

נעים לך ונשמחה בך



*We celebrate with You  
from Alef to Saf!*

# Back to School

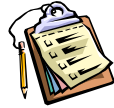
*Guidelines and Practices*

*September 2022 • אלול תשפ"ב*



## Back to School Pull Out Guide

**Welcome to Ateres.** Set forth below is important information to help you get acquainted with the expectations we have for you and your daughters this year.



We look forward to an exciting beginning to our new year.

### School Calendar and Schedule

A copy of the Ateres School Calendar is included for your reference. Please post it in a convenient location and refer to it as needed. Please be sure to schedule family vacations and special events at times when they do not conflict with school.

#### The Ateres Daily Schedule

| Grade   | Arrival |      | Dismissal |  |
|---------|---------|------|-----------|--|
|         | M- F    | M-Th | Fri       |  |
| N-K     | 9:15    | 3:15 | 1:00      |  |
| P1A - 8 | 9:15    | 4:15 | 1:00      |  |

The school day begins at 9:15. **No student will be admitted to the building prior to 9:00 am.**

### School Readiness

- ✓ Review school calendar (enclosed)
- ✓ Become familiar with school policies
- ✓ Acquire school uniform
- ✓ Check/verify transportation
- ✓ Visit the Parent Portal and complete all emergency and contact information
- ✓ Purchase school supplies
- ✓ Facilitate homework routines
- ✓ Re-establish school year bed time
- ✓ Label personal belongings



### Attendance

Punctual and regular attendance is critical for a successful school experience. Unless a student is ill, she should be brought to and picked up from school as scheduled. Parents are urged to arrange students' personal appointments at times that do not conflict with school hours and activities. **Children arriving late or leaving early must be checked in or out of school at the office.** Advance notice of alternative arrangements is appreciated.



### Arrive and Drive Safely!

Bus service provided by the local school districts transports Ateres girls to and from school.

Parents who drive to school are requested to follow the directional signs and not block the bus lanes.

Preschool parents should pull into the designated preschool drop off area at arrival and dismissal.

**Please be reminded that during Carpool days we reverse the roadway and enter from the north side of the campus!**



### Check Transportation

Parents whose children are transported to school by bus should acquaint themselves with the bus routes, which are found on your children's bus passes. Please be sure your child brings these passes to school at the start of the school year. Ateres does not receive advance details concerning the bus routes. Inquiries or requests concerning transportation should be made directly to the Transportation Office of the school district in which you reside. To ensure your child's safety to and from school, please accompany her to the bus stop, and receive her there at the anticipated time of arrival. While we conduct bus safety drills during school time, please reinforce the importance of safety precautions when boarding, riding and leaving the bus. Let's take every step possible to make this a healthy, happy and safe school year.



**Parents are reminded that the district prohibits student from switching busses without a prearranged temporary pass. Ateres is not authorized to make these arrangements. Please contact the school district transportation office at 845-577-6490 for additional information.**

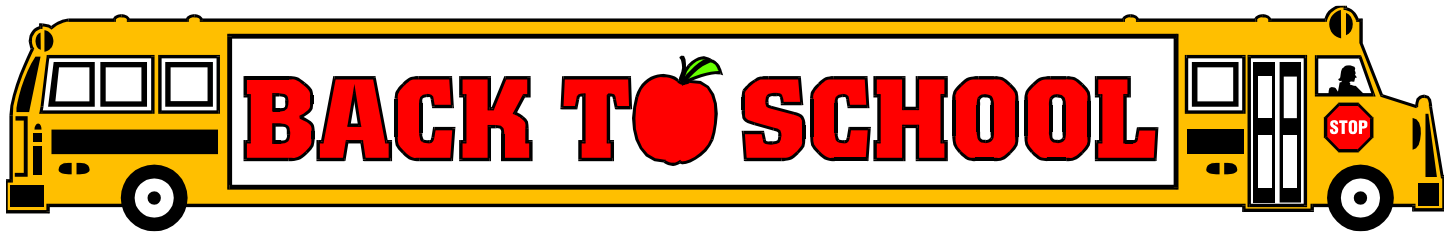
### Office Hours and Communication

The Ateres office phone number is 845-368-2200. Faxes can be sent to 845-368-2210. The school's address is 200 Summit Park Road, New Hempstead, NY, 10977 and its email address is [office@ateres.org](mailto:office@ateres.org).



