

CRP - Information from the US

Applying for a Jewish school or nursery? There are big changes – pass it on!

Since the recent decision of the Supreme Court in the "JFS case", the United Synagogue community has been forced to develop new admission procedures for parents applying for a place for their child at a Jewish school or nursery. The Supreme Court has ruled that halachic Jewish status will no longer be acceptable in law as an admission criterion. Now, parents will have to show that they have completed a Certificate of Religious Practice (CRP) before applying to a school or nursery.

The Chief Rabbi recommends that the three basic "pillars of Judaism" form the basis of Jewish Practice: Torah, Avodah and Gemilat Chasadim, which we loosely translate as Jewish learning, prayer and community based social action.

New rules, new opportunities

The United Synagogue has suggested – and many schools have agreed - that these three "pillars" can be attained by participation in Jewish learning programmes, attendance at synagogue services over a period of months and involvement in community based social action programmes. There are many opportunities, both in this community and beyond, to fulfil these requirements. Having obtained the Certificate of Religious Practice form from the school/s of your choice, your main point of contact will, of course, be the synagogue and its notice board, emails and newsletters. But you may not be able to benefit from the local events and activities for a variety of reasons and that is where the United Synagogue can help!

Check the US website first

The United Synagogue website, <http://www.theus.org.uk>, now has a special section devoted to listing many education and community social action opportunities. These lists aren't exhaustive, but will give parents a good idea of the wealth of opportunities there are in our community.

Registration at your shul starts on Shabbat 8th May and parents should email Carolyn Abrahams, the Synagogue Administrator on admin@pinnersynagogue.com to register their children to take part in the process.

You may feel that this information isn't really relevant to you, but you may have a family member, friend or neighbour who might need to know, so please "pass it on".