

THE CALGARY JEWISH ACADEMY

KASHRUTH POLICY

ADOPTED: December 10, 1990

Amended: June 11, 2008

Amended: May 10, 2017

The Calgary Jewish Academy fosters an environment of Pluralistic Judaism. Pluralistic Judaism is open and welcoming to Jews of all backgrounds. Pluralistic Judaism is non-denominational. The CJA does not subscribe to any particular stream of Judaism, but is open to the thoughts and ideas of each denomination respecting each person's background. Pluralistic Judaism respects Halakah (Jewish law) and believes that each person makes her/his own choice as to level of observance. In this spirit, the CJA provides the experience of eating as a community in a way that encourages derekh erez (respectful behavior), inclusion (during school and non-school activities) and supports the practice and values of Pluralistic Judaism. Pluralistic Judaism respects the Jewish traditions surrounding the Hebrew language. This means that children will be encouraged to recite b'rakhot (blessings) before and after a meal.

Procedures In School (This includes students, faculty, PTA event, Board of Directors Meetings, special events at the school etc..)

- Given our school's pluralistic approach to Judaism, parents and students will make their own individual choices about what students will bring to school for lunch.
- Each child should eat only his/her lunch. Sharing of food is not permitted.
- All food and baked goods served in school and at official in-school functions must be certified as kosher. This includes food from bakeries, grocery stores, or other foods, which bear certification. A "K" without further information is not a mark of certification. Acceptable hechsherim (kosher symbols) will be those identified by AB Kosher. (No utensils may be brought from home for classroom cooking projects.)
- Other School Functions:

- When our students are on field trips, all food arrangements should be consistent with the school's kashrut policy. All food served at official school functions held on or off campus, including all Parent Teacher Organization sponsored programs also comply with the school's kashrut policy.
- Kitchen Access:
 - The CJA is a dairy kitchen. The kitchen will remain locked at all times. The kitchen is under the supervision of an appointee (s) of the Principal called the Mashgiach Temidi (a kashrut supervisor who will remain in the kitchen / preparation area and at the event throughout food preparation and food service) who will be responsible for the key to the kitchen. No outside food (unless it has a hechsher or is from a certified kosher establishment) will be allowed into the kitchen.
 - The mashgiach(s) will be assigned to oversee all use of the kitchen or event space for both safety and kashrut reasons.
 - The mashgiach(s) will be, when possible, Grade 8 and 9 students.

Off Campus (field trips, extended field trips, fundraising events, etc..)

- All off campus event must practice Pluralistic Jewish Kashrut through offering Kosher options (at the expense of and organized by the school) to any individual who requests Kosher food. The level of Kashrut required by the individual will be determined by the individuals (and their family) and the school will accommodate this requirement.
- Both staff and parents are asked to make every effort to uphold the Kashrut policy.