



Denver Academy of Torah

PARENT-STUDENT HANDBOOK

Denver Academy of Torah

Glassman Education Campus
6825 E. Alameda Avenue
Denver, CO 80224

Tel: (720) 859-6806

www.datcampus.org

2025-2026

5785-5786

Dear Students and Families,

Welcome to the 2025–2026 school year at Denver Academy of Torah. We are so excited to begin this new chapter with you.

DAT is more than a school. It is a family and a sacred community – committed to Torah learning, academic excellence, personal growth, and joyful Jewish living. Whether you are returning for another year or just joining us, we hope you find inspiration in our classrooms, friendships in our hallways, and pride in the vibrant Jewish lives we are building together.

Every thriving community relies on shared norms and values. This handbook is designed to guide us in cultivating a culture of respect, safety, curiosity, and spiritual growth. It outlines what you can expect from us, and what we expect from each other, so that we can all learn, grow and flourish together.

As Head of School, my goal is to ensure that every student at DAT is seen, supported, and challenged. Our teachers, administrators, and staff are here to help each child grow intellectually and emotionally, religiously and socially. Together, let's create a school environment where each student can discover their strengths, deepen their identity, love their *yiddishkeit*, and feel proud to be part of Am Yisrael.

Let's make this year one of growth, connection, and purpose – rooted in Torah, guided by mitzvot, and lifted by joy.

B'ahava u'bivvacha,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Abba Brodt'. The signature is stylized with a large, sweeping 'A' and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Abba Brodt
Head of School
Denver Academy of Torah

About Denver Academy of Torah	4
Guiding Religious Principles	5
Conduct in School	6
Dress Code	9
Kashrut	12
Birthdays	13
Communication	13
School Hours	15
Attendance	17
School Property (Technology)	18
Personal Property	18
Safety Procedures	19
Homework	19
Health	20
Visitation	22
Food Policies	23
Physical Education	24
Miscellaneous	24
Attendance	25
School/Personal Property	26
Upper School Cell Phone Policy	27
Code of Conduct (Behavioral Policies)	29
Academic Requirements	32
Academic Integrity	33
School Property	35
Off-Campus Policy	35

About Denver Academy of Torah

Mission Statement

Denver Academy of Torah fosters rigorous general and Jewish educational experiences that inspire dedication to Torah values and observance, pride in Jewish identity, and deep commitment to the State of Israel and the United States of America. Our approach to educating the whole child celebrates individuality and prepares the next generation of leaders to emerge as compassionate, civic-minded contributors within their communities and the broader world.

Vision

To realize this vision, DAT devotes itself to delivering an education that:

Emphasizes Our Community's Shared Values by:

- Infusing an appreciation for a life centered around Torah values and observance.
- Weaving a deep love for the State of Israel within the fabric of all school activities.
- Nurturing a strong Jewish identity and fostering a sense of belonging through active engagement with the broader Jewish community.
- Fostering character development in harmony with our relational duties towards God, fellow beings, and oneself.
- Providing a school environment filled with warmth, spirituality, and meaningful experiences.
- Creating a culture, modeled by our staff, of respect and adherence to school values.

Provides an Academically Rigorous and Holistic Education that:

- Is stimulating, challenging, and fosters curiosity and creativity.
- Recognizes and cultivates the unique strengths and challenges of every student.
- Is preparing students, each to their own ability, to thrive in their post-secondary choices.
- Emphasizes skill building and the development of emotional intelligence needed to foster confidence and independence in learning and life.
- Enables facility with Hebrew language and textual skills needed for Torah studies.

Promotes Community Engagement and Leadership by:

- Developing curricular opportunities on all grade levels aimed at cultivating an appreciation for America's founding values and civic principles.
- Offering opportunities that empower our graduates to embrace their leadership potential and to contribute actively to positive change within their many communities.

Through the foundation and wisdom of Torah, and by embracing the intelligence and collective experiences provided by the larger world, DAT provides its students with:

- A balance of coursework and extra-curricular activities that encompass Judaic academics, general academics, and life skills that reflect the students' intellectual and emotional needs and individual learning styles
- The skills, confidence, and encouragement to pursue advanced educational and professional opportunities
- A culture that embraces a love for the State of Israel
- The foundation to lead as Torah-observant role models, while meeting challenges along diverse pathways

Guiding Religious Principles

Statement of Purpose - Our DAT Learning Community

Denver Academy of Torah is a Modern Orthodox Zionist Jewish day school that is open to all families who seek the highest standards in modern religious and general studies education. The purpose of our educational environment is to provide an atmosphere and experience that facilitates and stimulates our children's natural enthusiasm to learn. We take great care to balance our commitment to *Halacha* with our desire to provide our students with a high quality educational environment and preparation for top tier institutions of higher learning.

As a coeducational institution, DAT provides the same educational opportunities for girls and boys. We believe all students must have access to the best religious and general studies education and be prepared to undertake their roles and responsibilities as men and women within society.

Torah and Ivrit

The Torah is called the "heritage of the family or community of Jacob" and every Jew is entitled to acquire his or her own unique inheritance of *Torah*. This is the goal of the total Judaic Studies (*Limudei Kodesh*) program, which includes *Chumash*, *Navi (Tanach)*, *Tefillah*, *Halacha* and *Chagim*, *Mishnah*, *Talmud*, Jewish philosophy, history, and culture, including the miraculous creation of the State of Israel.

As Hebrew is the living language of our homeland and our people, Hebrew language skills, both spoken and written, are essential components of Jewish education and cultural literacy. Both are invaluable tools for the successful study of *Tanach* and other important texts.

Tefilla (Prayer)

Tefilla is an integral component in the daily life of a Jew, and the opportunity to engage in direct communication with God is a special gift. All students are expected to arrive at

school in time for – and actively participate in – *tefilla* each day, and middle and high school students are expected to arrive on time for afternoon prayer (*mincha*) each day, and evening prayer (*maariv*) when part of a scheduled school activity.

Israel

DAT believes that the State of Israel is an integral part of the identity and passion of the Jewish people throughout the world. The school believes the fate of Israel and its people is inexorably bound to Jewish life across the globe.

The school community supports the State of Israel, celebrates Israeli holidays, and understands the importance of Israel's culture, history, and people in the education of its students.

Conduct in School

Students are expected to conduct themselves in a manner which reflects the *derech eretz* and *kedushah* – respectful behavior and holiness – which are the hallmarks of our community and of our school. One of the foremost values of our school is that we are a community of kindness. As such, we strive to create an environment where all students feel included, valued, and supported. Similarly, students are expected to conduct themselves at all times in a manner appropriate for religious students, consistent with the aforementioned values. The policies and rules listed below are intended to create a dignified and comfortable environment for all of us who spend our days at the Denver Academy of Torah.

A strong emphasis is placed on the observance of *Mitzvot* and the love of *Torah* study. All students are expected to abide by the rules established by DAT during school hours and at all school events, including:

Middot (Relationships Between People)

Ahavat Yisrael (love and concern for the Jewish people and the State of Israel) as well as ethical conduct, good manners, compassion, and respect for all mankind are focal points of our educational process.

Respectful, Considerate Communication:

One important element in the creation of a warm, nurturing, and vibrant Jewish community at DAT is the manner, tone, and content of communications among students, teachers, administrators, parents/guardians, and the community at-large. Great Jewish thinkers have explored the area of proper speech in much detail, and the school's policies on speech and communication will follow those found within Jewish law.

Lashon hara includes any unkind or unflattering speech about another person, regardless of the manner in which it is conveyed. Whether verbally, in writing, via digital technology, or even facial expressions and gestures, students will learn their obligation to avoid injurious speech. The school will educate all staff and students in the Jewish laws of speech to help build a supportive and nurturing community.

Parents are partners with the school in the education of their children. DAT endeavors to communicate with students and families in a respectful way, always attempting to achieve the best interests of the students and community as a whole. When students and families reciprocate this goodwill, with positive attributions and discussions both in school and in the community, we maximize our potential for a successful working partnership, and we help DAT continue to strive for excellence.

