

Extension Courses @ BJE (Years K-6)

The **Extension Course** in the BJE Jewish Journey deepens students' Jewish learning in more depth, including Jewish heritage, history, culture, and values, in an experiential and relevant manner. It focuses on enriching students' experience of the SRE curriculum and providing diverse experiential opportunities to help build a child's Jewish identity and spark their curiosity in Judaism as a lived experience.

The Extension course is offered once weekly and tailored to the learning needs of each class. All lessons are well-prepared and delivered by experienced educators. Parents are provided with a progress report two times per year.

The course overview is as follows:

Years K-2 EXTENSION

In Years K-2, we extend the learning beyond the SRE curriculum in schools, including:

- Prayer (Modei Ani, Shema)
- Bible stories (Abraham to Moses), linking Bible stories to the festivals.
- Extended learning about the Chaggim, Shabbat
- Songs for the festivals and Shabbat and significant brachot
- How the 10 Commandments relate to the individual student
- Israel study – flag, Hatikvah Yom Ha'atzmaut, Yom Yerushalayim
- Experiential immersion - e.g., Shabbat table, Purim dressup, Pesach songs, Pesach kits for home, Sukkot experience, Israeli cooking and food

Years 3-4 EXTENSION

In Years 3-4, we focus on building literacy and creating community, including:

- Extension of knowledge of Chaggim and Shabbat (Brachot, songs), and the study of Tannach (Genesis, Nevi'im and Ketuvim - Judges, Prophets & Heroes)
- Pre-Temple Life in Israel
- Contemporary Jewish Practice: the importance of diversity and inclusion
- Israel – modern Israel: Yom Ha'atzmaut, Yom Yerushalayim, Yom Ha' Zicharon
- Experiential immersion – e.g., Purim dress up, Pesach Seder, Shake the Lulav and Etrog etc

Years 5-6 EXTENSION

In Years 5-6, we focus on consolidating literacy and engaging with Jewish history, including:

- Mishnah (Oral Law and Tradition) – connect to Jewish Heritage and Modern Jewish History
- Jewish ethics (personal) – how Jewish Law informs these and how they may have changed (Mitzvot between person and G-d vs Mitzvot between person and person).
- Diversity in Jewish Practice – what does this mean?
- Understanding the importance of community in Jewish practice – Life Cycle and Religious Customs, Jewish History Late 19th Century till 1948
- Network of communal organisations like Maccabi, BJE, JCA, NSW Jewish Board of Deputies etc

We look forward to welcoming your child to Extension@BJE soon!