



# Immanuel College

## Kashrut Policy



The Charles Kalms • Henry Ronson  
**Immanuel**  
**College**

HMC Independent Jewish Day School for Children aged 4-18

**Academic Excellence** HMC  
**Expert Pastoral Care**  
**Inspiring Jewish Education**



The Independent Association  
of Prep Schools



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## Immanuel College Kashrut Policy

### Legal Status:

This policy referred to in, and forms an essential part of, the contract between the College and parents as set out in the terms and conditions.

### Applies to:

- The whole school including the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)
- All staff (teaching and support staff), the Governors and volunteers working in the College

### Related Documents:

- Admissions Policy
- Educational Visits and Off-Site Activities Policy
- Behaviour and Discipline Policy
- Terms and Conditions

### Availability:

This policy is provided to new parents before they sign the College's terms and conditions. Existing parents have also been sent a copy of the amended February 2017 version of this policy (together with the amended terms and conditions) and have confirmed in writing that they agree to abide by the policy. The policy is also available to parents and staff in the following ways: via the School website, on the staff shared drive, in the School reception area, and on request a further copy may be obtained from the College Office.

### Monitoring and Review:

- This policy will be subject to continuous monitoring, refinement and audit by the Director of Jewish Education and the Head Master.
- The Governors will undertake a formal review of this policy including for the purpose of monitoring the efficiency with which the related duties have been discharged, no later than two years from the date shown below, or earlier if significant changes to the systems and arrangements take place, or if legislation, regulatory requirements or best practice guidelines so require.

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Dated: October 2018

Review due: October 2019

Signed:

Gary Griffin  
Head Master

Prof Anthony Warrens and Edward Misrahi  
Joint Chairmen of the Board of Governors

## Ethos and Vision

Immanuel College, inclusive of the Preparatory School, strives to provide a caring and inclusive ethos that expects our pupils to show respect and sensitivity to others in all areas including religious observance. This expectation falls on all families, whatever their own level of religious observance.

## Kashrut Policy Part A

This part of the policy (Part A) outlines the procedures that must be followed when organising a Bar or Bat Mitzvah (or similar celebration including “confirmations,” or “coming of age parties” whether or not occurring around the time a pupil turns 12 or 13 for a girl or 13 for a boy) when other pupils of the College are invited to attend.

### Food at Bar and Bat Mitzvahs and similar celebrations

All pupils should feel comfortable at their friends’ Bar and Bat Mitzvahs knowing that respect for the highest level of Kashrut is maintained. Therefore all food provided at such events should come from one of the Orthodox Supervised Kosher Caterers listed [here http://www.kosher.org.uk/caterers](http://www.kosher.org.uk/caterers)).

It is important to point out that “inoffensive fish”, vegetarian menus, or offering Hermolis/kosher packaged food to the more observant guests are not acceptable alternatives. The entire function must be supervised by one of the caterers detailed in the link above. Special provision being made at such celebrations (smachot) for children and/or adults from kosher homes in an otherwise non-kosher function must be avoided as this approach tends to isolate those who keep kosher and makes them feel separate from their peers, able to eat one thing but not another.

In the past some pupils and their parents have been distressed as a result of the failure of some families to respect the ethos of the College. We therefore wish to protect pupils from any such distress in the future.

Should parents be in any doubt about the requirements in these rules, they should contact the College for advice before any arrangements have been made.

We wish to make it clear that the contract for education between the College and a family is based on trust and shared educational values and ethos. The College will actively take steps to ensure that

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this Kashrut policy is followed and will, in particular, take action against any family that breaks this policy in accordance with the updated terms and conditions of the contract between the parents and the College. In this regard, a family which does not comply with this part of the Kashrut Policy will be in breach of trust and the express terms and conditions of the contract will be asked to take **all** their children out of Immanuel College at the end of the academic year.

## **Kashrut Policy Part B**

This policy outlines the procedures to be followed when organising Preparatory School class and home parties, bringing food into school, on coaches and school trips.

### **Food on the College Campus, off-site School Activities, School coaches, School trips & sports fixtures and after-school activities**

You may only bring onto the College campus, for off-site school activities including those organised or led by Immanuel College, on school coaches and trips: drinks, vegetables, fruit or milky food that is approved as kosher by buying it from a recognised Kosher shop (a list of which is provided here <http://www.kosher.org.uk/kosher/establishments-catering>, for your convenience) or is marked with kosher certification from an Orthodox Authority or products that appear in the London Beth Din Kashrut guide (<http://www.kosher.org.uk/>). You must not bring to school: non-kosher food, meaty food (even if kosher certified), or products containing nuts.<sup>1</sup>

### **Food in the Sixth Form Common Room**

The Common Room is the responsibility of the sixth-form students, who are required to observe the laws of Kashrut there, as in the rest of the College. Therefore, the same standards apply as for the rest of the College campus - see above.

