



TEMPLE BETH AM  
DAY SCHOOL

# Welcome

DEAR PARENTS/GUARDIANS,

It is my pleasure to welcome you to Temple Beth Am Day School.

Exciting things are happening each day at our school! On campus, you will see a dedicated and experienced faculty who truly enjoy teaching. Children are learning in a safe and nurturing environment and are being challenged to fulfill their potential in stimulating classroom settings.

Working in partnership with our parents, Temple Beth Am Day School fosters in students a love of learning, a strong sense of Jewish identity, and a responsibility to their greater community. In our Early Childhood division, children are provided with a warm, secure environment in which developmentally appropriate activities enhance their natural ways of learning, stimulating their minds, bodies, imaginations and interests. In our Elementary School division, our students pursue a challenging integrated general and Judaic studies curriculum through which they develop the curiosity and initiatives that promote positive self-esteem and encourage the desire to continue learning.

You are cordially invited to share in this exciting day school experience. Enclosed you will find our application materials and other information that we hope will be helpful to you.

If you would like further information, after reviewing the enclosed materials, please call Cari Altman, Director of Admissions, at 305.665.6228, extension 112, or e-mail her at [caltman@tbam.org](mailto:caltman@tbam.org).

Sincerely,

DR. DEBORAH R. STARR  
*Head of School*





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# Day School

[www.tbam.org/dayschool](http://www.tbam.org/dayschool)

## HISTORY

Temple Beth Am Day School, established in 1957, is the oldest reform Jewish day school and one of the largest Jewish day schools in the United States. Our school holds various accreditations and honors, establishing its reputation as a national leader in private Jewish day school education. Students of all faiths are welcome at Temple Beth Am Day School.

## GUIDING PRINCIPLES

- To focus and build on the strengths of our students, and support them in their independent learning styles.
- To provide meaningful learning experiences and many opportunities for knowledge acquisition, critical thinking, problem-solving, innovation, and creative expression.
- To respond to and nurture each student's intellectual, social, emotional, ethical, spiritual and physical development.
- To integrate Jewish knowledge, attitudes and skills into the general studies curriculum.
- To foster independence and a sense of responsibility and accountability.

## EARLY CHILDHOOD

The Early Childhood Center, 15 months - Pre-Kindergarten, provides children with developmentally appropriate experiences that foster an understanding of basic concepts, while utilizing the young child's natural ways of learning. Our belief is that play is the most significant vehicle for accessing and promoting learning. We use play as the primary modality to promote social, emotional, cognitive, and spiritual growth. Since children are naturally curious and learn best through experience, we provide them with the opportunities to stimulate their minds and bodies, their imagination and their interests within our safe and nurturing environment. The Early Childhood Center is accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC\*), and the Florida Kindergarten Council (FKC).

Our classroom centers include block, dramatic play center, science and math manipulative areas, art, writing and drawing, a warm and inviting reading area, as well as sand and water play areas. Our play-based program teaches skills and concepts in the following areas: language arts, math readiness, science, general and Judaic history, art, music and physical education. The daily schedule incorporates imaginary play, developing social and communication skills, self-directed exploration of the world around them and celebration of American and Jewish life. Each day's learning contributes to the growth and development of a happy and healthy child.

*This prestigious accreditation is awarded to only 7% of the nation's early childhood programs.*

## ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

The Elementary School includes Kindergarten through Fifth Grade. Low teacher/student ratio enables our teachers to provide individualized attention to each student. Temple Beth Am Day School strives to provide a program of excellence in general and Judaic studies, with an emphasis on the development of knowledge and critical thinking skills, character education, and attitudes that will enable each student to grow academically, emotionally and spiritually.

Temple Beth Am Day School is an *Open Circle* School; the only one in Florida. *Open Circle* is a social skills program that fosters positive student relationships including how to be inclusive, address bullying and teasing, and to recognize dangerous and destructive situations. Our school is proudly accredited by The Florida Council of Independent Schools (FCIS), Florida Kindergarten Council (FKC), Association of Independent Schools of Florida (AISF), and AdvancED (SACS).

At Temple Beth Am Day School, students study language arts, social studies, mathematics, science, Hebrew language and Judaic studies. Spanish, robotics, coding, studio art, physics, sewing, and television production are available as an option. Teaching specialists in such subjects as music, art, technology and physical education enrich the core curriculum. A variety of teaching strategies are used to ensure the academic success of our students.





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# Admissions

[www.tbam.org/admissions](http://www.tbam.org/admissions)



## ADMISSION POLICIES & PROCEDURES

Temple Beth Am Day School uses an application and screening process for students new to both the Early Childhood and Elementary School. **All applicants must first submit an application online at [www.tbam.org/admissions](http://www.tbam.org/admissions).**

**EARLY CHILDHOOD:** Applicants will participate in an age-appropriate observation/playtime in order to assess their readiness for school. In addition, students who have attended a previous school will need to submit school records and a teacher recommendation from their previous school or program.

**ELEMENTARY SCHOOL:** Students applying to grades Kindergarten – Fifth Grade will submit school records (current transcript, standardized test scores and any existing psycho-educational evaluations) and a teacher recommendation from their previous school. Students will also participate in a screening visit to the school. During the screening visit, students will participate in an age-appropriate test, given by one of our learning specialists.

Admissions decisions are based on a child's readiness and ability to be successful in the Temple Beth Am Day School program.

**Students new to Temple Beth Am Day School may apply for financial assistance online at [www.tbam.org/financialassistance](http://www.tbam.org/financialassistance).**

Temple Beth Am Day School does not discriminate on the basis of religion, race, color, or national origin in the administration of its educational and admissions policies.

We welcome your questions and look forward to making this process easy and comfortable. If you have any questions or would like to schedule a school tour, please contact Cari Altman, Director of Admissions, at 305.665.6228, ext. 112, or [caltman@tbam.org](mailto:caltman@tbam.org).

