



# King David Primary School

## Assembly Guidelines

Assemblies at the King David School include prayers, which adhere strictly to the Governors' Policy on Religious Studies, songs, teachings and school notices. All children in the school are invited to attend and parents do have the right to withdraw their children from prayers.

Assemblies are a time for gathering the children and staff of the school together, sometimes in one unit, sometimes as Limudei Kodesh and Parallel groups and sometimes as Foundation, Middle Phase and Upper Phase. Within the school there are children of many faiths, but the act of worship in the King David School is according to the daily prayers of the Jewish Faith.

Pupils enter the hall in silence. Each assembly commences with a greeting in Hebrew and/or in English. Prayers are said in Hebrew and the words are displayed, both in Hebrew and in English transliteration, on a screen via a data projector.

### **Prayers:-**

Each day: - Selections from ordinary daily service e.g. -

Ma Tovoo  
Modeh Ani  
Shema  
Adon Olam  
Ein Keloheino  
Yigdal  
Aleinu

Monday: - 9am-9:15am In the hall  
Theme of the Week is introduced  
Havdallah is made  
Middot certificates awarded

Tuesday: - 9am-9:20am In the hall  
Theme of the Week is explored in detail  
Early Years Foundation Stage (Nursery and Reception) have a separate assembly, specifically targeting their level of maturity and understanding)

Wednesday: - Prayers take place in the Shul, in Phases, to enable greater differentiation  
9am-9:20am Reception and Middle Phase  
9:20am-9:40am Upper Phase

Thursday: - 9am-9:10am In the Hall

Friday: - 9am-9:20am  
Limudei Kodesh pupils in the Shul  
Parallel groups join online through Google Classrooms  
Selections from Sabbath prayers:-  
Lecha Dodi

Friday afternoon: -  
Kabbalat Shabbat Kiddush, 1:35pm – 2:10pm, whole school

Classes take it in turns to set and sit around the Kiddush table.  
Visitors are very welcome.  
Challah is shared with all.

**Special Occasions:-**

Rosh Chodesh - From Hallel  
Sad occasions - A Psalm

**Festivals:-**

Rosh Hashanah (New Year) - Shofar (ram's horn) blowing during the month of Ellul  
Yom Kippur (Day of Atonement) - Avenoo Malkeinoo and other prayers for the Day of Atonement  
Succot (Tabernacles) - Waving of Lulav (Palm)  
Hoshanah Rabba (Name given to seventh day of festival of Succot) - Beating of Willow  
Simchat Torah (Rejoicing of the Law) - A celebration to include a flag wave  
Chanukah (Feast of Lights) - Lighting of Candles (or oil lights)  
Tu B'Shevat (Fifteenth day of the month of Shevat) – Appropriate readings for the New Year for the Trees  
Purim (Feast of Esther) - Reading of Megillah (story of Esther)  
Pesach (Passover) - Songs appropriate to the Festival  
Counting of the Omer - Days between 2nd day of Pesach and Shavuot  
Yom Hashoah (Holocaust Memorial Day for the Jewish Community) - Appropriate readings  
Yom Ha'atzmaut (Israel's Independence Day) - Appropriate readings, dances, prayer for the State of Israel and Hatikva (Israeli National Anthem)  
Yom Yerushalayim (Jerusalem Day) - Appropriate readings  
Shavuot - Songs appropriate to the festival

Each week there is a new Theme of the Week, related to the school's PSCHC curriculum. Teachings regarding the Theme of the Week, Festivals, Mitzvot (good deeds), behaviour towards others and Bible stories may precede or follow the prayers.

The children are reminded of the dates of festivals and some of the main historical facts and customs.

Teachings include topical events and happenings as well as those with a religious and moral theme. Mitzvot and respect for others and their property are topics for discussion.

School notices e.g. Headteacher's awards, school events, reminders about litter or playing areas, are given after prayers.

The children listen to music while entering and leaving the hall. This is provided via the music centre or by children playing instruments.

**Prayers**

Ma Tovoo, Modeh Ani, Shema  
Adon Olam, Ein Keloheinoo.

**Songs**

Assembly concludes with a song which may be related to prayer or to the appropriate Festival. Pupils leave the assembly quietly.