DAT values feedback and input from all members of our community and strives to meet every stakeholder's needs. If parents would like to discuss any aspect of our learning community, they should communicate directly with the school so that issues can be dealt with in a timely and effective manner.

A student's perception of school and the seriousness with which he or she approaches his or her studies is influenced by the attitudes that adults, and particularly parents, exhibit toward school. A student's positive attitude toward learning can be stimulated and enhanced by interested parents who express a positive opinion about school, staff, and studies, especially in front of their child. DAT believes in a close, harmonious, and interactive relationship between home and school. Such cooperation will help each student derive the utmost from his or her DAT experience.

Values in Practice: Respect, Integrity, Transparency and Holiness

It is our goal that every member of our school family feels valued and respected. Torah guides our values, which emphasize mutual trust and respect for everyone. We expect appropriate conduct from all of our students. We are working together as a team!

DAT's approach to behavior is designed to foster a safe and positive learning environment for our students. Our values are guided by the Torah principles *כבוד הבריות*, *Kavod Habriyot*, Respect for every individual; *ישרות*, *Yashrut*, Integrity, acting honestly and in accordance with our values; and *קדושה*, *Kedusha*, Holiness, in every arena of our lives. All members of our school – students, staff/faculty members, and parents – are valued and respected. The school's behavior policy is designed to promote an environment in which everyone can live and work together in a supportive way.

Every member of the school community has the right to a quality educational experience and has the right to feel safe at school. All members of the school community assume responsibility for the schoolwide behavior policy and plan.

The DAT faculty and administration commit to:

- Providing a physically and emotionally safe environment.
- Exhibiting respect and esteem for both Judaic and general studies learning and values as a model for students and community members.
- Providing schoolwide rules and procedures that are:
 - clearly expressed;
 - consistently enforced; and
 - exist for the purpose of protecting the emotional, physical, and spiritual safety of our community members.
- Recognizing positive, prosocial behavior, and exemplary *midot*.
- Assigning appropriate consequences for any behavior that is in violation of the emotional, physical, and spiritual safety of our community members.

No student has the right to prevent a teacher from teaching or students from learning. If someone or something at school is creating a situation in which someone else feels uncomfortable or unsafe, it is expected that students will inform teachers and/or administrators immediately.

Teachers will be looking for patterns of behavior and will utilize school administrators and support staff to develop plans to mitigate problematic behaviors or challenging social dynamics. The goal will be to improve learning for everyone and to prevent disciplinary issues from occurring and escalating.

Possible Disciplinary Actions

- Consequences may include – but are not limited to – completion of a “Think Sheet” and conference with an administrator, lunch detention, loss of privileges in athletics, or other extra-curricular activities; after school detention, suspensions, or expulsions.
- During periods of in-school or at-home detention/suspension, students are not eligible to participate in or attend ANY in-school or after-school activities, including – but not limited to – athletic activities and events.
- Any detentions and suspensions will be treated as unexcused absences.
- Students are responsible for all work missed during any class time missed due to disciplinary reasons (i.e., detention, suspension, dress code violation, etc.). Students should make arrangements with individual teachers for any notes missed during a suspension.

School administrators retain the right to alter any disciplinary consequences as circumstances dictate, with the goal of maintaining a safe and supportive school culture.

Dress Code

The school's dress code is based both upon halachic norms and upon the desire to create an environment which is conducive to learning. In general, students should come to school neither underdressed (in clothing which is too casual) nor overdressed (in clothing, jewelry or make up which is designed to attract undue attention). Boys and girls should dress in comfortable, modest clothing. **The following dress regulations, which are in effect for the entire student body whenever students are in the building, reflect issues of Halacha and modesty as well as the desire to create an appropriate learning environment**

Students who do not come to school in the required dress code may either call home for replacement clothes, or clothing may be provided for them. The school will enforce these policies. As parents, please partner with us in helping students to follow the dress code. *All items lent to students must be washed and returned to the school office within three days. If not, parents will be charged for replacements.*

Parents attending school functions or visiting a class are asked to dress in the spirit of the school dress code.

2025-26 UPDATE: Any changes to DAT dress code guidelines will always be communicated to the DAT parent community in a timely manner to allow for necessary implementation adjustments.

The dress code guidelines are as follows:

Kindergarten

Boys must wear tzizit and kippot at all times.

Both boys and girls may wear pants (including jeans) or shorts that are approaching the knee.

Girls may wear dresses, skirts, or skorts that are approaching the knee. No tank tops or shirts with spaghetti straps or cap sleeves are allowed.

Shoes and sneakers are to be worn with socks at all times. Flip flops, slides, Crocs, or slippers of any kind are not permitted. Students will not be allowed to participate in PE if not wearing sneakers.

Boys Grades 1-12

Hats

Hats and hoods may NOT be worn inside the school building.

Tzizit and kippot

Boys are expected to wear tzizit and kippot at all times.

Tops for Lower School (1-5)

Boys must wear a shirt *with a collar* or a DAT shirt. Sweatshirts may not be worn without a collared shirt or DAT shirt underneath.

Tops for Upper School (6-12)

- Any solid, striped, color block shirt (*collar or non-collared*) shirt
- Small logos only
- No v-neck shirts allowed
- Excessively tight tops are not permitted

Sweatshirts, sweaters, and jackets (1-12):

In the interest of a consistent, school appropriate look for students, the following applies to sweatshirts, sweaters and jackets in 2025-26:

- Any color solid or pattern is acceptable
- Sweatshirts, sweaters, and jackets should not be logoed or have words on them, with the exception of the following:
 - All DAT apparel
 - Bar/Bat Mitzvah apparel
 - Israel/IDF & US Armed Forces apparel
 - Jewish camp and youth group apparel
- Examples of logoed sweatshirts and sweaters not permitted: White Fox, Aviator Nation, Adidas, Nike, sports teams, and tv shows (spirit days are exceptions)

Footwear

Shoes and sneakers are to be worn with socks at all times. Flip flops, slides, crocs or slippers of any kind are not permitted. Students will not be allowed to participate in PE if not wearing sneakers and will receive a zero for the day.

Pants

Pants must be neat and presentable. Jeans and tight pants as well as track pants and sweatpants are not allowed. Pants are unacceptable when ripped.

Hair

No dyed hair is permitted. Highlights of natural hair color is permitted. Hair must be of a length that is both neat and presentable. No excessively long or short hair is permitted (subject to administrative discretion).

Miscellaneous

Earrings; other body piercing and tattoos are prohibited.

Girls Grades 1-12

Hats

Hats and hoods may NOT be worn inside the school building.

Hair

No dyed hair is permitted. Highlights of natural hair color is permitted. Hair must be of a length that is both neat and presentable (subject to administrative discretion).

Skirts

Girls are required to wear an a-line dress or a-line skirt that reaches below the knee while they are standing. No jean skirts are allowed. Straight skirts are not allowed. Slits in skirts are not allowed. Additionally, girls may not wear pajamas or sweatpants under skirts.

Tops for Lower School (1-5)

Girls must wear a shirt *with a collar*, and approaching the elbow or a DAT shirt. Sweatshirts may not be worn without a collared shirt or DAT shirt underneath.

Tops for Upper School (6-12)

- Any solid, striped, color block shirt (*collar or non-collared*) shirt
- All shirts must be approaching the elbow
- Small logos only
- No v-neck shirts or low cut shirts allowed
- Shirts and blouses must be long enough to cover the top of the skirt at all times; midribs, front or back, may not be exposed at any time.
- Sheer material and/or excessively tight tops are also not permitted.