The office will be open 9:00 am - 5:30 pm, Monday - Thursday, and until 1:15pm on Friday. Messages can be left after hours on the school's voice mail system. **Please note, messages regarding changes in carpool or transportation must be called in at least one hour prior to dismissal.**

Your cooperation is appreciated.



## Retain for Future Reference

### Visitors

Please park **only** in the designated parking areas. Students arriving late and/or leaving early will need an admission slip or early dismissal pass filed with the school secretary. Please do not proceed to the classroom areas unattended.

Please be sure to come to school dressed in a manner consistent with tznius standards.

The success of Ateres lies in the cooperation of the school/home alliance. *Chinuch* is most effective when messages are consistent at home and at school. If a parent visitation is required all mothers and fathers come to school with a mask and follow the same tznius requirements we require of our staff members.

**Administrative staff will approach visitors who are non-compliant** (which is both uncomfortable and embarrassing and should not be necessary).

- *Women, are welcome in couture which covers the knees, elbows and collarbones. Outfits should be easily described as "Bais Yaakov" appropriate.*
- *Men too, are expected to visit in attire which is at least considered "business-casual" and would be appropriate in the shul setting as befits a makom Torah.*

Both parents and moros are seen as critical role models to our talmidos and we appreciate your cooperation in dressing in accordance with both the *letter and spirit of halacha*.



### Media, Internet

An Ateres student is just that-an Ateres student- both in and out of school. We therefore ask our parents to partner with us in maintaining an environment of *kedusha* for their *b'nos Yisroel* at home and school. We are all aware of the dangers of unfiltered internet and social media. These risks are inherent in cell phones, ipods and the ever evolving social media marketplace. It is so critical for parents to think twice and consider the impact contemporary media, in all its forms, has on our children. Programs and Apps such as Tik-tok, Instagram Snap-chat and the like are not beneficial to your daughters development of the spiritual vaules we hold dear. The following guidelines are by no means exhaustive but your full cooperation is expected.



1. **Ateres parents should not be purchasing cell phone or other internet accessible devices for their elementary age children. Students are not to have access to Facebook, Whatsapp, Snapchat, Instagram or any other social media.**
2. **Ateres students grades 1-8 may not have smart watches, cell phones, ipods or video devices in school or on the bus. Students who are found to be using devices in violation of this standard will have them confiscated.**
3. **Internet access must be carefully monitored. No child should be exposed to unrestricted/unfiltered internet at home. Parents should adopt the policy of *yichud* with regards to on-line access. That is, no child should ever be left unsupervised with an internet-accessible computer. All computers should be located in public areas of the house and have filters installed. NO student may have open, unrestricted access to the internet via computer, tablet, cell phone and ipod type devices.**
4. All internet accessible computers should be equipped with password enabled filters which only parents can access. Programs such as Jnet, Qustodio, Covenant Eyes, Open DNS Family Shield, or password protected firewalls are a must!
5. Parent smartphones should be appropriately filtered to enable safe use. The local Technology Awareness Group (TAG) Office can install these safe guards for you at their office.
6. Parents are also urged not to allow their children their own private email accounts and chat groups (even on whatsapp). All student emails should be sent to parent accounts so that parent can monitor and provide guidance to their children as needed.
7. **When inviting classmates over, parents should not expose other children to any form of media (i.e. videos) without getting their parents' approval.**



### Dress Code

Full compliance is expected with the Ateres uniform standards. Parents should be sure to purchase appropriate attire at the uniform store prior to the first day of school. Please note:

**students will not be admitted to class without compliant school attire. Students may be required to change into a school issued apparel in order to go to class.**



### Entertainment, Vacation Time

Lessons and standards taught in school should ideally be carried over even during "off" time. Please encourage your daughter to maintain her *davening* and reading time to bring home the lesson that we use our own time to make choices which make *Hakadosh Baruch Hu* proud. Entertainment and vacation choices, too, must be made with your daughter's innate *kedusha* in mind. Images and experiences which children are exposed to remain with them for life. They should therefore be chosen with care. Manner of dress, too, should be in consonance with *tznius* standards when out of school to achieve a holistic approach to *avodas Hashem*.