### **Sixth Form Lunchtime**

Any food bought off the premises should comply with the Kashrut and nut-free requirements of the College. Students may bring their own non-meaty kosher lunch, or eat in the College dining room, provided that the standards set for the school campus are adhered to - see above.

### **Prep School**

- Children who stay for clubs after school may also bring a small parev, certified Kosher nut-free snack such as biscuits, pretzels or fruit bars but no sweets or chocolate.
- Birthdays are very important to the children and we are very happy to share them in school. Please speak to your child's class teacher in advance to arrange for your child to bring a

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<sup>1</sup> Nut restriction in line with Whole School allergy policy



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birthday cake, biscuits, cookies or cupcakes to share with their friends. Please ensure items have a recognised Kashrut hechsher (and are brought in with the seal intact) and are nut free and parev. Sweets, lollies and chocolate should not be brought to school.

- For Prep School outings a school lunch will be provided, but the children should bring an additional small, certified kosher, nut free snack in a named disposable bag.
- Food at parties outside school to which Immanuel College pupils are invited, must either be purchased from a recognised Kosher store click <http://www.kosher.org.uk/kosher/establishments-catering> or kosher certification from an Orthodox Authority or products that appear in the London Beth Din Kashrut guide (<http://www.kosher.org.uk/>) or be provided by an Orthodox Supervised Kosher Caterer (a list of approved caterers who can be found [here http://www.kosher.org.uk/caterers](http://www.kosher.org.uk/caterers)). See below for specific Kashrut guidelines.

The College would like to make it clear that if a child brings in non-kosher or unsupervised food to school or on a school trip, we will not allow such food to be consumed while the children are on school premises and/or under our supervision such as on school trips or coaches. We will therefore confiscate such food immediately and if replacement kosher food is provided it will be at the parents' expense.

### Home Hospitality

The College wants to ensure all pupils are able to deepen their friendships outside school confident that they can eat in their friends' homes. Parents are therefore strongly encouraged to respect the Jewish laws of Kashrut, Shabbat and Yom Tov (please see below) when entertaining their children's friends from school so as to ensure that no pupil is excluded from activities organised because of insufficient attention to religious law.

### Kashrut Guidelines for Parents, Pupils and Staff

For your convenience some of the main laws of Kashrut (including some laws of Shabbat and Yom Tov) are detailed below:

#### **Laws of Kashrut (for home hospitality other than Bar and Bat Mitzvahs or similar celebrations (which are covered by Part A of the policy above))**

Meat is only permitted when supervised from an Orthodox Kashrut Authority, London Beth Din (KBLD), Sephardi (SKA), Federation, Kedassia.

Fish is permitted when it has fins and easily detached scales.

Milky foods and drinks, including cream and ice cream, should only be served three hours after completion of a meaty meal.

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## Permitted Foods:

Our basic standard is the London Beth Din Kashrut guide <http://www.kosher.org.uk/article/what-kosher>

The guide lists many products – but also establishes general principles for non-supervised items. In every case, we follow the positions taken by the guide.

### Some general useful guidelines:

- Unsupervised milk is permitted in the UK although some IC families may prefer to use only supervised kosher milk.
- Certain products derived from milk – i.e. yoghurt, butter and cream are permitted as long as there are no additives.
- Cheese – Only supervised kosher cheese. Anything derived from cheese, including fromage frais, whey etc. needs to be supervised.
- Tinned vegetables – permitted if pure, packed in water or brine. No additives or vinegar.
- Pickled Cucumbers, olives, tomatoes, peppers – All permitted if pure and packed in water or brine. No additives. No Vinegar.
- Wine – Only supervised wine and grape juice allowed<sup>2</sup>. Anything derived from wine or grape juice – e.g. wine vinegar or balsamic vinegar, and any fruit juice containing grape juice, is considered the same as wine and must be supervised.
- Bread – Only supervised bread allowed.
- Biscuits, Cakes and any baked goods must be supervised.
- Margarines – Only supervised margarines can be used.

### Shabbat and Yom Tov

- No parties on Shabbat or Yom Tov and no parties should start before the end of Shabbat or Yom Tov.
- Parties on the eve of Shabbat or Yom Tov must finish in good time before Shabbat or Yom Tov comes in.
- No preparation during Shabbat or Yom Tov is permitted for events that start after Shabbat or Yom Tov. Any preparation must be completed before Shabbat or Yom Tov comes in, or after Shabbat or Yom Tov has gone out.

For clarification or further information about any aspect of this policy, please contact Mr Baigel or Rabbi Braham: [dbaigel@immanuelcollege.co.uk](mailto:dbaigel@immanuelcollege.co.uk) or [mbrahim@immanuelcollege.co.uk](mailto:mbrahim@immanuelcollege.co.uk) 0208 950 0604.

<sup>2</sup> Alcohol, other than a sip of kiddush wine after kiddush, may only be served to college students over the age of 16 with their parents' permission and then only in moderation.