

Why Jewish Day School?



TEMPLE BETH AM
DAY SCHOOL

“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.”

– DR. DEBORAH R. STARR
Head of School

“The Temple Beth Am Day School curriculum focuses on critical thinking, reasoning, creativity and imagination. The students at Beth Am are hard-working and intelligent, and they inspire each other every day.”

– TEMPLE BETH AM DAY SCHOOL PARENT

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT
Cari Altman, M.S.E.d., Admissions Director
office 305.665.6228 ext. 112 or caltman@tbam.org
www.tbam.org/dayschool



TEMPLE BETH AM DAY SCHOOL

The Janet³¹ and Richard Yulman Campus 5950 N. Kendall Drive, Pinecrest, Florida 33156 | www.tbam.org/dayschool

Jewish Day School: A Primer



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	<i>Jewish Day School (Private)</i>	<i>Public School</i>
TYPE OF SCHOOL	INDEPENDENT: Responsive to educational research and immediate needs of individual students. Able to exceed standards.	MANDATED: “Next Generation Sunshine State Standards” and District mandated curricula only.
STANDARDIZED TESTS	Used as an educational tool only. Curriculum is not dictated by the test content.	Tied to funding. Curriculum is aligned to test content.
FINANCIAL DECISION-MAKING	Guided by school professionals. Boards made up of volunteer stake-holders have ultimate responsibility to make school-specific decisions.	Centralized- from district/state.
ACCOUNTABILITY	To Board, students and parents.	Centralized authority.
ADMISSIONS	Enrollment is offered to families who choose a values-based, rigorous education and students who go through a screening process.	Open to all, based on location of permanent residence.
DIVERSITY	Population draws broadly from many zip codes. Financial assistance allows for families of varying economic means to attend school.	Representative of the surrounding geographic area.
SECURITY	Closed campus. Visitors must be cleared to enter.	Varies depending on school.
VALUES-BASED EDUCATION	Children are taught to be “good people.” Middle schools report that Beth Am children are leaders, friendly to others, and academically well-prepared. Research shows that children attending faith-based schools have a higher level of academic achievement. Social-emotional curriculum is taught with intentionality.	SECULAR EDUCATION: Social-emotional skills not central to the curriculum; thereby suggesting a missed opportunity for reaching academic and social potential.
TEACHERS	Faculty engages in weekly quality professional development, collegiality-building, and reflection. Their educational credentials are superior, including Master’s and PhD level. School administrators independently hire, renew or terminate a teacher. Teachers model their behavior in the context of Jewish values.	Hiring/termination of teachers are centralized and not school-specific.
COMMUNITY	Families with similar values who place education as a priority.	There may not be a commonality of values.
SPECIALS/ FOREIGN LANGUAGE	Art, science, Hebrew, technology, physical education, music, library, field trips, and special activities are a standard part of the school day. Spanish, coding, and robotics are also an option.	May suffer due to budget cuts or mandates.
JEWISH EDUCATION	Get all formal Jewish education during the school day.	Hebrew and Judaics are not included in the school day.
JEWISH CONTINUITY	Establishes your child’s connection to his/her heritage, the greater Jewish community, and Israel.	Opportunities to make strong connections to the Jewish community and Israel are not presented.
Pre-K	Private Pre-K at TBADS	Public Pre-K
KINDERGARTEN READINESS	Curriculum expectation and focus is for <u>all</u> children to be ready for Kindergarten	State of Florida requires that a minimum of <u>70%</u> of children in VPK are ready for Kindergarten
CURRICULUM	Encourages innovation and critical thinking through play, literacy, math concepts, and physical activity. Teaching is differentiated to meet each child where they are, and grow from there.	Mandated, standardized, and scripted.
HOURS	6.25 hours of instruction, plus 45 minutes of early care per day included in tuition.	3 hours of instruction per day is included in VPK voucher. Schools vary in the way that this is implemented.
CLASS SIZE	Maximum of 15 students with 2 teachers.	Maximum of 20 students with 2 teachers.
TEACHERS	Lead teacher must have minimum college degree of Bachelor’s or higher, and be licensed/certified.	Lead instructor must have a minimum of a Florida childcare professional credential.
ACCREDITATION	Voluntary accreditation in addition to Department of Children and Families minimum requirements.	Minimum Department of Children and Families requirements.