Sweatshirts, sweaters, and jackets (K-12):

In the interest of a consistent, school appropriate look for students, the following applies to sweatshirts, sweaters and jackets in 2025-26:

- Any color solid or pattern is acceptable
- Sweatshirts, sweaters, and jackets should not be logoed or have words on them, with the exception of the following:
 - All DAT apparel
 - Bar/Bat Mitzvah apparel
 - Israel/IDF & US Armed Forces apparel
 - Jewish camp and youth group apparel

- Examples of logoed sweatshirts and sweaters not permitted: White Fox, Aviator Nation, Adidas, Nike, sports teams and tv shows (spirit days are exceptions)

Footwear

Shoes and sneakers are to be worn with socks at all times. Flip flops, slides, crocs or slippers of any kind are not permitted. Students will not be allowed to participate in PE if not wearing sneakers and will receive a zero for the day.

Miscellaneous

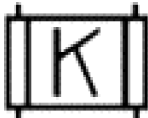





Girls may wear earrings only in the ear. Other body piercing and tattoos are prohibited.

Kashrut

Our school maintains strict standards of observance with regard to *kashrut*, following the guidelines set forth by the Scroll K - Denver Vaad HaKashrut. We recognize our day school, as most others, has a student body whose families do not all follow identical standards of religious practice. Food brought to school for a *siyum* or other class event must be in its original, unopened container with an acceptable Kosher symbol on the label. **Homemade items, from any home, are not permitted for class events, unless approved by the school Rabbi.** This also applies to foods or drinks brought into the building for use in programs outside of school hours.

Birthday parties at school may only be conducted in kindergarten and first grade and they require prior teacher approval.

The following short list includes both local and national supervisions that are acceptable. For a more comprehensive list of acceptable supervisions, one may see https://www.crcweb.org/agency_list.php.

Scroll-K	OU	Kaf-K	OK	CRC	Star-K
					

Students must bring lunches that keep with Jewish dietary laws. This applies to all edible items: bread, contents of sandwiches, cakes, cookies, candies, drinks, and snacks. Due to varying *kashrut* standards and allergy issues, students are not to share their lunches or snacks at any time. Students may bring meat or dairy lunches to school.

Birthdays

In an effort to consider the feelings of all students in our small school, the following policy of inclusiveness was established regarding birthday party invitations: invite all the girls, invite all the boys, or invite the whole class. You may wish to consider combining a party for two or more children whose birthdays are close together. Birthday parties at school require prior teacher approval.

Communication

Our administration works closely with our faculty and staff to meet the various needs of our student body and community. In an effort to facilitate optimal communication between our parent body and the school, please make use of the following list to get in touch with the right person when you contact the school. In addition to the list below, to contact the school directly, please call (720) 859-6806.

If you are unsure about who to contact for a particular question, please reach out to Jenna Wilkin in the office.

Your first contact should always be with your child's teacher for any matters specific to your child. Please remember not to bypass this avenue of communication. Our teachers are happy to schedule a call with you or a meeting.

Please remember that teachers, however, cannot respond to communications or meet with parents during class time. Please be considerate and do not call teachers at home. If you wish to speak to your child's teacher, please send an email. Please allow 24 hours for him/her to return your call or email. For messages left on Fridays, calls may not be returned until after the weekend.

Please respect the privacy of our faculty members and contact them through the school office, voicemail, or email. Time-sensitive messages should not be left in voice mailboxes because teachers may not check their voicemail until the end of the day. In such instances, please email the teacher directly or call the main line at (720) 859-6806.

Note: All adults in our buildings take a shared role in cultivating a safe environment for our students and each other. For concerns regarding broader educational issues, please call the administration directly. In all cases, parental concerns are respected and will be treated with appropriate discretion.

Parent-Teacher Conferences

One formal set of conferences will be held midway through the first semester. Details regarding the procedure for scheduling conferences will be emailed to parents well in

advance. Spring conferences will be held at the request of the teacher or parent. If the need arises, it is not necessary to wait for a formal conference. Additional meetings with your child’s teacher or any administrator may be arranged throughout the year by emailing them or calling the school office.

Report Cards

The school calendar is divided into semesters. Report cards will be emailed shortly after the close of each marking period.

School News & Updates

We send out a weekly email/newsletter every Friday with important and timely information for our families. It is an important communication tool between home and school, and we encourage families to read it consistently.

In addition, our K-12 school calendar is posted on our website. Details of the events and programs listed on the calendar will be distributed closer to the dates of the programs. Further information or clarification concerning any program may be obtained by calling the appropriate member of the administrative staff.

Parent-Teacher Organization (PTO)

DAT has a parent-teacher organization (PTO). The goal of the PTO is to provide opportunities for members of our community to share in our school process and provide an accessible bridge between the school and the parent community. As part of the PTO, room parents will provide their fellow class parents with reminders of upcoming events, volunteer opportunities, school policies, and serve as a parent advisor to the parents and for the teachers within the class. For more information, please contact our 2025-26 PTO Co-Presidents Dassi Brofman and Danni Hosiassohn at pto@datcampus.org.

Emergencies

In case of emergency, the office will make every effort to contact the parent or guardian of all students involved. No student will be sent home unless a parent or guardian has been contacted. Students will only be released to those adults specified on the student’s emergency form.

School Hours

	Student Arrival	Classes/ Tefillah Begin	Classes End (Mon. - Thurs.)	Dismissal Ends (Mon. - Thurs.)	Classes End (Fri.)	Dismissal Ends (Fri.)
Grades K-5	8:00-8:15	8:15 am	3:45 pm	4:00 pm	2:15 pm	2:30 pm

	am					
Grades 6-8	7:55 am	8:00 am	4:00 pm	4:00 pm	2:15 pm	2:30 pm
Grades 9-12	7:55 am	8:00 am	4:00 pm	4:00pm	2:15 pm	2:30 pm

Early Dismissal

Unless there are extenuating circumstances, students should not leave school early. Parents must notify the office via the attendance line by email (attendance@datcampus.org) or phone (720) 441-0223 by 9:00 AM that day if a student needs to be excused early.

With parental permission, a student may sign himself or herself out early. For the security and safety of all students, if a note is not presented or a phone call or email not sent, a parent or guardian must come into the building and sign the student out. If a student is leaving early with a third party that is not his/her parent or guardian, the student must have written permission from their parent or guardian. The third party must come to the office and present legal identification before signing the student out. Again, all communications should be directed through our attendance email or phone line.

Cancellations

DAT follows the decision of Denver Public Schools for weather-related school cancellations or closings. If DPS has a weather-related cancellation, DAT will be closed as well. Notification may be heard on major radio and television stations and DPS's website (www.dpsk12.org). We will also send out emails and text alerts. When DAT has scheduled classes, but DPS is closed, we will make a decision in consultation with other area ACIS (Association of Colorado Independent Schools) Heads of School. Notification will be sent by email and text.

For delayed starts, we decide based on what is in the best interest of our students and faculty. If we determine a late start is necessary, we will communicate via email and text alert.

Arrival and Dismissal

Our carpool procedure was formulated with the highest priority given to safety for students and carpool drivers. The faculty, staff, and board of directors of DAT request that you follow all of the guidelines outlined below in order to ensure the safety of our children at all times.

When driving...

For safety reasons, parents are reminded:

- To have students wear seat belts at all times
- To remember the school parking lot is "one way" (counterclockwise)

- To obey posted speed limits
- To not use your cell phone while driving in our parking lot
- To drive with your doors closed
- To have students enter or exit the car on the passenger side.

When parking...

Parents are asked not to double park at any time, for any reason. If you prefer not to wait in the line of cars dropping off children, we encourage you to park in the parking lot and accompany your child or children to the front door. Please do not leave your vehicle unattended in the dropoff, pickup, or fire lane at any time. It creates a very hazardous situation and inhibits the efficiency of dismissal.

After-school Procedures

Parents are asked to pick up their children promptly at dismissal or at the conclusion of after-school activities. DAT can only take responsibility for the safety of children who are properly supervised in the after-school program.

