must leave them in their locker. If a student uses his/her cell phone during the school day, the cell phone will be confiscated and turned over to an administrator. The cell phone will not be returned until the end of the following school day. Cell phones will need to be picked up from the school office by a parent. If a student violates the cell phone rule a second time, parent(s) may be called in to discuss the situation with an administrator.



ITEMS NOT ALLOWED AT SCHOOL

חפצים אסורים בבית הספר

No knives, sharp objects, weapons, articles or substances deemed detrimental to the school atmosphere or school safety may be brought to school. These items will be immediately confiscated and may result in suspension or expulsion from the school.

In addition, students should refrain from bringing the following items to school:

1. Valuables of any kind, including expensive games, toys or MP3 players
2. Radios, hand-held video games, or other video equipment unless needed for educational purposes

CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

התעללות בילדים

BMA is committed to providing the best possible and most appropriate learning experiences for all children. Occasionally, there are factors in a student's appearance and behavior that lead to suspicions of child abuse or neglect.

Florida law requires that all educators and other school employees, including volunteers, report suspected abuse or neglect to the proper authorities so that children may be protected from harm and the family may be helped.

Our school supports Florida laws in this regard and requires that all school staff report suspected abuse and neglect to the Department of Children and Family Services, and the local police department. At all times, the intent is to protect children from harm by providing services to maintain and strengthen the child's own family.

Should there be questions regarding this information, feel free to discuss them with one of the educational administrators or school guidance counselor.



PTA ועד הורים

The PTA/Vaad Horim provides a range of services and programs to students, parents, and teachers. A leadership council of parent volunteers organizes parent connections, fundraising events, chesed opportunities, and programming. Services for parents include welcoming new families, coordinating room parents for the Lower School, assigning parent liaisons to facilitate communication between parents and administrators and arranging parent education programming. The PTA/VH works to enhance relationships between parents and staff by sponsoring major recognition programs like “Staff Appreciation Week” and presenting small tokens of appreciation throughout the year. PTA proceeds help subsidize school cultural arts programs, the purchase of large equipment and teacher training. We urge all parents to become involved in activities and support its continual fundraising efforts.

Contact our PTA presidents at PTApresident@brauser.us to get involved.



PTA ONGOING FUNDRAISERS

גיוס כספים

There are many easy ways for you to help support our school all year round! Below are some of our ongoing PTA fundraisers:

Shop at AmazonSmile and Amazon will donate .05% of your purchase to BMA- Use the following link: <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/65-0213879>. When prompted, choose BMA as your preferred charity. You can find the school by searching for "Brauser." The school name will appear as "Maimonides-Shalom Academy Inc." Click "select" to choose BMA.

Box Tops for Education - Our school receives 10 cents for every General Mills and Kimberly Clark box top that is cut out and submitted to the office. You can find these coupons on hundreds of supermarket products you purchase every day. Sign in to www.boxtops4education.com - our school gets extra money for every family that signs up.

Electronics Recycling Program – Drop off your used printer cartridges and cell phones at the Main Office. Collect the printer cartridges from your offices! BMA earns money on these recyclables.

Shoe Box Recycling – Drop off your used shoes (all besides flip flops and crocs) in the boxes in front of the Main and Early Childhood Offices. The Shoe Box Recycling Company will pay us for our donations, and the shoes are sent directly to people in need in third world countries.

Order your school uniforms year-round from French Toast: Use code#: QS44CAM either at frenchtoast.com or 1800-frenchtoast (373-6248).

Klipped Kippahs Gives Back- Shop Klipped Kippahs for all your kippah needs. Klipped Kippahs will donate 10% of your custom bulk Klipped Kippahs purchase to BMA. Use Code BMA10 at checkout when ordering online through the Custom Kippah Shop.

Shoparoo- We know you are always shopping for something, somewhere. So help the school along the way without spending a penny more! Just follow this link and start fundraising: <http://app.shoparoo.com/share/zo43pmrd>. Pass this along to EVERYONE you know and they can help us! Shoparoo is a free mobile app available on iPhone and Android that turns pictures of your grocery receipts into instant donations. Shop at any store, buy any product, and simply snap a picture of the receipt with Shoparoo to make a donation to Brauser Maimonides Academy. You can cross out your name and credit card information. They are just interested in seeing the stores you go to and the products you buy. Your Kosher Store receipts are acceptable as well! Aroma and Sylvia's have both been accepted by the Shoparoo App! Check out www.shoparoo.com. BMA will receive \$1 for every 20 receipts submitted. If we collect the most in our district, we get even more! Keep shopping and clicking!

Clothing Drive- Looking for a guilt-free way of cleaning out your closets? At a few times during the year, we will be hosting a clothing drive. We earn money for every pound of clothing we collect! These clothes are then given to people in need.



Please complete and return to Early Childhood Main Office.
Thank you!

This handbook agreement form acknowledges that we, the parents of an enrolled EC student at Brauser Maimonides Academy, agree to support the administrative, behavioral, and spiritual standards of the school as described in the following statements:

I, the parent (or legal guardian), have read the EC parent handbook.

I, the parent (or legal guardian), agree to provide the EC office with all of my child's current school records and forms. These records and forms will remain up to date and stay on file in the school office.

I, the parent (or legal guardian), give permission for BMA administration to access my child's school records as needed.

I, the parent (or legal guardian), agree not to send my child to school if my child is ill, so as to prevent illness from spreading to other students.

Names of Students Enrolled in EC: _____

Name of Parent/Guardian: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____