



Gray Academy

OF JEWISH EDUCATION

קהילה. משפחה. דרך חיים. Our Community. Our Family. Our Way of Life.



The Vision

We are proud of our deep-rooted foundations in Jewish life and the values that Gray Academy of Jewish Education provides to our community and the City of Winnipeg.

Our clear vision to provide an educational environment of academic excellence, strong Jewish values and proud citizenship is reflected in the fulfillment of our mandate this past year to:

- Connect with our supporters to promote an understanding of the impact of the school on the community at large;
- Attract new immigrant families to the school;
- Create a sense of belonging and pride in our students, teachers and parent body;
- Appeal to the extended family and visitors who come to our community campus but are not always directly involved with our school;
- Celebrate our long and rich history;
- Broaden the larger community's understanding of who we are and where we are going.

Our community. Our family. Our way of life.

Recent academic years have witnessed the development of Gray Academy of Jewish Education as one of the pre-eminent independent schools in North America. In addition to our accreditation by SEAL Canada (Standards in Excellence and Learning), the recognition and accolades our school has received clearly demonstrates that we have surpassed National Standards of Excellence.



The Benefits of Educating Your Child in a Jewish Educational Environment

- Opportunity to introduce your child to Jewish culture and values
- Opportunity to associate with the community's Jewish youth
- Extension of Jewish family life
- New curriculum and new programs in Judaic Studies across several grade levels
- Highest academic standards with a strong emphasis on Jewish education
- Life lessons in Tikkun Olam, Gemilut Chasadim, and giving back to the community through volunteer service
- Developing leadership skills to become Jewish leaders in the community



The Value Associated with a Gray Academy Education

- 2 diplomas upon graduation: General Studies diploma and Judaic Studies diploma
- Judaic Studies programming: Jewish Awareness Retreat and Spirit Weekends
- NETA Program – Hebrew language curriculum program whereby teachers receive training in Israel, New York and Boston
- Advanced Placement Program – AP English, AP Calculus, AP Biology, AP Chemistry, AP European History and AP Physics
- Debating Program – National and International Competition
- English as an Additional Language Program
- Language Arts – Regional CanSpell Spelling Bee Competition
- History – Forum for Young Canadians and Encounters with Canada (Ottawa), Asper Foundation Human Rights and Holocaust Studies Program trip to Washington, D.C., Partnership 2000 Program in Israel, Model U.N. trip to New York
- Music, Drama and Band Program
- Math & Science – Manitoba Provincial Science Symposium, Canadian National Mathematics League, University of Waterloo High School Math Contest
- Athletics – Basketball, Curling, Badminton, Soccer, Volleyball, Flag Football, Track and Field, Golf, Ski Trips and more
- Extra-Curricular – Chess Club, Tefillin Club, Lunch & Learn with Rabbis, Running Club, Regional Bible Contest, Reach for the Top Team, B'nai Brith Camp Outdoor Education Trip



Junior Kindergarten

Your First Steps!
Welcome to School.

Junior Kindergarten Program Overview

Junior Kindergarten is a 3 and 4 year old program that integrates Judaic and General Studies. JK is based on the knowledge that learning in the early years is an individual process, and that each child develops at his/her own rate. Every child is valued and respected as an individual, and is made to feel safe and secure within the school environment. For some, this is their first experience being part of a Jewish community of children. Therefore, the nurturing of this first awareness of their sense of Jewish identity is an integral part of the program. We strive to make their first formal school experience a positive one, with the emphasis on fun. The program is thematic and activity-based which involves children in both individual and group activities.

Just as the rainbow is a spectrum of colours, so too is our JK program a multi-dimensional learning environment.

Kindergarten

You're Now Grown Up and
Ready for a Full Day of School.

Kindergarten Program Overview

The Kindergarten program is a preparatory program for accelerated study designed to help each child develop as an independent learner in an environment that encourages discovery and exploration. The various subject areas are integrated into lessons in a manner that is meaningful and connected to our personal experiences.

The Kindergarten program provides opportunities and experiences for a child to bloom like a flower.



Grade 1

Your First Desk and Your Very
Own Siddur (Prayer Book).

Grade 1 Program Overview

Through a child-centered approach to teaching, students discover the world through relevant and enriching curriculum in both General and Judaic Studies. Within the classroom students are part of a community of learners and work both independently and collaboratively.

Grade 1 introduces a structured learning environment that is conducive to diverse learners.