DAT staff expects that students will return home by the usual route and routine as indicated on the "Pick-up List," unless the parent provides the office with a request for any changes. Children are not permitted to leave school with anyone not listed on the "Pick-up List" unless prior arrangements have been made with the office. Students may not call home to make 'on-the-spot' after school arrangements.

Once you have picked up your children, please keep them with you. At that time, the school is no longer responsible for your children. Under no circumstances should children be wandering around the building or DAT's grounds after school hours. Playing on the playgrounds or basketball court is not allowed during dismissal.

As a reminder, please do not use the drop-off and pick-up times to engage in conversation with teachers or other parents. All of the teachers are on duty and have the responsibility of devoting their attention and energy toward ensuring a safe and efficient dismissal.

Attendance

It is imperative that every student arrives on time and attends classes regularly. Students (K-5) who arrive after our front doors close at 8:15 a.m. must be accompanied by an adult to the main office to sign in. *Tefillah* counts as our students' first class, so arriving after 8:15 a.m. for Lower School (K-5) students or 8:00 a.m. for Upper School (6-12) students is considered 'tardy'. Students who demonstrate a pattern (three or more times per semester) of being tardy will receive a communication home to parents from their classroom teacher. If lateness persists, a parent/student conference with a teacher and/or administrator will be scheduled to address patterns of habitual

tardiness. Exceptions include personal illness, illness or death in the family, or other emergency.

- Please notify the school office by 7:45 a.m. if your child will be absent due to illness or other extenuating circumstances. If a child is absent and the office has not been notified, the school will make every effort to email or call parents at home or at work.
- Please schedule medical and dental appointments during non-school hours whenever possible. Delayed starts for professional development are opportunities for parents to schedule appointments during non-school hours. Please check the school calendar for scheduled delayed start dates.
- Family vacations should be scheduled to coincide with school vacation dates.
- In the event that a middle or high school student is absent unexpectedly, he or she is required to check Google Classroom for each class to determine what homework assignments he or she is missing.
- In the event of a student's necessary absence from school for reasons other than illness, prior arrangements should be made with the administration first before individual teachers. Teachers will work with students to develop a plan for how to complete missed class time and coursework. It is up to each individual teacher to determine if they prefer the student make up work before or after the absence.

If a student is sick, for any portion of the school day, he or she cannot attend extra-curricular activities during after school hours.

School Property (Technology)

The school provides technology devices appropriate for each grade level. Students are expected to take proper care of all software and hardware. Should misuse of equipment occur, parents will be charged for the repair and/or replacement costs of the equipment.

Personal Property

The school does not take responsibility for any personal property that gets lost or stolen.

Non-Educational Items

Students should not bring valuable or personal items from home that are not needed for classes. These include, but are not limited to, toys, electronic devices, etc.

All other technology items, which include, but are not limited to, iPods, iPads, wearable devices that can connect to the Internet, hand-held game systems, radios, cameras, or electronic games should not be brought to school without the express permission of the school administration.

In some instances, staff members may confiscate students' personal property. In each case the staff member will inform the student of the appropriate procedures for reclaiming the confiscated article.

Money

Any monies that need to be turned in to the school for payments should be placed in an envelope and clearly marked with the student's name, amount, and the purpose. These should be given to the child's morning teacher unless the instructions read otherwise.

Lost and Found

All clothing and personal belongings should be clearly labeled with the name of the student to whom it belongs. Apparel and belongings left in undesignated areas will be retained in the 'Lost and Found' for a limited time. All items are donated to charity organizations each Rosh Chodesh.

<h2>Safety Procedures</h2>

Bikes, Skateboards, Scooters, etc.

Any student whose mode of transportation to and from school includes bikes, skateboards, scooters, or roller skates/blades, etc. must wear a helmet at all times while on school grounds.

DAT is not responsible for any damaged or stolen equipment. Students are encouraged to bring a lock to secure their belongings.

Drills

All classes will perform safety drills throughout the year. These include fire and severe weather drills. Lock down procedures are addressed with each class in an age/grade appropriate manner. We practice these emergency drills in order to become familiar with safety procedures. We expect our students to be silent during these drills.

Elevator

Students are not permitted to use the elevator unless they are physically incapable of using the staircase and have written permission from the administration. In addition,

students using the elevator must be accompanied by a parent or a peer, so that no student finds himself or herself alone in the elevator at any time.

Homework

Homework completed at home reinforces classroom learning and fosters independent thinking, responsibility, and time management. The amount and type of homework varies by grade, ability, and subject.

Homework serves to:

- Promote independence and responsibility
- Provide extra practice on academic skills
- Allow work on long-term projects
- Enhance classroom engagement

K-8

All students in grades K-8 use a day planner, either provided by the school or purchased on their own. For students in grades 5-12, all homework assignments, both short term and long term, are posted on FACTS and/or Google Classroom.

9-12

All homework assignments, both short term and long term, are posted on FACTS and/or in Google Classroom. Students should still record assignments in a planner. Both help students keep track of their workload and balance multiple assignments with varying due dates. While it varies by grade level, subject and teacher, students may realistically have 2-3 hours of homework a night, especially those who have opted to take multiple Honors and/or Advanced Placement courses.

Homework Habits

Some students prefer to begin homework when they arrive home. Others prefer to relax for a while before beginning their assignments. Regardless of the particular approach that is chosen, the following steps are prerequisites for developing good study habits:

1. An established homework time and place with adequate lighting
2. Proper materials (pen, pencil, paper, computer, etc.) should be on hand
3. Homework time must be free of interruptions
4. Students actively record their assignments in a homework organizer. Students in the elementary grades will receive a specific homework organizer; middle and high school students are required to purchase one on their own. Elementary school parents should check on their child's homework daily, and maintain ongoing communication with the classroom teachers.

In most cases, students should not need parental assistance to complete their homework. It is imperative that students assume the primary responsibility for the completion of their own homework. Please always feel welcome to reach out to your child's teacher to discuss any aspect of homework assignments.

Health

A child who is in good physical, social, and emotional health has a distinct educational advantage. A healthy student will be able to learn more easily, adjust readily to classroom activities, and get along well with others.

Health Examination and Immunization

Colorado law requires that all children enrolling in Colorado schools supply a properly completed Certificate of Immunization or Exemption showing the dates of the required immunizations, or appropriate exemption criteria from immunization must be met. This applies to returning students as well as newly entering students.

Emergency Information

Each family must complete an *Emergency Information Form* prior to the start of school. Parents are requested to keep this information current and notify the front office of any changes.

Illness

The school office must be notified immediately if your child contracts a contagious disease or condition. In turn, the office will notify the families of all children who are known to have been exposed to a contagious disease at school. A child may return to school only after he or she has been symptom- and fever-free and under proper antibiotic medication (if needed) for 24 hours. DAT reserves the right to refuse admittance to students who we believe to pose a health risk to students or staff.

Preventive Medicine

We suggest all students have a complete check-up before the start of school. Parents are asked to share any health conditions that will affect a child's learning with the classroom teacher.

If a child shows symptoms of illness prior to leaving for school, we advise keeping him or her home rather than having others exposed. When in doubt about your child's health, the precaution of keeping your child at home should be taken rather than having your child sent home ill from school.

Students with a fever or who are vomiting will be sent home. When called to pick up a child who is ill, please do so as soon as possible. Children who do not feel well cannot learn in class, may infect other students, can be extremely uncomfortable, and anxiously await parental arrival.

Medication

We will no longer provide ibuprofen or acetaminophen. Parents who have had their medical practitioner sign and return the medication distribution form for ibuprofen or acetaminophen may send your child to school with either of these medications in their original bottles. They must be checked-in at the school office for administration.

We cannot administer any herbal preparations or other over-the-counter medications. Students may not bring or use essential oils at school. Medical marijuana may not be administered on campus.

All medication must come in the original label with the proper dosing on the container. We will only provide the dose noted on the label. Please note we may not change the form of a pill such as cutting it in half, crushing, etc.

