



EMANUEL SCHOOL

Head of Jewish Life | Role Statement

Role: Head of Jewish Life
Reporting to: Principal

Summary of Position

Emanuel is a Jewish Community Day School in Sydney, Australia that is committed to Jewish community, learning, heritage, ethical living and the State of Israel. We do this through a commitment to pluralism, egalitarianism, tradition, social action (Tikkun Olam), mitzvot, Zionism, Torah and Hebrew. We do so as Jewish, Australian and global citizens.

The Head of Jewish Life has the responsibility and oversight of Jewish Life, including Jewish Studies, across the School from Years K-12. The Head of Jewish Life will provide leadership to ensure that Emanuel reflects the best available Jewish educational practices and standards within a pluralist and egalitarian environment.

Key Responsibilities

The Head of Jewish Life is responsible for:

Strategic & Governance Leadership

- Implementation and monitoring of Board policies as they apply to Jewish Life
- Provision of strong support for the mission, values and ethos of the School
- Supporting the Principal in strategic planning and policy formulation pertaining to Jewish Life
- Encouragement of a culture of vision, thinking and positive psychology across the School
- Adherence to all School processes and budget requirements
- Consideration of key stakeholders involved in delivering Jewish Life messaging at Emanuel
- Overseeing of all published / circulated documents or media that has Hebrew or Jewish content

Skills required:

- Ability to implement a pluralist and egalitarian approach to Jewish practice and learning
- Ability to manage a range of competing priorities simultaneously
- Ability to see the big picture, as well as the details of plans, programs and initiatives
- Ability to make informed and well considered decisions in line with the School's ethos

Outcomes required:

- Board policies are consistently implemented and are familiar to staff, students and parents
- Actively participate as a member of the Board's Jewish Life committee
- Jewish Life budget is well-managed
- Any contentious issue related to Jewish Life is thoughtfully addressed and carefully resolved.

Educational & Spiritual Leadership

- Oversight of Jewish Life and Jewish Studies across the School
- Oversight and development of a content-rich Jewish Studies curriculum and programs directed to achieving Jewish literacy and fostering active engagement in Jewish learning
- Oversight, planning and implementation of Jewish Life events
- Oversee the yearly Chavayah / Israel program for Year 10 students, including liaising with local organisations such as Y2i and Israeli partners
- Ensuring that wider school pedagogical practices and teaching and learning innovations are effectively integrated by the Jewish Studies staff
- Support the professional development of staff (both within the Jewish Life department and in the wider staff) to facilitate a deep knowledge and understanding of Jewish Studies
- Integration of appropriate Jewish practices and Jewish educational principles throughout the School
- Ensuring the School calendar and events reflect the Jewish calendar and traditions are communicated and complied with
- Overseeing the professional development of staff in the Jewish Life team
- Teaching Jewish Studies to some classes in Years 7 -11

Skills required:

- Deep knowledge and expertise in Jewish Studies including non-Orthodox perspectives
- Ability to inspire and engage students, and foster an authentic connection to and passion for Jewish Life
- Ability to develop an ambitious, innovative and content-rich Jewish Studies curriculum integrated across year levels to achieve key Jewish literacy benchmarks and graduate attributes
- Proven ability to innovate existing programs (such as camps, tefillah, student leadership, Israel program, Chaggim) and also initiate new and engaging projects and programs
- Ability to effectively differentiate Jewish Studies programs to facilitate the learning of all students, including students with learning difficulties and gifted and talented students as well as students from a diverse range of Jewish backgrounds and experiences across Primary and High School
- Ability to lead colleagues to plan high quality units, lessons and assessment tasks
- A proven ability to plan for and teach Jewish Studies classes from 7-11 and knowledge of the K - 6 Jewish Studies curriculum is preferred.

