FAQ: Tamid Hebrew School

Does the school have an educational vision?
Yes, we partner with families to create mentsches. We practice Positive Judaism, guiding our students to flourish in their lives by learning how to make a positive impact at home, in school, and with friends.

What are the goals for younger students?
We hope our young scholars feel connected to their Jewish community, feel positive about their Judaism, and gain a solid foundation in Jewish story, song, and culture.

What are Tamid’s goals for bar/bat mitzvah?
We want our b’nai mitzvah to be able to lead a prayer ceremony, give a speech, read a section from the Torah, and know that doing mitzvot and living in kindness are essential to being a Jewish adult.

When do classes meet?
Students attend once per week on either Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday afternoons from September to June based on the NYC Public school calendar.

How long is a class session?
In-person classes meet for 90-minutes. Virtual online classes are 50-minutes plus 40-minutes of individual home study. 1-1 private tutoring meets for 30-45 minutes with weekly at-home assignments.

What do students learn at Tamid?
Jewish values, holidays, customs, history, Torah stories, and prayer. Students learn how to read Hebrew letters and become proficient in reading prayer and Torah. And, they gain a respect for all religions.

Who teaches in the Hebrew school?
Our trained educators teach in small groups, often with an 8:1 ratio. We respect and welcome all our students and their unique backgrounds and learning types.

Who are the other Tamid students?
Most of our students live in Lower Manhattan and come from a range of Jewish and multi-faith homes.

Is Tamid a Reform or Conservative congregation?
We are an independent synagogue and we practice Positive Judaism. The backgrounds of our members are diverse and varied and we respect and appreciate Jewish tradition.

What is the relationship between the school and the synagogue community?
Very close. Our rabbi and faculty are both the prayer leaders of Shabbat and Holiday gatherings and the teachers of the Tamid school. Our students and our families are at the center of our community!

For more information, please contact any of our school leaders:
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Chesney Polis, Bar/Bat Mitzvah Coordinator, chesney@tamidnyc.org
Rabbi Darren Levine, Founding Rabbi, dlevine@tamidnyc.org