

B-MITZVAH AGREEMENT

Welcome to the Temple Beth Sholom Bar/Bat/B-Mitzvah Program.

The Bar/Bat Mitzvah is a milestone experience in the life of a child and their family. At Temple Beth Sholom, we are committed to providing a supportive and inclusive environment for all B'nei Mitzvah students and their families with a program that is designed to help each child reach their full potential, and to prepare them for this important coming-of-age ceremony.

As with every journey taken, reaching the goal is a team effort and while we will do our best to get your child prepared for their special day, we rely on your commitment and partnership.

Below you'll find a list containing both the students' and parents' responsibilities to ensure a positive experience for everyone involved. We request you read this agreement and sign it. In adopting this agreement, we seek to create an atmosphere of honesty, respect, and trust.

THE STUDENT'S RESPONSIBILITIES FOR A BAR/BAT/B-MITZVAH ARE:

- Attend all scheduled lessons. This is essential for the student to learn the material and be prepared for their B-Mitzvah.
- Six months prior to the B-Mitzvah date, a binder containing the prayers, torah portion and more will be provided. Please bring the binder to each appointment, rehearsal and jLab Prayer Class.
- Study 20-30 minutes daily and work ahead whenever possible. This will help the student to stay on track and be prepared for their bar or bat mitzvah.
- The student shall finish learning everything for the bar/bat mitzvah service at least one month in advance. The last month is for the purpose of review, rehearsing, and building confidence. It is important for the student to be well-prepared for their bar or bat mitzvah service. The last month is a time to review the material, practice their readings and prayers, and build their confidence.
- We ask that the family attends a minimum of four Shabbat (Friday night and Saturday morning) services, so that familiarity is established.

THE PARENT'S RESPONSIBILITIES FOR A BAR/BAT/B-MITZVAH ARE:

- Help your child to complete 13 mitzot (commandments/good deeds); they will be guided by their mentor as well.
- Provide your child with guidance and support. This may involve helping them to brainstorm ideas, identify resources, and develop a plan for completing their mitzvot.
- Encourage your child to be creative and to take risks. The Bar Mitzvah project is a chance for your child to try something new and to challenge themselves.
- Celebrate your child's accomplishments. Be sure to acknowledge their hard work and dedication, regardless of the outcome of the project.

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THE BAR/BAT/B-MITZVAH TEAM'S RESPONSIBILITIES FOR A BAR/BAT/B-MITZVAH ARE:

- Assess the student's current level of Hebrew knowledge and chanting skills. This will help the tutor to develop a personalized learning plan for the student.
- Help the student to prepare for their Bar Mitzvah service. This may include helping the student to learn the prayers and rituals of the service, to practice their readings and chanting, and to develop a *Bimah* presence.
- Provide the student with emotional support and encouragement. The B-Mitzvah process can be stressful for students, so it is important for the tutor to be there for them and to help them to manage their stress levels.
- Provide the student with a variety of learning resources, such as audio recordings, video tutorials, and practice worksheets.
- Meet with the student regularly to practice their readings and chanting.
- Give the student feedback on their progress and help them to identify areas where they need to improve.
- Help the student to develop a comfortable and confident *Bimah* presence.
- Encourage the student to ask questions and to seek help when they need it.

We, the undersigned, commit to fulfilling the expectations and responsibilities set forth above to ensure a meaningful and rewarding Bar/Bat/B-Mitzvah experience. Mazel tov on your upcoming simcha!

Parent's Signature: _____

Date: _____

Clergy's Signature: _____

Date: _____