

## Guidelines for families with young children in our Chochmat HaLev Community:

At CHL we recognize that our children are our future. Our community is committed to creating a culture that is welcoming to all children and families, and our programming reflects this commitment. Together we strive to create a space that is holy and meaningful for all. This means appreciating that the squeals and laughter of our children are channels through which the Holy One speaks. And it means respecting that some people are drawn to our community for contemplative experiences and need times of relative quiet during services.

We also place a high value on the safety and health of our community members and of our space. In this light we ask that the following guidelines be followed during all CHL services and programs.

- Respect for and respectful behavior in our holy sanctuary
- Each parent is responsible for his/her own child/ren's behavior.
- Dancing and singing by children is welcomed and encouraged when the congregation is dancing and singing.
- Running and/or screaming are never appropriate in the sanctuary.
- During the contemplative parts of the service, please make an effort to have your children be relatively quiet.
- There are several spaces where you and your child/ren can go if their energy does not match the general tone for any part of the service. They are: the back room (with the large glass window), outside in the garden, the library/classroom and/or downstairs.
- The library/classroom is a space to be used by parents and children together and cleaned up by families after use.
- Anytime a child is not in the main room, he/she must be accompanied by an adult: yourself or someone you have made an agreement with to supervise your child
- Shared space means shared responsibility. Each space at CHL must be left as found...or better. Please take responsibility for cleaning up any supplies, trash or recycling used by yourself and your children.
- Please feel free to bring toys and materials for your child to play with and share with others (no paints, glue, or glitter please).

This document has been compiled by a group of parents at Chochmat Ha Lev. Your input as parents is valuable to us as we evolve as a community. Let us work together to make our shared experiences the fullest, most meaningful and most joyous possible.

If you should have any comments, questions, or input, or if you wish to be part of our ongoing discussion of how we can make CHL as inter-generationally-friendly as possible, please feel free to contact Keith Weinstein (parent and Board member) at [agadadrash@earthlink.net](mailto:agadadrash@earthlink.net) or Marla Kolman Antebi (parent and Religious School Director) at [marlainpeace@yahoo.com](mailto:marlainpeace@yahoo.com).

Thank you for your cooperation and help!