Language Arts

- Exploring thoughts, ideas, feelings and experiences
- Comprehending and responding personally and critically to literary and media texts
- Managing ideas and formulations
- Enhancing the clarity and artistry of communication
- Celebrating and building community

Math

- Number (concepts, operations)
- Patterns and Relations
- Data Managements
- Shape and Space (geometry, measurement)

Social Studies

- I Belong
- My Environment
- Connecting with Others

Science

- Characteristics and needs of living things
- The 5 Senses
- Characteristics of Objects and Materials
- Daily & Seasonal Changes

Specialties

- Guidance
- French
- Music
- Art
- Physical Education
- Computers
- Library

Hebrew Language and Judaic Studies

With the introduction of Tal AM, our students are involved in a fully integrated Hebrew Language and Judaic Studies program. Colourful workbooks, attractive classroom posters, DVDs, song and story albums help our students to become Hebrew readers, writers and communicators. We learn about daily life, celebrate Shabbat and the Jewish holidays, study the weekly Torah portion and Israel.

In our special T'fillah program, the students connect the activities of their daily lives to the various T'fillot. Personal journals reflect their ideas from class discussions.

Grade 7–8

Grade 7 and 8 Curriculum

Course Elements of the Grade Seven and Eight Curriculum:

- **English:** Exposure to a variety of literary writing.
- **Mathematics:** Development of logical thinking and problem solving skills.
- **Science:** Acquisition of scientific knowledge through the investigation of life systems.
- **Social Studies:** Focus on geography and the human impact on the world.
- **Debating:** Development of critical thinking, confidence and communication skills.
- **Guidance:** Topics such as study skills, relationships, family life and other relevant topics.
- **French:** Meaningful interactions through learning the French language.
- **Physical Education and Health:** Learning life-long recreational skills.
- **Electives:** Art, cooking, CO2 model car design, robotics, basketball skills, computer graphics, fitness and leisure, juggling, and theatre arts.
- **Hebrew Culture and Language:** A multi-layered approach to language acquisition.
- **Tanach:** A look at leadership in Biblical times.
- **Explorations in Judaism:** Exploration of a child's right of passage in Judaism. (Gr. 7)
- **Roots:** Learning about Jewish Life in Manitoba and each family's personal genealogy. (Gr. 7)
- **Mishna:** A look at personal responsibility in daily life. (Gr. 7)
- **Current Events:** In Israel and the Jewish world. (Gr. 8)
- **Jewish History:** The people of Israel in Biblical times. (Gr. 8)
- **Kosher Law:** The study of dietary laws in Judaism. (Gr. 8)
- **Global Connections:** A hands-on approach to global awareness in today's society. (Gr. 8)

Making the Transition

Gray Academy of Jewish Education recognizes the importance of the transition from elementary to high school and is ideally able to respond: preparing young students to make responsible decisions, develop independence and begin shaping their own lives.

Both students and parents can expect:

- A caring staff
- A commitment to academic excellence
- Supportive environments
- Extraordinary resources
- Attention to the individual
- Connection to the family

In the Classroom

Students at Gray Academy receive enriched program opportunities and are introduced to a variety of teaching methodologies and learning environments. Unique to Gray Academy is the special training of teachers in Hebrew Culture and Language. As well, Gray Academy is able to provide additional support to students in General Studies, Judaic Studies, Hebrew, English as an Additional Language and Special Education. The Guidance Program focuses on study skills, relationships and healthy lifestyles.

Smaller class sizes for the compulsory courses in General Studies and Judaic Studies give students the attention they need from their teachers to achieve maximum results. The staff strives to help students who are entering high school reach their greatest potential as scholars and young leaders in the Jewish and global communities.

Student's Choice

Grade Seven offers students more specialized learning and the introduction of elective courses that balance their compulsory course schedule. Students entering Grade Seven actively participate in the decision-making regarding course selection.

During breaks and lunch period, students have access to school facilities such as a youth lounge, library, computer labs, gymnasium and restaurant.

Staying Active in the Halls

At Gray Academy we believe the lessons and experiences outside the classroom are just as important as the lessons learned inside. Students at Gray Academy will have the opportunity to participate in high school activities such as student council, dances, spirit days, holiday programs and gym riots. The Grade Seven year is capped off with a B.B. Camp outdoor experience.

Co-curricular and extra-curricular activities broaden and deepen a student's educational experiences and independence. Available options for students include:

- Intra and intermural sports
- Competitive debating program (local, national, international)
- Student Council leadership
- Reach For The Top
- Peer mentoring
- Band program
- Lunch and learn programs
- Programs in the arts and performing arts

Getting Ahead

When entering Grade Seven, students can choose one of two streams of accelerated programs at Gray Academy: the Regular Accelerated Program or the Advanced Placement Program. The accelerated programs at Gray Academy require students to handle a greater workload as they complete the Manitoba curriculum of General Studies as well as a diverse program of traditional and contemporary Judaic Studies.

Gray Academy respects and recognizes individual and group successes through Honour Roll, awards and scholarships for academic excellence in both Judaic and General Studies, achievement in sports (individual and team), school involvement, leadership, and citizenship.

