

ST KILDA HEBREW CONGREGATION INC

ACN NO: A1256

12 Charnwood Grove St Kilda Vic 3182
 Tel (613) 9537 1433 Fax (613) 9525 3759
 office@stkildashule.org www.stkildashule.org

OFFICE USE
SURNAME.....
SEDRA.....
DATE.....

BAR MITZVAH APPLICATION

Bar Mitzvah boy's details		<input type="checkbox"/> Birth certificate attached
Surname	Given Names	Heb. Name
Date of birth	Time	Birth status* <input type="checkbox"/> Natural <input type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Surrogate
Child lives with*: <input type="checkbox"/> mother <input type="checkbox"/> father <input type="checkbox"/> both <input type="checkbox"/> other		Child of* <input type="checkbox"/> 1 st marriage <input type="checkbox"/> Subsequent marriage
Mobile		Email
Bar Mitzvah teacher		School attending
Brief history of Jewish education: _____ _____		

Parent's details	<input type="checkbox"/> Member <input type="checkbox"/> Non-member	Parent's details	<input type="checkbox"/> Member <input type="checkbox"/> Non-member
Father's full name		Mother's full name	
Hebrew name <input type="checkbox"/> born Jewish*		Hebrew name <input type="checkbox"/> born Jewish*	
Father's tribe (tick 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Cohen <input type="checkbox"/> Levi <input type="checkbox"/> Yisrael		Mother's Maiden name	
Conversion*: You <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes Mother <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes		Conversion*: You <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes Mother <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes	
Address		Address	
Suburb Postcode		Suburb Postcode	
Phone (H) Mobile		Phone (H) Mobile	
Phone (B) Fax		Phone (B) Fax	
Email		Email	
Marriage Date	Place	Rabbi*	
Date of each prev.marriage* / /	/ /	Date of each prev. marriage* / /	/ /
Current status* <input type="checkbox"/> Married <input type="checkbox"/> Divorced <input type="checkbox"/> Father remarried <input type="checkbox"/> Mother remarried <input type="checkbox"/> Ketubah attached			
Other details: _____ _____ _____			

Other children		
Child's full name	<input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female	Date of Birth
Child's full name	<input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female	Date of Birth
Child's full name	<input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female	Date of Birth
Child's full name	<input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female	Date of Birth

For Office Use Only	
<input type="checkbox"/> Ketubah supplied. <input type="checkbox"/> Birth cert. supplied.	Eligibility Approved by Chief Rabbi _____
Date Application received _____	Sedra _____

Please turn over the page

We wish you and your son well on this wonderful journey into manhood and are happy to guide you along the process.

When does my son have his bar Mitzvah?

A Bar Mitzvah is the process by which we mark the transition of childhood into Jewish manhood (and hence responsible for his own actions) at the age of 13. The calculation of the 13th birthday is based on the Hebrew calendar. We are able to check what the Hebrew date was based on the civil date of the birth. We add 13 years to the Hebrew date and THAT is the day your child becomes a Bar Mitzvah. Typically, the “young man” will be called to the Torah on the first occasion that the Torah is read on or after that Hebrew anniversary date. The Torah is read each Monday and Thursday morning, on Rosh Chodesh (new Hebrew month), on festivals and on Shabbat. While many boys choose to have a call up on the Monday or Thursday immediately following their Hebrew anniversary date, almost everyone will have a call up on the Shabbat immediately following the Hebrew anniversary date. Families *may* choose to postpone the Bar Mitzvah call up Shabbat beyond that date for a variety of reasons including a prior booking in the shule for the selected date, school holidays, etc.

***Delicate cases:** Adoption and surrogacy are important factors in determining Jewish status. This is a religious milestone and, therefore, applies only to those who are *halachically* Jewish. **The onus is on the applicants to disclose to the Synagogue any circumstances that may affect the Bar Mitzvah.**

- Where the applicants have failed to disclose such information, the Congregation has the right, at any time, to cancel the application.
- Matters of a delicate nature may be discussed in confidence with the Rabbi.
- The applicants agree to abide by the Congregation's rules and rulings of its Rabbi.
- In cases of Divorce, separation or variations in custody etc, both parents and (where applicable) guardians or other relevant persons must sign and are bound by the terms of the application.
- **When this application is returned & accepted by the Congregation, the Bar Mitzvah date will be advised to the parents.**

What does my son have to do?

While a boy becomes Bar Mitzvah automatically on his 13th Hebrew birthday most Bar Mitzvah boys choose to display their commitment to the world’s oldest faith, by doing some or all of the following: reading the *brachot* (in Hebrew) when being called to the Torah, reading the *maftir* (in Hebrew), reading the *haftorah* (in Hebrew), and reading aloud the Bar Mitzvah boys’ pledge (in English, supplied by the Shule). Reading in Hebrew and, in particular, reading the *maftir*, requires training. The choice of a tutor is crucial to the success of your son’s Bar Mitzvah and it is important to communicate with the Rabbi and inform him of your choice before lessons commence. A list of recommended teachers is kept by the Congregation.

Name/s of intended TUTOR: _____

Next steps

1. **Complete this form** and return it to the office with the payment of a deposit (\$200).
2. **Appointment with the Rabbi** will be arranged prior to the bar mitzvah date.
3. **An interview 3 months** prior to the date, assesses preparedness. Satisfactory Unsatisfactory. Form given.
4. **Aliyot and other honours** are allocated at the discretion of the President who will endeavour to accommodate the needs of the Bar Mitzvah, Yahrzeits, Aufrufs and any other occasions relevant to the Congregation on the day. As in most Shules around the globe, people called to the Torah will typically make a pledge to make a donation to the Shule. The call-up form will offer you the option of either providing people’s addresses so that we can send them an invoice and receipt OR to accept the responsibility for people’s offerings with the bill being sent to you.
5. **The payment of the balance of Bar Mitzvah fees** (\$50 for members, \$550 for non-members) no less than 30 days before the event.
6. **You may also wish to have a kiddush** following the Shabbat service. We are able to assist you with this.

RECEPTION: THE IMPORTANCE OF KOSHER CATERING UNDER ACCEPTABLE RABBINIC SUPERVISION CANNOT BE OVERSTRESSED

SIGNATURE/S OF APPLICANTS	Date	Date
OFFICE USE:		
DATE OF BIRTH: Gregorian _____	Hebrew _____	
SEDRA: Actual _____	Offered _____	
HAPTARAH: _____	Maphtir _____	
SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES _____		

RABBI _____		