Should your child need to take medication during the day, we ask that you adhere to the following procedure:

- All medications, prescription and non-prescription, are to be sent to school in their original container with the child's name clearly printed. These will be kept in the infirmary.
- Your written medical authorization is to be completed and signed.

Allergies

If a student with a known allergy has a reaction and takes any medication – Benadryl, EPI pen, etc. for an allergic reaction – that child must be picked up by his or her parent. * A student without a medical care plan and who isn't medicated for a mild rash, hive, etc. and does not display other symptoms may remain at school.

Sunscreen

Students are welcome to bring sunscreen to school for their own use.

General Health Guidelines

These guidelines have been established to maintain a healthy environment for all students and faculty and to minimize the spread of the following contagious conditions:

1. Fever: Your child should be without fever and without a fever suppressant for 24 hours or more before returning to school. A fever is considered 100.4 degrees.
2. Vomiting: Your child should be vomit-free for 24 hours or more before returning to school.
3. Diarrhea: Your child should be without diarrhea for 24 hours or more before returning to school. Some antibiotics cause loose stools that are not contagious. Please consult your physician if your child has loose stool and is on antibiotics.
4. Strep Throat: Your child must be on antibiotics for a minimum of 12 hours before returning to school.
5. Pinworms: Your child may return to school 24 hours after treatment.

6. Pink Eye: If the eye is red/watery without significant drainage, and it's not affecting the child's ability to participate in school, exclusion is not necessary. If a student has suspected conjunctivitis (pink eye), manifesting with copious, pus-like drainage and matting, they will be sent home from school and may return within 1-2 days of starting an antibiotic.
7. Lice/Nits: Children should be excluded with an active infestation from the end of the school day until after the first treatment (nits need not be removed, although it is recommended).

Visitation

All visitors and volunteers to the Glassman Education Campus are required to sign in at the main office and acquire a visitor or volunteer badge. No visitor will be allowed to move within or among our buildings without a pass. Please respect the direction of our security guards and/or faculty members.

Students are not allowed to bring friends to school. Should a visitor be interested in shadowing at our school, DAT has an official protocol for all prospective students. Please contact the office for more information.

Food Policies

Parents are encouraged to double-check that their child takes his or her lunch to school daily. If you become aware your child has forgotten his or her lunch or snack, please bring it to the main office, as the emergency lunch or snack the school provides may not meet your child's needs. There will be a \$3.00 charge for any lunch provided by the school.

We strive to make each child's lunchtime a comfortable, relaxing time. Students are responsible for cleaning up after themselves and reciting *birkat hamazon*.

It is expected that all students wash their hands for *Hamotzi* prior to eating bread. This is a *halachic* requirement and parents should encourage their children to do it properly (even at home) before meals.

During lunch and snack times, students will be expected to:

- Use appropriate table manners and polite behavior
- Remain seated except when throwing out trash
- Keep their own area clean

- Show respect for, get along with, and demonstrate a cooperative attitude toward peers
- Abstain from unhealthy practices such as drinking from the same container as another student or sharing utensils with other students
- Not share food at any time

Please keep in mind the school does not provide cups, plates, or utensils. Students are expected to bring these items from home. The school does not maintain cooking or heating facilities for elementary or middle school student use.

Class-time Eating

Students are not permitted to eat during class. However, water bottles are permitted.

Lunch and Recess

Students in grades K-5 have three recess breaks during the day, one of which coincides with lunch. Students in grades 6-12 have a recess break in conjunction with their lunchtime. Please be sure to send appropriate clothing for all temperatures. We make every effort to spend our recess breaks outdoors.

Physical Education

Physical education is a part of the school's curriculum and is a requirement. A student who has a valid medical excuse from his or her physician may be excused from participation in P.E. or other physical activity.

Miscellaneous

Field Trips

Class field trips enhance understanding of academic subjects by promoting experiential learning. Parental notification is given prior to each trip to inform parents of the details of the trip and request parental chaperones and/or drivers. Parents will be asked to complete a general permission slip at the beginning of the school year and may also be asked to fill in other forms during the year.

Parents driving on field trips will need to submit proof of insurance and a copy of their driver's license to the office. Depending on the nature of the trip, parents may be asked to stay as a chaperone.

Assemblies and Special Programs

School assemblies and special programs are scheduled throughout the year. Many of these programs are planned during hours when parents can attend. Notification of days

and times for these presentations will appear in the weekly DAT email, by email, and/or monthly calendar. We welcome parents to attend any programs that fit within their schedule and appreciate your support of our students and teachers.

Tutors

The school does not endorse, vet, or recommend specific tutors. Should parents request assistance in securing a tutor for their child, the school will share the names of tutors who have been hired by other school families in the past, with the understanding this does not constitute an official school endorsement or recommendation.

בס"ד



Denver Academy of Torah

Upper School (6-12): Conduct in School

Attendance

Punctuality for Davening

The Shulchan Aruch (Orach Chayim 1:1) states that: “יתגבר כארי לעמוד בבוקר לעבודת” , “One should strengthen himself like a lion to get up in the morning to serve his Creator, so that it is he who awakens the dawn.”

It is imperative for students to arrive promptly for *shacharit*, *mincha*, and – when scheduled as part of a school event – *maariv*. Even slight tardiness compromises a student’s ability to recite the entire service properly. Students who arrive in the designated davening room three or more minutes after the start time will be marked late.

Unexcused Absences/Tardies

An unexcused absence is an absence that has not been approved by the school. A parent or guardian calling to share a student's tardiness or absence does not constitute an excused tardy or absence.

Absences include sick days, doctors' or other appointments, and family obligations. No special provisions are made for students who take extended vacations. However, special provisions will be made in case of extended illness. Seniors are allotted one week's worth of additional absences for college and Israel school visits only. Seniors who plan to visit schools or programs in Israel while school is in session are required to inform the office of this in advance.

In the event of an unexcused absence from class a student will receive an email that day listing which periods were missed. Students have 24 hours to reconcile the absence either with the teacher or in the Main Office. If the absence is not reconciled within that time, it will be considered a cut class. If a student is tardy unexcused to class by more than five minutes, it will be counted as a cut with the accompanying consequences.

A student is marked absent from all of that day's classes until he or she signs in at the office. A note or parent phone call will not be sufficient. Students who arrive late as a result of an appointment with a physician must bring a note from the health professional to the office. A student arriving late for any other reason must bring a note/have an email sent from his or her parents.

Lateness to School, Class, or Activities

Our students' education is very precious and it is important that classes begin promptly. Students must be in their seat and prepared to work when each class is scheduled to begin, or they will be marked tardy. The minutes between one class and the next are intended to arrange any personal needs, including restroom, food, drink, etc.

Lateness to class results in a reduced work habits/participation grade, since the late student cannot fully participate in class. Being late to class, or to other school activities, hinders the educational process and often shows disrespect for the teacher, other students, and the community as a whole. In the event that a student knows that he or she will be late, he or she should receive advance permission from the teacher. Students who leave class without following classroom procedures will receive a tardy or an unexcused absence.

<h3>School/Personal Property</h3>
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Laptops, textbooks, lab equipment, and lockers are loaned to students for use during the school year. The school expects that any item loaned to students will be treated with proper care and used appropriately. Any loss or damage to loaned property will require

that students or their parents/guardians reimburse the school for the costs of any loss or repair. Loss or damage may include, but are not limited to, graffiti, permanent stickers that are difficult to remove, breakage of lab or computer equipment. Books should be maintained in good condition and be returned to the school at the close of the school year. Unless specifically instructed by teachers, students are not to write in their textbooks. Parents will be responsible to pay for and replace any damage not covered by the extended warranty and/or not due to normal wear and tear of any loaned equipment.

Students losing or damaging any school property will be expected to pay for all costs.

