



IMPACT REPORT AUGUST 2023





A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Dear Friends

The academic year of 2022/23 was not without challenges. Global increases in costs and the ongoing mental and financial impact of Covid 19 meant Hasmonean had to adapt. Once again, parental support empowered the students and educators at Hasmonean to achieve excellence in every aspect.

With your support, Hasmonean has continued to grow, beyond even its physical borders into a third site in Belsize Park.

With another exam season behind us, most graduates are embarking on careers and further education at yeshiva, seminary or university, and we are immensely proud to support the efforts the schools have made to help the students reach their potential.

The next academic year will bring yet more challenges as the schools' provision extends beyond government funding, a rise in utility costs and unprecedented government led pay rises (which are only partially funded by the government) add to the financial pressure Hasmonean is under. It falls to us, the Hasmonean High School Charitable Trust, to support the school in all its endeavours. We are, as a community, indebted to every parent who steps forward to support the schools.

The next academic year will also mark Hasmonean's 80th anniversary. While plans for celebrations to mark this milestone are underway, I would like to thank you for your unwavering commitment to our schools. Commitment that has allowed Hasmonean to remain at the heart of the community and to pave the way for a bright future.

80 Years of Legacy. 80 Years of Growth. 80 Years of Impact.

Best Wishes,



Jonathan Miller

Chair of the Hasmonean High School Charitable Trust

WHAT IS THE HASMONEAN CHARITABLE TRUST?

The Hasmonean Charitable Trust is a registered charity that supports Hasmonean. Its aims are to advance the education of Hasmonean students by providing and maintaining resources and facilities in addition to those funded by the government.



Zechaira Bloom – Head Boy

“Hasmonean is a place for learning and innovation but before any of that, it is a family that looks after each other”



Tanni Cohen – Head Girl

“To me, Hasmonean is more than just a school – it is a holistic support system that extends beyond academics. It is a place where I receive not only guidance on answering “what I want to be” but also encouragement to explore “who I want to be”, and the person I aspire to become.”



SPOTLIGHT: HIPE GIRLS

HIPE Girls is a programme that brings Judaism to life and is at the very heart of the school. To create a positive Jewish atmosphere that permeates the school walls, HIPE runs drop-in sessions, programmes and events throughout the year and beyond the school day.

From Achdus Days to Lag B'Omer Carnivals, HIPE creates an environment where students can be proud of their Judaism and enjoy special memories that last a lifetime.

Some of the recent highlights include the Year 7 Bas Mitzvah Programme in which the girls were invited to learn and celebrate their Bas Mitzvahs alongside their mothers and grandmothers. HIPE Girls also hosted an amazing Year 11 Post GCSE Shabbaton. The Shabbaton focused on how Shabbos is a source of blessing and extended to being grateful to all we have around us.

The Jewish life of the school is underpinned by the HIPE team, who extend the energy, enthusiasm and connection from the classroom into the hearts, minds and lives of the students and staff. Throughout the year and at every milestone HIPE enriches our student's lives. Quite simply I don't know what we would do without them!"

*- Rabbi Y Bennet (Assistant Headteacher and
DoL Jewish Studies - Hasmonean High School for Girls)*

I cannot imagine school without HIPE. School would not be the same."

- Avigail Rietti, Year 9



SPOTLIGHT: BEIS CHAZAK

With the goal to provide a deeper understanding of Judaism and build a meaningful connection to it, Beis Chazak has been running at Hasmonean High School for Boys for the last 5 years. The programme runs each morning alongside the regular Beis Programme in an off-site location.

The programme, led by Rabbi Doron Birnbaum, creates a place where students can learn and grow at their own pace, respectful of their individual journeys.

In the last year, Beis Chazak has connected with students in new and innovative ways. Initiatives such as the Shabbox Project have seen a number of students locking away their electronic devices and enjoying Shabbos to the maximum. Student-led Daf Yomi projects and an amazing Shabbaton inspired the students to learn more.

The programme's biggest success is the number of students graduating onto Beis Chadash and the Beis to continue their spiritual journeys.

Our vision for Beis Chazak has blossomed into reality. With our exceptional staff and a nurturing environment, we are blessed to witness the boys now enjoying coming to daven and learn each morning. It is our zechus to help each boy on their personal journey. We firmly hold the belief that our school's success is measured by how we enable these young men to grow."

- Rabbi Doron Birnbaum, Head of Beis Chazak

Beis Chazak strengthened me as a person and gave me the chance to develop a really close relationship with some amazing and supportive Rabbis. The environment at Beis Chazak is like a community."

- Former Beis Chazak Student



STUDENT QUOTES



Sara Benaim, Year 10

"Hasmonean is a constant source of inspiration, encouraging each and everyone of us every single day to reach our potential, not only academically but also in terms of our personal growth. I am excited to wake up early every morning, for serious education and for even more serious fun."