The Senior High years are an opportunity for young adolescents to build upon the solid foundation they received in Grades 7 and 8. Curricular choices for Grades 9 to 12 students include the following:

Compulsory Courses General Studies Grades 9–12				
	9	10	11	12
Math	✓	✓	✓	✓
English Language Arts	✓	✓	✓	✓
Science	✓	✓		
Social Studies	✓			
Geography		✓		
History			✓	
Physical Education/Health	✓	✓	✓	✓

Judaic Studies Compulsory Courses Grades 9–12				
	9	10	11	12
Hebrew Language and Culture	✓	✓	✓	✓
Jewish History	✓			
Gemilut Chasadim		✓		
Lifecycle Events			✓	
Shoa Studies			✓	
Israel Advocacy				✓

General Studies Electives Grades 9–12				
	9	10	11	12
Art	✓	✓	✓	✓
Computer Multi Media	✓	✓		
Peer Tutoring	✓	✓	✓	✓
Theatre Arts	✓	✓	✓	✓
Debating	✓	✓	✓	✓
Academic Writing			✓	✓
French	✓	✓	✓	✓
Psychology		✓	✓	✓
Biology		✓	✓	✓
Chemistry		✓	✓	✓
Physics			✓	✓
World Issues			✓	✓
Yearbook	✓	✓	✓	✓
Digital Film Making	✓	✓	✓	✓
Law	✓	✓	✓	✓
Calculus				✓
Food and Nutrition	✓			
Career Preparation		✓		

Judaic Studies Electives Grades 9–12				
	9	10	11	12
Biblical Heroes	✓	✓		
Judaism through the Arts	✓	✓		
Modern Israel	✓	✓		
Monotheism and Idolatry		✓		
Sinai and the Ten Commandments	✓	✓		
Science and Religion	✓	✓		
Yiddish Language and Culture	✓	✓	✓	✓
Being Jewish in the Modern World			✓	✓
Comparative Religion			✓	✓
Jewish Community Internship			✓	✓
Jewish Film and Literature			✓	✓
Jewish Leadership			✓	✓
Tanach in Film and Literature			✓	✓
The Jewish Bookshelf II			✓	✓

AP Courses Grade 12				
	9	10	11	12
Biology				✓
Calculus				✓
Chemistry				✓
English				✓
European History				✓
Physics				✓

Grade 9–12

Early Childhood Education: The First Steps of Learning

Gray Academy of Jewish Education is a JK to Grade 12 university preparatory school that places equal value on Jewish and General academic programs, and provides opportunities to nurture the emotional well-being and spiritual development of its students. We are proud to provide a pluralistic education and environment that is home to learners of diverse backgrounds. Through a commitment to Jewish and General Education over the past century, students of Gray Academy have been able to experience how they are linked to their history and their ancestors, gaining the knowledge of their purpose and place in today's world.

Why Consider Gray Academy for Your Child's High School Education?

- The largest pluralistic community Jewish day school in Western Canada
- Advanced Placement program (AP) that allows students to take one or more courses (Language Arts, Social Studies, Math and Science)
- A family oriented school that places the emphasis on the needs of each individual student
- Smaller classrooms with individual attention
- A rich Judaic Studies curriculum
- Hebrew language learning through an international curriculum created for Diaspora youth
- Accredited by SEAL Canada (Standards in Excellence and Learning)
- A school and curriculum committed to the State of Israel, the Winnipeg Jewish community and the global community
- A school dedicated to providing the community with the leaders of tomorrow
- Jewish Experiences for youth: Jewish Awareness Retreat, Model UN in New York, Partnership 2000 to Israel, Spirit Weekend, Grade 12 Trip to Israel, National and International Debating Tournaments, Asper Foundation Human Rights and Holocaust Studies Program to Washington, Bio Technology Fair, Encounters with Canada, Youth Leadership Convention, Raoul Wallenberg Human Rights Day and more



The Future

Our commitment to our students and parent body is unwavering. Together we aim to achieve the highest potential, both as an academic institution of higher learning, and as a community-minded place to nurture Jewish students to become the future leaders of tomorrow.

We are investing in Our Community.
Our Family. Our Way of Life.

grayacademy.ca

An education at Gray Academy provides your child the opportunity to be exposed to a myriad of academic and personal growth experiences.

Gray Academy proudly proclaims that it is the central gathering place for excellence in education and the development of future Jewish leaders; a collective perspective motivated by a spirit of civic courage and social responsibility that will influence the functioning of our community for centuries to come.

A recent study undertaken by the Partnership of Excellence in Jewish Education states that students with Jewish day school experience express a greater commitment to the Jewish community.



THE JEWISH FOUNDATION OF MANITOBA



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