Upper School Cell Phone Policy

At Denver Academy of Torah, we recognize the significance of technology in modern education and communication. While cell phones offer convenience and connectivity, their excessive and unregulated use can lead to detrimental effects on students' academic performance, mental health, and overall well-being. In formulating our policy, we have taken key data into consideration in an effort to do what is in the overall best interest of our students. By adhering to this cell phone policy, we aim to provide a conducive learning environment, foster healthy social interactions, and mitigate the negative impact of excessive cell phone and social media use on academic performance and mental health. We appreciate the support of our families and students in ensuring the successful implementation of this policy. The rationale for our policy takes into consideration multiple factors:

Academic Performance:

- A study by the London School of Economics found that students who frequently use social media and cell phones during school hours tend to have lower academic achievement.
- Excessive use of cell phones during study time can lead to reduced focus and productivity, hindering effective learning.

Mental Health Concerns:

- The American Academy of Pediatrics highlights that excessive screen time, particularly on social media, can contribute to increased rates of anxiety, depression, and sleep disturbances among adolescents.
- Research by the Pew Research Center indicates that teenagers who spend more than three hours a day on social media are more likely to report high levels of psychological distress.

Social Interaction and Communication Skills:

- A study published in the Journal of Abnormal Psychology suggests a link between heavy social media use and impaired face-to-face social interaction skills.
- Excessive virtual communication can hinder the development of effective interpersonal skills, which are crucial for future personal and professional relationships.

Cyberbullying and Online Safety:

- The National Center for Education Statistics reports that students who experience cyberbullying are more likely to skip school, have lower self-esteem, and perform poorly academically.
- Excessive cell phone and social media use can expose students to online risks, including cyberbullying, privacy invasion, and inappropriate content.

Our policy aims to strike a balance between utilizing technology for educational purposes and minimizing the negative impact of excessive cell phone and social media use. To that end, we have formulated the following guidelines:

Restricted Use During Class Hours: Cell phone use, including texting and social media engagement, is prohibited during school hours. Cell phones should be turned off or placed in silent mode and stored in the designated storage areas in each building.

Educational Use: At times, cell phones may be used for educational purposes under the guidance and permission of teachers. This includes accessing relevant apps, educational websites, and resources to enhance the learning experience. Teachers will inform the office in advance should cell phones be required for a particular class period.

Prohibition of Social Media during School Hours (high school): Accessing social media platforms and non-educational websites is strictly prohibited during school hours.

Parental Communication: Any student who needs to reach a parent during the school day can do so with the use of the office phones at the discretion of the office staff. Parents are asked to help with the enforcement of this policy by delivering all messages to their children via the main office phones, and not by texting, emailing, or calling their children.

Should students not turn in their cell phones at the designated times, the following consequences will be in place:

1st offense	Student may pick up his or her phone in Main Office at the end of the day
2nd offense	Parent must pick up phone at the Main Office at the end of the day

3rd offense	Parent must pick up phone at the Main Office at the end of the day Lunch detention for a specified amount of time.
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Code of Conduct (Behavioral Policies)
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Students are expected to conduct themselves in a manner which reflects the *Derekh Eretz* and *Kedushah* – respectful behavior and holiness – which are the hallmarks of our community and of our school. One of the foremost values of our school is that we are a community of kindness. As such, we strive to create an environment where all students feel included, valued, and supported. Similarly, students are expected to conduct themselves at all times in a manner appropriate for religious students, consistent with the aforementioned values. The policies and rules listed below are intended to create a dignified and comfortable environment for all of us who spend our days at the Denver Academy of Torah.

Male/Female Interactions

Students may not have physical contact with members of the opposite gender. Flirtatious or suggestive comments and behavior should be avoided.

Conflict Resolution

A safe physical environment is a prerequisite for learning. Students must learn how to resolve conflicts and disagreements in a healthy and respectful manner. Students should seek support from the faculty or administrative team if they need assistance in solving interpersonal disputes.

Fights or altercations of any kind are prohibited. In the event that students engage in any sort of altercation, parents will be notified. Consequences for fighting will be determined on a case-by-case basis, but may include:

- Mediation between the involved students
- A meeting or meetings between the involved students, the administrative team, and their parents
- In-school suspension
- Out-of-school suspension (in severe or repeated instances) or further action may be warranted, in accordance with the severity of the actions

Harassment, Language, and Gestures

We are committed to treating all of our students with compassion and respect; therefore, the use of inappropriate language and behavior which demonstrates a lack of respect of others – adults or peers, of the property of others, or of the learning process – will not be tolerated.

Harassment or bullying of any kind – verbal, sexual, emotional, and physical– is a severe violation of Jewish values, and, in some cases, of federal and state law. Harassment may include, but is not limited to, verbal threats, sexually suggestive or other comments that cause a fellow student or teacher to feel discomfort and/or concerned for his or her safety, and gestures using hands or other body parts that are intended to threaten or may reasonably be interpreted as threatening. Harassment of any kind is regarded by the school as a severe breach of community ethics and behavior and will not be tolerated. In the event that a student harasses or bullies another member of the school community, parents will be notified, and consequences may include detention, suspension, or expulsion.

Inappropriate language and gestures are generally defined as using those words or gestures which contemporary society deems unfit for day-to-day discourse. In essence, “curse words,” or hand gestures that American society deems as substitutes for curse words, may not be used on campus.

Online Conduct, Cyberharassment, and Digital Responsibility

Just as respect, kindness, and accountability are expected in all in-person interactions at DAT, these values must extend into all digital and online spaces. Inappropriate, harmful, or disrespectful behavior conducted via text messages, email, social media, or any digital platform – whether during school hours or off-campus – will be treated with the same seriousness as in-person infractions.

Cyberbullying, including the spreading of rumors, harassment, exclusion, impersonation, or the posting or sharing of harmful content (e.g., images, videos, or messages) targeting another student or faculty member, is strictly prohibited.

Any recording, photographing, or screen capturing of a student, staff member, or class environment without consent – especially if used to embarrass, intimidate, or ridicule – will be treated as a form of bullying or hazing.

Students are reminded that their digital footprint matters, and they are expected to uphold the values of *derech erez* (ethical behavior) and *kavod* (respect) in all their online conduct. Violations of this policy may result in disciplinary consequences and the involvement of parents and relevant professionals.

Alcohol, Smoking, and Drug Use

DAT maintains an alcohol, tobacco, and drug-free environment for the safety of our students and staff. The school also promotes a healthy environment for students by providing education, support, and decision-making skills with regard to controlled substances and their abuse.

In order to accomplish this goal, a cooperative effort must be made among the school, parents/guardians, student body, and the community.

In the event a student is found possessing or using alcohol, legal or illegal drugs, cigarettes, vaping devices, other harmful substances, and/or paraphernalia associated with their use, whether during school time or during any school-sponsored event, the student will be immediately suspended, parents will be notified, and the school will take additional action that may include expulsion.

This policy shall apply to any student who is on school property or within school jurisdiction. A student will be considered within school jurisdiction when on school property, whether or not school is in session, or at any school-sanctioned activity, including *Shabbatonim*, fundraisers, athletic programs, social activities, and when being transported in vehicles as part of any DAT program.

It is a violation of DAT policy for any student to possess, use, sell, distribute, or to be under the influence of alcohol, drugs, or other controlled substances at such times or in such locations as described above.

For purposes of this policy, controlled substances include, but are not limited to: narcotic drugs, hallucinogenic or mind-altering drugs or substances, amphetamines, barbiturates, stimulants, depressants, marijuana, anabolic steroids, any other controlled substances as defined by law, or any prescription or nonprescription drug, medicine, vitamin, or other chemical substance not taken in accordance with the DAT policy and regulations on administering medicines to students.

Any student possessing controlled/illegal substances within school jurisdiction may be reported to the police. School consequences will be determined by the administration. Any student caught with drug paraphernalia will immediately be reported to an administrator and the police may be contacted. The student will face disciplinary action which may include, but is not limited to: expulsion, short or long term suspension, loss of off campus privileges, loss of athletic eligibility, a strike on a student's personal record, or drug/alcohol counseling.