## Happy Birthdays

Birthday celebrations are a special way of expressing our *hoda'ah* to *Hakadosh Baruch Hu* for granting us and our children the priceless gift of life. You can help assure that the celebration brings out the unique qualities of *kedusha* and *hakaras hatov* by **including all of your child's classmates in the celebration**. Please be sensitive to other parents' standards of *kashrus* and acceptable entertainment when planning out-of-school parties.

Birthday parties in school must be scheduled in advance with your daughter's teacher. Please do not include "nosh-bags" as a party favor. We recommend that birthday celebrants present a small gift to the class (i.e. a book, game or puzzle) to develop a sense of sharing with others as a means of celebrating and expressing *hakaras hatov*.

*Please avoid media featured paper goods and party favors in selecting the paraphernalia for a class party. In addition, when selecting the modicum of celebration and party favors, parents should be sensitive to the discriminating standards of spiritual growth that all families desire for their children.*



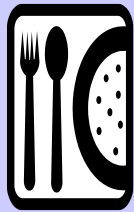
## Books and Supplies

Textbooks have been carefully selected and ordered by Ateres for all classes. We are proud of their appearance and solicit your assistance in keeping them in "as-new" condition. All *seforim* and books should be treated with respect. All hard covered texts need to be covered.



- A *seforim* fee, to be collected by your daughters *morah*, is assessed at the beginning of each year based upon the text used in the class - level curriculum. A note with the fee for your daughter's grade will be distributed by her teacher the first week of school. Your prompt remittance is appreciated.
- A school supply list for the entire elementary division was previously emailed. We hope that this information will facilitate your daughters' readiness for school.

Classroom furnishings, white boards, bulletin boards, manipulative and classroom materials are available for use in each classroom. All Ateres students will share in the responsibility of showing care and respect for school property. A sense of personal, familial and communal *achrayos* and pride should be the hallmark of our



### \*\*\*\* Lunch Program \*\*\*\*

Ateres will be offering an "Ala Carte" lunch program for a fee which must be paid in advance. To sign up your daughter(s) please use the form included with this email and forward your payment to the office.

## Homework

Homework plays an important role in reinforcing and solidifying the learning process.

Research shows that children who review and/or practice information after school have a significantly higher retention rate for days, weeks and even months later. Parents should view homework as an important learning tool and expect homework assignments to be dispensed in moderation in a way which is reasonable for girls at their grade levels. The goal is to provide a succinct review to reinforce concepts and practice skills from lessons taught in class. There will be regular *kriah/Chumash* review and reading combined with age-appropriate short and long term assignments. Your daughter's teachers will review their policies and expectations for homework at back-to-school night.

Homework is assigned to *students*, not to parents. Your help in facilitating a healthy homework protocol is vital, but please do not do the assignment for your child. If she is unable to perform an assigned task, her teacher needs to know. Be sure to establish a homework routine and check your daughter's assignment book nightly. Of course, getting enough rest will assure her success both in school and at homework time.



## Food for the Soul

All dairy products served at Ateres are *Cholov Yisrael*. Parents, too, are expected to join us in *maintaining this standard*, to assure a common school standard.

Please check your child's lunch and/or snack to see to it that we are working together.

**Ateres is a nut free zone — please be compliant.**

Preschoolers are provided with two healthful snacks each day. A designated snack time is offered for all other classes for snacks brought from home.

Healthful snacks are the standard for school. *Sugar based "Shehakol" treats are discouraged.* Ateres' nutritious snack policy promotes alertness for learning and personal health. It helps eliminate "snack competition." your full cooperation is appreciated.



## Field Trips

Hands-on experiential learning is best complemented with field trips to places of educational insight and application. We look forward to your daughters' participation.

Her registration as a student at Ateres is considered your full permission to participate in all school trips.



## Tzedaka

Tzedaka is collected in each classroom daily. Learning to share with others is an integral part of teaching our children a sense of communal responsibility. A little bit each day makes a real difference. In addition, Ateres supports a variety of national and international causes of Jewish interest through the year. Participation enables our girls to connect with the greater Jewish community close to home and in *Eretz Yisrael*.