Rafi Sandford, Year 10

"Hasmonean is a school where doors and opportunities are only opened and never closed. A family with teachers, HIPE and incredible friends all working to push me to achieve my goals."



SPOTLIGHT: ONE SCHOOL. ONE COMMUNITY

(Volunteering and Student Involvement in the Community)

At Hasmonean, students are encouraged to prepare for life beyond the school walls. Many volunteer their time in the community for some exceptional causes such as Camp Simcha, KEF and Shabbat Walk.

Between Hasmonean High School for Boys and Girls more than 400 students are registered with these Tzedokahs and volunteer at weekly and special events. The school has as its ethos Torah Im Derech Eretz and these students embody that with their selfless giving.

Beyond this, we are proud that many of our Sixth Form students become Madrichim for a variety of different youth groups including Ezra, Sinai, Bnei Akiva and Yehudi (Mizrachi).

The Yehudi Programme is having an immense impact on primary school students, giving them an appreciation of Judaism and Israel. All of this has been made possible through the brilliant Hasmonean students who continuously provide us with outstanding leadership and a genuine love of Torah."

- Rabbi Andrew Shaw, CEO, Mizrachi UK

As a charity that supports children with serious illness, we have always required our volunteers to be of an exceptional standard. Over the year, we have benefitted from the exceptional boys and girls from Hasmonean, who have participated in our volunteering programmes. It is clear that they have a sense of responsibility, dedication and chesed within the community."

- Daniel Gillis, Head of Services and Deputy CEO, Camp Simcha UK



SPOTLIGHT: ONE SCHOOL. ONE COMMUNITY

(Volunteering and Student Involvement in the Community)

As we end another year of KEF programmes, we would like to take this opportunity to thank Hasmonean for the valuable contribution that the students make to ensuring that we're able to deliver our virtual services to the most vulnerable people within our community. Hasmonean students take a variety of roles at KEF and each of them excel in their roles, ensuring that the children and young people of KEF are supported with love, dignity and high standards of care whilst providing them with a really positive experience. The Hasmonean representation at KEF is a true credit to the school and you can be extremely proud of them."

- Danny Fine, Trustee, Kef Kids



EXPENDITURE VS INCOME

PROJECTED COSTS 2023/24

| EXPENDITURE | 2022/23 | 2023/24 (Projected) |
|--|---------|------------------------|
| Jewish Studies Staffing Costs and Associated Costs | £3M | £3.4M |
| Capital Expenditure | £0.3m | £0.3m |
| HIPE and other Kodesh Costs | £0.4m | £0.5m |
| Unexpected Costs (rise in utility bills and unfunded payrises) | £0.3m | £0.3m |
| Welfare, Pupil Support and Counselling | £0.31m | £0.35m |
| Extra Year 7 Students | N/A | £1.5m |

| INCOME | 2022/23 | 2023/24 Target |
|-----------------------|---------|-------------------|
| Chinuch Contributions | £3.7M | £4.1M |
| General Fundraising | £1.8M | £1.8M |

Why is there a projected shortfall in the budget every year?

The MAT Budget is balanced, however, this relies on Chinch Contributions and other donations. These contributions and donations are necessary because:

1. None of the Schools' Kodesh provision is covered by government funding.
2. Smaller classes are beneficial for students but suboptimal.
3. Each school needs its own heads of years and pastoral staff.
4. As an old established school, maintenance of Hasmonean premises requires significant funds that are not fully covered by government grants.
5. We want to attract the best teachers, but to do this successfully we must offer remuneration in line with other top schools in the area, including many private schools.
6. All state schools are being adversely financially impacted because government grant increases are not keeping pace with the real cost of increases in the national agreements for staff wages and for educational resources.

Why do I need to contribute as a parent?

Legally, as a state funded school, we cannot require parents to pay for any education provided in school hours, thus we can only ask parents to make donations to a charity appeal to help cover a school deficit. Every single student is precious and they receive equal education and guidance regardless of a family's support for the Appeal. However, we need parents to help us by supporting our goal of providing the highest level of education for your children.

Why am I being asked to contribute so much ?

Every family is treated equally, however, we are aware that there are families in our parental body who don't have the financial means to contribute in full. The Hasmonean High School Charitable Trust appeals to the parent body for your support to cover the shortfall for the coming academic year in the Schools' budgets and is incredibly grateful to those who can honour Chinuch Contributions requests.





אל תקרי בניך אלא בוניך



Chinuch
Contributions

Hasmonean High School for Girls, 2-4 Page Street, NW7 2EU
Hasmonean High School for Boys, Holders Hill Road, NW4 1NA