School personnel may request to search a student, their locker, their belongings, and/or vehicle if they have reasonable grounds to believe the student is in possession of contraband. The parent/guardian of any student searched shall be notified.

Gambling

Gambling is not allowed on campus or at any school activities, as it erodes the sense of trust the members of our school community have for one another. Gambling related paraphernalia or gambling apps are not allowed on campus. If brought to school, such items will be confiscated.

This policy extends to any sports-based wagers or competitions, whether on the Internet or otherwise, and regardless of whether or not money is involved.

Theft and Vandalism

Theft and vandalism are violations of Jewish and federal and state laws. Such actions lead to mistrust among all school participants, and show disregard for basic human dignity. Any illegal actions will warrant swift disciplinary and/or legal action to the perpetrators.

Disciplinary Consequences

Consequences for inappropriate student behavior vary on a case-by-case basis and depend on the infraction of a school rule or policy, the severity of that infraction, and the frequency of infractions. Depending on the situation, any or all of the following consequences may apply:

- Immediate removal of a student from a certain activity
- Confiscation of items deemed inappropriate
- Repair or remuneration for stolen or damaged objects
- Re-submission of work
- A reduced or failing mark on an assignment, or in the course
- Detention after school, during lunch, and/or during study periods
- Parent-student conferences with a teacher and/or administrator
- Counseling
- Community service
- Loss of privileges and other sanctions
- Academic and/or behavioral probation or suspension
- Expulsion

Academic Requirements

Academic Probation

At the end of each semester, a student might be placed on academic probation when the student has failed to demonstrate a concentrated effort in completing coursework or demonstrating consistently appropriate behavior. A student being placed on academic probation will not be able to participate in sports or other extracurricular school endeavors as determined by the administration.

The administration will review a student's probationary status. When a student brings his or her work up to a passing grade and/or his or her behavior to an acceptable level, probation will be re-evaluated.

Report Cards

Students will receive academic report cards at the completion of each semester. These reports are part of a student's permanent record. The quantitative grades are the ones that will appear on transcripts submitted to yeshivas, seminaries, colleges, and universities.

Chesed

DAT is a community of *chesed*. There are many needs in the Jewish and broader community. We hope to increase our students' sensitivity to those needs and their desire to be willing to give of their time to help others.

Students are encouraged to volunteer and complete acts of *chesed* beyond the scope of our curriculum. Some examples of *chesed* may be volunteering services for an individual person or neighbor, or assisting in any way with a non-profit organization or a business without being paid. Students should consider engaging in *chesed* activities both within our Jewish community and in the Denver community at large.

Athletic Eligibility

Students who wish to participate in any DAT athletic teams must maintain a minimum GPA of 3.0 and have no grade lower than a C in any class. Please see the Athletic Handbooks for more detail. Student athletes are responsible for making up all classwork and assessments they miss due to games, meets, or practices, and are responsible for completing all homework assignments on time.

Academic Integrity

Cheating and Plagiarism

Honesty is expected in all of a student's interactions with peers and faculty. Cheating, copying, and plagiarism are all considered serious breaches of honesty and threaten the fabric of the school culture and community.

To help prevent students from inadvertent academic dishonesty, faculty will work diligently to teach students what constitutes plagiarism, how to accurately cite the work of others, and why it is important to do so. Students may not cheat or plagiarize in-class work, homework assignments, research papers, essays, quizzes, tests, projects, or any other schoolwork.

Plagiarism includes:

- Turning in another student's paper or notes as your own
- Copying portions of another student's paper into your own
- Copying source material into your paper without quotation marks and without citation
- Paraphrasing source material into your paper without citation
- Summarizing source material without a clear reference to the original source

Consequences for cheating or plagiarism will be determined on a case-by-case basis but may include:

- Re-submission of the assignment or test, with a reduced grade
- A failing grade on the assignment

Parents will always be notified in cases of cheating or plagiarism.

NEW - Use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) Tools

At Denver Academy of Torah, academic integrity is fundamental to our mission of fostering Torah values, intellectual rigor, and ethical development. We expect all students to complete their work honestly and to uphold the highest standards of personal responsibility in their academic endeavors.

Plagiarism, cheating, and unauthorized use of external assistance - including generative artificial intelligence (AI) tools compromise these values. The use of AI in academic work is only permitted when explicitly authorized by the teacher. Using AI tools to write essays, solve assignments, complete problem sets, or translate texts without permission is considered academic dishonesty.

AI may be used responsibly for brainstorming, outlining, editing, or study assistance if the teacher allows it and the student transparently documents its use. Misrepresentation of AI-generated content as original work without disclosure is a violation of this policy. Consequences for academic dishonesty will follow the school's disciplinary process and may include a failing grade on the assignment, parental notification, and further disciplinary action. Repeat offenses may result in suspension or administrative review.

As AI tools continue to evolve, DAT remains committed to educating students about ethical technology use, digital literacy, and responsible academic practices aligned with Torah values and educational excellence.

HIGH SCHOOL (9-12) SPECIFIC POLICIES

Graduation Requirements

In order to graduate from DAT, the school requires that a student fulfill the following:

- Meet or exceed all academic requirements
- Complete all community service requirements
- Be recommended by the faculty as a student of good character and integrity
- Have his or her attendance record be in good standing
- Be approved for graduation by the administration

In addition, parents or guardians must meet all financial obligations to the school before any student is eligible to graduate.

Academic Standards

Teachers will work to ensure students succeed in all of their courses. However, students must take primary responsibility for their own academic success. Students must pass all required courses for graduation.

Academic Standing

DAT calculates student averages for two purposes – to identify the students whose

success qualifies them for Honor Roll or High Honor Roll and to identify those students with serious deficiencies requiring probation.

Honor Roll and High Honor Roll

Students who achieve and maintain a GPA (grade point average) of 3.5 will be placed on the Honor Roll. Students who achieve and maintain a GPA at or above 3.75 will be placed on the High Honor Roll.

School Property

Students losing or damaging any school property will be expected to pay for all costs.

Kitchen (High School only)

The high school kitchen has two microwaves - one for meat and one for dairy. DAT follows the Scroll-K, Denver Va'ad HaKashrut guidelines in determining whether items are kosher. As these are shared devices, students must be extremely careful not to jeopardize the *kashrut* status of these appliances. Students may keep food in the refrigerator and freezer that are designated for student use, as long as it is clearly labeled with the student's name and date placed in the fridge or freezer. Perishable foods must be brought home at the end of each week or items may be thrown out.

Lockers

Each student will be assigned a locker at the beginning of the year. Students may only use their assigned locker. Personal belongings that are not in use should not be left anywhere else in the school.

Off-Campus Policy

Transportation

Each family is responsible for creating and enforcing specific guidelines for allowing their student to drive to and/or from school. This includes, but is not limited to, students making carpool arrangements with other students. Parents will be notified of any concerning behaviors that are observed relating to student driving or vehicle usage. Students may only park in areas designated for student parking.

Students must follow all guidelines set out by our security team.

Students may only use ride-sharing services such as Uber and Lyft if there is parental authorization on file in the school office.



Denver Academy of Torah

K-12 Acceptable Use Policy for Technology

Computer and Internet Use Form

Computer literacy is an integral part of a student's school education. DAT trusts that students will embrace these technological opportunities responsibly and ethically. When used properly, computers are a valuable educational tool. Unfortunately, they can also be a very distracting and disruptive device if misused. The following policies have been established to assist students in developing responsibility, discretion, and care for the use of laptops and technology resources. Students will apply the standards of *middot tovot* and digital citizenship to their use of computers. When in doubt, ask a member of the administration.

Student Usage

Students are given access to individual computers to use during the academic year. Each student is responsible for taking care of his or her computer. If operating systems or hardware problems arise, students need to bring them to the administration's attention as soon as possible. For more details regarding issues or malfunctions of the laptop, see the "Damages and Repairs" sections below.

