

HGSS Bat Mitzvah Celebrations

Girls can celebrate their Bat Mitzvah once they have turned 12 in the Jewish Calendar using one of the following options:

- 1) **FRIDAY NIGHT CANDLE LIGHTING:** Before Shabbat comes in, your daughter will take part in a candle lighting ceremony and deliver her Dvar Torah address. Freda will direct the ceremony and present your daughter with a certificate, Chumash & Siddur. The ceremony must be completely finished before Shabbat comes in. This option is most practical during the summer months.
- 2) **SHABBAT PRESENTATION:** Towards the end of the Shabbat Morning service your daughter will be addressed by one of our rabbinic team members and be presented with a certificate, Chumash & Siddur.
- 3) **AFTER KIDDUSH:** After the main Kiddush, your guests return to take their seats in the Main Shul (at approximately 12.30pm). Your daughter then presents a Dvar Torah which is followed by an address from one of our rabbinic team. This ceremony will include a presentation and some singing as well.
- 4) **HAVDALLAH:** This option is only available in the winter months from one hour after Shabbat terminates. It is a private service much like option 1, but instead incorporates a Havdallah ceremony, led by one of our rabbinic team.
- 5) **SUNDAY:** Much like the previous two options, this is a private service in the Shul where the Bat Mitzvah girls delivers her Dvar Torah, followed by an address and presentation from one of our rabbinic team. You can also include the Havdallah ceremony which is a really nice way of starting the service.
- 6) **PRIVATE FUNCTION:** In this option, a member of the Rabbinic Team attends your private function offsite. The Bat Mitzvah girl delivers her Dvar Torah during the function and is addressed by one of our Rabbis. She is also presented with a certificate, Chumash & Siddur. This option is dependent upon rabbinic availability and is only possible if your function is strictly kosher.
- 7) **SHABBAT MORNING SERVICE:** A Sedra Synopsis (a brief two minutes summary of that week's parasha) is presented by the Bat Mitzvah girl just prior to taking the Torah out of the ark. This can be chosen in addition to one of the above options and is based upon availability.

PLANNING AND PERSONALISING YOUR BAT MITZVAH

Once you have decided upon a specific service/option, Freda is more than happy to meet with you to discuss how to make your Bat Mitzvah special.

To discuss these options further, and to
arrange private tuition

abi@hgss.org.uk
020 8455 8126 ext 210

For hall bookings

sharon@hgss.org.uk
020 8455 8126 ext 201

Mazel Tov

מזל טוב

Your Bat Mitzvah at HGSS

A Bat Mitzvah journey at HGSS includes the following stages:

- When a girl is in Year 5, Rebbetzen Freda Kaplan will visit her home. This meeting is a chance to get to know one another and begin planning. Once you have chosen your type of celebration (see overleaf) and date, please contact the office.
- In Year 6 mothers and daughters participate in a special Bat Mitzvah programme run by Rebbetzen Freda Kaplan. This collection of monthly workshops form a process of investigating the issues relevant to you in an interesting and interactive way.
- Approximately 6-9 months before the date of your Bat Mitzvah we assist you in finding a teacher to help your daughter prepare for her Bat Mitzvah. The tutor will be selected as a best match, taking into account your interests, background and needs.
- Just before the big day you will meet with Rabbi Kaplan and the Wardens to put the finishing touches to the day itself!

We are thrilled to accompany you on this journey and to celebrate this rite of passage with you and your family. Thank you for letting us be a part of your Simcha.