Outcomes required:

- Jewish Studies teachers are effective in engaging and inspiring students to grow in their depth of knowledge and understanding of Judaism
- Jewish Studies staff grow in their subject expertise in Jewish Studies
- Ensuring that the Jewish Studies curriculum (K-11) is comprehensive, developmentally appropriate and engaging for students, with a regular review process.
- The Jewish studies curriculum is designed and delivered to achieve key Jewish literacy benchmarks and graduate attributes
- Jewish Life programs engage and inspire students to participate and think deeply about their heritage and Jewish identity
- Jewish Life programs meet considered educational outcomes
- Jewish considerations are consistently and appropriately integrated within school programs
- Students develop and maintain pride in their heritage, Jewish identity and connection with Israel
- Staff are regularly participating in relevant Jewish related professional learning

Leadership of People & Relationships

- Ability to represent/be the public face of Emanuel School Jewish Life within the Emanuel and broader Sydney Jewish communities
- Lead teams of formal and informal Jewish Life staff to organise events that support the Jewish life of the School
- Oversees high levels of professionalism, productivity and output from Jewish Life team
- Communication of Jewish events, ideas and values to parents, staff and students
- Development of positive relationships with the Emanuel community, including staff, parents and students
- Development of positive relationships with Jewish communal organisations, as well as other local and international groups, professionals and organisations. Including being the first point of contact for outside Jewish organisations to determine if they align with the ethos of the School.
- Provision of motivation, inspiration and support to staff and students
- Fostering effective liaison and communication between key constituents of the School
- Modelling of professional commitment and practice in all areas
- Assistance in the selection, induction and development of Jewish Studies and Jewish Life staff
- Creating a cohesive and passionate Jewish Life staff team

Skills required:

- Excellent communication skills (oral and written) and ability to communicate in an engaging way to staff, students and parents in variety of forums
- Ability to truly inspire both students and staff and deepen their connection to Judaism and to contribute to the school and greater Jewish community
- Ability to develop and maintain a collaborative, innovative team-based culture
- Ability to engage an audience and deliver a clear, compelling message in a public forum
- Strong interpersonal skills
- Ability to lead and manage staff to ensure that they give their best in teaching and engaging their students to love Judaism and to build their knowledge and understanding of Jewish traditions, heritage and people

- Ability to lead teams of staff towards the best possible outcomes for students in Jewish Life and Jewish Studies

Outcomes required:

- Emanuel has positive partnerships with relevant Jewish communal organisations
- Parents and staff feel informed about Jewish related decisions

The successful applicant will be a member of the School's Executive and teaching community and as such, participate in the regular life of the School. He/she will undertake other duties such as those in relation to pastoral care, supervision of students, extracurricular activities etc, as requested by the Principal.

About Emanuel School

Emanuel School is committed to providing co-educational excellence in a Pre-school to Year 12 continuum. We value the individuality of all students and encourage the development of their special interests and talents. Our objective is to extend our students to the best of their ability, and to foster a love of learning, a strong sense of community, pride in their Jewish heritage and a connection to Israel. We strive to create an environment in which genuine acceptance and understanding can develop. These concepts are reflected in the School motto "Mind, Spirit, Being".

Emanuel School is small enough to provide an individual, nurturing environment and large enough to provide a wide range of subjects and opportunities for our students. Emanuel School is a dynamic learning community within an intimate learning environment delivering strong academic outcomes. The School occupies the Stanley Street site with around 910 students from Preschool to Year 12, comprising a two-stream K-4 and three streams thereafter. The School's commitment to excellence, quality, service and value ensures that it continually improves the delivery of all its programs for the benefit of its students. There are many opportunities for students to participate in a wide range of activities and students have a strong commitment to community service.

Values

Emanuel is a Jewish Community School that nurtures a commitment to Jewish community, heritage, learning, ethical living and the State of Israel. We do this through a commitment to pluralism, egalitarianism, tradition, mitzvot, Torah and Hebrew. We do so as Jewish, Australian and Global citizens. In particular we value:

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| ● Excellence | ● Respect |
| ● Perseverance | ● Integrity |
| ● Lifelong love of learning | ● Responsibility |

- Compassion
- Generosity
- Justice
- Community

Emanuel School acknowledges and embraces the seven elements encompassed within the domains of Professional Knowledge, Professional Practice and Professional Engagement as defined in the National Professional Standards. The seven elements are:

Teachers:

- Know students and how they learn
- Know content and how to teach it
- Plan for and implement effective teaching and learning
- Create and maintain supportive and safe learning environments
- Assess, provide feedback and report on student learning
- Engage in professional learning
- Engage professionally with colleagues, parents/carers and the community

Emanuel School is committed to the safety and wellbeing of all children and young people. This will be the primary focus of our care and decision-making. Emanuel has zero tolerance for child abuse.

This position requires the successful applicant to have a current Working with Children Check in accordance with the *Child Protection (Working with Children) Act 2012*.

Role Description updated: 4 May 2021