During class, with a teacher's permission, students may use computers to take notes, obtain information, and organize information. However, during class, they may NOT be used for games, personal messages, email, music, or any other non-productive

activity. Students may use school computers according to set policies, and if students are found to be using their computers in a way that is inconsistent with policies during the school day, or those who leave their computer in an unsafe location, will have their computer confiscated for the day. Repeat offenders may lose computer privileges for longer periods of time.

The school community has shaped the following guidelines based on applicable laws, morals, and ethics. The student:

- May not interfere with another computer user or circumvent system protections. This includes and is not limited to the use of proxy sites. The action itself is unethical without regard to the motive.
- Will not share his or her computer or account passwords with another user and will not ask to use another's account, password, or computer.
- Will not attempt to break into files or programs to which access is restricted, nor attempt to acquire system privileges or information to which he or she is not entitled.
- Is obligated to report to the administration any breaches of security or weaknesses in the security of any computer system available through the school.
- Will not make or use illegal copies of copyrighted software, store such copies or transmit them over any internal or external networks. If it is unclear whether or not the student has permission to copy a piece of software, that student will assume that he or she may not do so.
- Will not load any software, apps, or program files onto a computer, even temporarily, without proper authorization from the school.
- Will not use any program that might destroy or in any way damage files or information in the computer system.
- Will refrain from monopolizing systems, overloading networks with excessive data or streaming, or wasting computer time, connection time, printer paper, or other resources.
- Will refrain from sending frivolous or excessive messages either within the school or beyond.
- Will not send or create any kind of electronic message, sound, or image that would be deemed inappropriate by the school.
- Will only use the computers and Internet for school-related purposes during class. Use of apps or other services to message or chat during class is not allowed.
- Will not modify parental controls or other security settings established by the school.
- Will submit all computer passwords to the administration and notify the administration should he or she change the password.
- Will not use web-based games, social media, television, movies, YouTube, Netflix, etc. and make wise choices in line with school and family values and principles of which materials are shared, watched, listened to, or viewed in school.

- Will not change the default account profile picture, desktop image, and email theme.
- Students may not use their computers to access or share videos, images, or documents that violate halachic and school values (this would include lashon hara, immodesty, etc.)

It is the student's duty and responsibility to report any of the above, that they have done or witnessed, as soon as possible to a staff member.

Messages and images sent via the Internet or data services are never really deleted once in cyberspace. Before sending a message (via any tool), students should think carefully about what is being distributed. In addition, once messages are on any forums, one loses control over who has the right or ability to access them. These messages may be seen by people reviewing future applications to college, yeshiva and seminary, and even to jobs.

Impersonating someone else is considered identity theft and can have serious legal ramifications, and will be dealt with accordingly.

Anything written by a student (whether in or out of school) about another student, faculty member, or member of the community will be treated as an "in-school event."

Student Code of Conduct

Computer usage comes with a responsibility for care, as well as for appropriate use. Students agree that they:

- Will not attempt to disassemble their computer.
- Will not attempt to hack into the operating system of the computer.
- Will only use the computer and their school Google account for school-related purposes.
- Will only use the computer during class for teacher-directed work.
- Will not engage in cyberbullying and will report instances of cyberbullying to a faculty member.
- Will not engage in actions that are not in keeping with family and school principles and values.

Any behavior that is not in keeping with these policies may result in loss of computer privileges. In addition, any such behaviors, whether in-school or out-of-school, will be treated as an in-school incident.

Role of Parents and Families

Parents/guardians are a critical ally in teaching and guiding students to be responsible and appropriate in computer and Internet usage. When computers are out of the school building, parents/guardians are responsible for making policies that uphold school

guidelines and principles for usage and are encouraged to determine if these are sufficient to meet individual family needs.

- It is strongly recommended that students use their computers around other family members and never alone in their rooms or behind closed doors.
- Our firewall and filter cannot extend past our building, as they affect only our wireless network. Therefore, it is important for parents to evaluate and set up their own Internet protection, filters, firewalls, etc.
- It is strongly encouraged that families have a conversation about family policies in regards to social media, media choices (television, movies, music, etc.), phone and Internet use, app choices, and similar items. Families may choose to adopt a social media, phone, and/or Internet-use contract between parents and children. This is not something the school can provide, and there are numerous resources available online.

Travel

Due to the increased risk of damage and theft, it is strongly recommended that students do not travel with their school-issued computers. If the student prefers to leave the computer at school, it must be checked in with the office to be securely stored in the building. Any damages, loss, or theft to computers taken on vacation or away with the student will be the complete financial responsibility of the family.

Proactive Care

The following are guidelines put together to ensure students have the best experience using their computers:

- Always be aware of where your computer is. Never leave your computer unattended, especially in an unsafe area. Unsafe areas include, but are not limited to, the floor, on chairs, on the edge of a table, next to water or other liquids, etc.
- Students should take care when transporting computers to and from school or around the building. Computers should be well protected in backpacks and should be carried with care.
- Food and drink should not be consumed near the computer, and certainly never over an open computer, to avoid potential damages. Computers may not be left on tables where water or other liquid bottles or cans are placed.
- Students should consider using a keyboard cover, available for purchase online or in many stores.
- Never leave your computer outdoors or in direct sunlight for extended periods of time.
- Use proper wrapping techniques when wrapping the charging cord.
- Students should use only their own charging cords. They may not lend or borrow a charger.
- Fully charge the laptop before the school day begins.

- Close web browser tabs and unused programs or apps to extend the life of the battery. Consider setting the screen brightness at a dimmer light.
- The school may wipe the contents of the computers during summer break. Prior to leaving for the summer, students should back up all documents and data that they want to protect.

Prior to signing out a computer and charger, a signed copy of this form from parents and students that they have read and understood these rules and procedures must be on file with the front office.

Damages and Repairs

The school will cover factory malfunctions, in addition to all reasonable wear and tear for the equipment. Families are responsible for repair expenses and replacement parts due to negligence and damage, up to the cost of a new, equivalent computer. The following damages are student and/or family financial responsibilities:

- Any liquid damage to the computer will require the family to pay for the purchase of a new computer. Students and families do not keep the water-damaged computer and there is no guarantee that the student will gain use of the new equipment. All damaged equipment remains the property of DAT.
- External damage and dents to the casing that may have caused significant internal damage, or need replacing. This includes missing screws from the body casing.
- Cracked screens or computer bodies.
- Cracked or dented trackpads.
- Items jammed, packed, embedded, or broken-off in any port. For example, a broken headphone jack stuck in the headphone slot.
- Missing keys from the built-in keyboard or other damages to the keyboard.
- Damage or frayed charging cords due to neglect, harsh wear, irresponsibility, or improper cord wrapping.
- Any software or hardware damages due to improper or unauthorized downloads.
- Any action that causes damage to the computer body, screen, hardware, or operating systems due to actions beyond normal wear and tear. This may include specific actions that were not enumerated above.

The following is the process for repairs and potential replacements of computers:

1. Report damages and/or malfunctions to the administration immediately so that they may direct your issue to the appropriate person.
2. The administration will work with the student to resolve the issue. If the issue cannot be resolved, the administration will assess the situation, and determine what parts are needed.
3. If damages require family payment, repairs will not be authorized until full payment is received. Payments must be made directly to DAT.

4. It may take an extended period of time to order parts, receive them, and make the necessary repairs.
5. During the repair period, students should continue to access their email and complete school assignments, as they are still responsible for all school work during this time. There may be limited availability of a spare school computer for individual classes. Students might not be able to keep this laptop in their possession throughout the school day or overnight.

Students at DAT have a high degree of integrity, and we place our trust in them to demonstrate the highest level of *middot tovot*. The school exercises prudent oversight of activity on the computers and Internet. Abuse of the computers or Internet policies may result in the following consequences at the discretion of the administration:

1. Suspension of computer or Internet privileges for a specified number of days or weeks (for all activities unrelated to academics).
2. Permanent revocation of Internet and/or computer privileges.
3. Suspension from school or further disciplinary action at the discretion of the administration.