



# Building our tomorrow, today.

**“Education is the beating pulse of Jewish life and a Jewish primary school will be a blessing for generations to come.”**

**Chief Rabbi Lord Sacks**



**“The community will see blessings for generations to come.”**

## Dedicating the school to the Chief Rabbi, Lord Sacks

**Upon Morasha’s proposed move to its new permanent premises on Stanhope Road, Finchley, it will be renamed the Sacks Morasha Jewish Primary School.**

The governors and trustees of the school are delighted to associate the school with the Chief Rabbi, who has done so much for the development and expansion of



*Above: Chief Rabbi Lord Sacks with pupils at Morasha*

Jewish education.

The Chief Rabbi has taken a deep interest in Morasha since its foundation and our ethos has been guided by his focus on Jewish education.

The Chief Rabbi, upon agreeing to this proposal, said

“I am thrilled and deeply touched by this wonderful gesture. I have watched the progress of the school since its inception and am deeply impressed with its achievements and above all the warmth of its teaching and the eagerness with which the children embrace our traditional values and

customs. I am particularly moved that the new school is being built in the area in which I grew up and was educated”.

“The focal point of Jewish life has always been the transmission of a heritage across the generations. Judaism’s focus is its children. Abraham is chosen not because he is righteous but because ‘he will instruct his children and his household after him.’”



*Above: Chief Rabbi Lord Sacks meets Mayor John Marshall*

“On the brink of the exodus from Egypt, Moses does not spend time telling the Israelites about the land of milk and honey that awaits them across the Jordan. Instead he instructs them about how they should teach future generations. Three times he returns to the theme: “And when your children ask you...” “Not yet liberated, they are about to become a nation of educators. To be a Jew is to be a link in the chain of generations, to receive a heritage and to hand it on.

“This has led to a passion for Jewish education since the beginning of Jewish history. We who have grown up with Judaism are so familiar with this idea that we take it as self-evident, but it is not. It is exceptional, even unique. Where other nations built castles and cathedrals, Jews built schools and academies. It is no exaggeration to claim this as the secret of Jewish continuity and survival. I am proud to be associated with Morasha. From it, the community will see blessings for generations to come.”

“Morasha has been built with these values central to its ethos. In only three years the school has grown rapidly in size and gained an outstanding reputation for excellence in both secular and Jewish studies. Moving to the new premises is a critical step in the school’s development and I hope that those who help to make it a reality will share in the pride it will bring to the whole Jewish community.”

**Chief Rabbi Lord Sacks**

**“ I am thrilled and deeply touched by this wonderful gesture.”**



## The need

Following a lengthy process involving market research within the local community as well as a series of public meetings, Morasha opened in September 2008 with seven pupils and by September 2013 is expected to have grown to more than 145 children.



Above: Pupils of Morasha

Morasha has developed rapidly since opening its doors and has built a formidable reputation for both secular and Jewish studies. As a result, every application round has been heavily oversubscribed and all classes up until September 2012 are full with long waiting lists. This demonstrates the huge demand for the school, which is only set to increase in line with the growing young Jewish community that it serves.

There are two principal reasons for the high level of interest in the school: First, in the context of increased demand and the tightening of government rules and regulations relating to school catchment areas, there is now a shortage of places in other local Jewish primary schools.

Second, there is a demand for Morasha based on parent's attachment to its ethos and philosophy, and in particular, their desire to find a school that delivers a serious modern religious education whilst not compromising on academic results.

## Why Morasha?

**The word 'Morasha' means legacy or inheritance, and the school aims to be a source of immense pride to the community, passing on Jewish values as a living inheritance to our children. Morasha offers a vibrant, inclusive modern orthodox Jewish environment for our children, that demonstrates a commitment to Torah values with a strong positive attitude towards Israel.**

The school aims, in partnership with families and the community, to inspire our pupils with a love of Judaism and to develop them into responsible committed members of our community and society at large. In an integrated environment of both secular and Jewish academic excellence, our school nurtures and encourages all of its pupils to achieve their full potential making them reflective and effective lifelong learners.

## A school for all

The governors of Morasha believe that a Jewish education is a right and not a privilege. To paraphrase the Chief Rabbi Lord Sacks, "education is the beating pulse of Jewish life" and a Jewish primary school will be a "blessing for generations to come".

Whilst Morasha is not yet eligible for Government funding, the governors and trustees have nevertheless pledged that no one will be refused a place at Morasha because they cannot afford the fees. The Trustees have accordingly created a bursary fund to provide access to the school for families within the community irrespective of financial means.

## Integrated academic excellence

**In September 2009, Morasha had its first OFSTED inspection, which was a huge success. Morasha achieved either "Good" or "Outstanding" in all areas assessed. In addition, Morasha received an excellent moderation report from Barnet.**

OFSTED particularly praised the Early Years Foundation Stage and Jewish Learning curriculums stating "Jewish Studies underpins pupils' outstanding spiritual, moral, social and cultural development, and their outstanding behaviour. The Early Years Foundation Stage is a particular strength of the school." OFSTED also specifically commented on the extremely positive feedback they received from pupils' parents.

At the heart of what Morasha stands for is the idea that traditional Jewish life is compatible with a modern existence and, furthermore, that each can significantly enrich the other. As such, Morasha aims to put this idea into practice through the integration of Jewish and secular learning where this is compatible with the National Curriculum.

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**"Outstanding"  
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## Building our tomorrow, today.

**Morasha was established in September 2008 on a temporary site in North Finchley. It has been fantastic to see the school develop, but as expected, we have now outgrown the site.**

We are about to embark on the next exciting stage of our development - acquiring our own building that will be able to accommodate the entire school, from Reception to Year 6. The site we have identified for Morasha's new building is a former higher education college in Stanhope Road, North Finchley and as such has existing planning permission for educational purposes ('D1'). The site is currently vacant and, subject to planned refurbishment and building works, we hope to move in by September 2012.

We have already instructed architects (with extensive experience in the design of Jewish schools) to ensure that the building complies with both the regulations for a voluntary aided school as well as the particular needs of a Jewish primary school and they are partnering with us to design an outstanding facility for our children that will create an environment conducive to achieving both secular and Jewish academic excellence. We have already initiated discussions with Barnet Council to obtain voluntary-aided status, and are hopeful that we will be able to formally apply in the latter half of 2012.

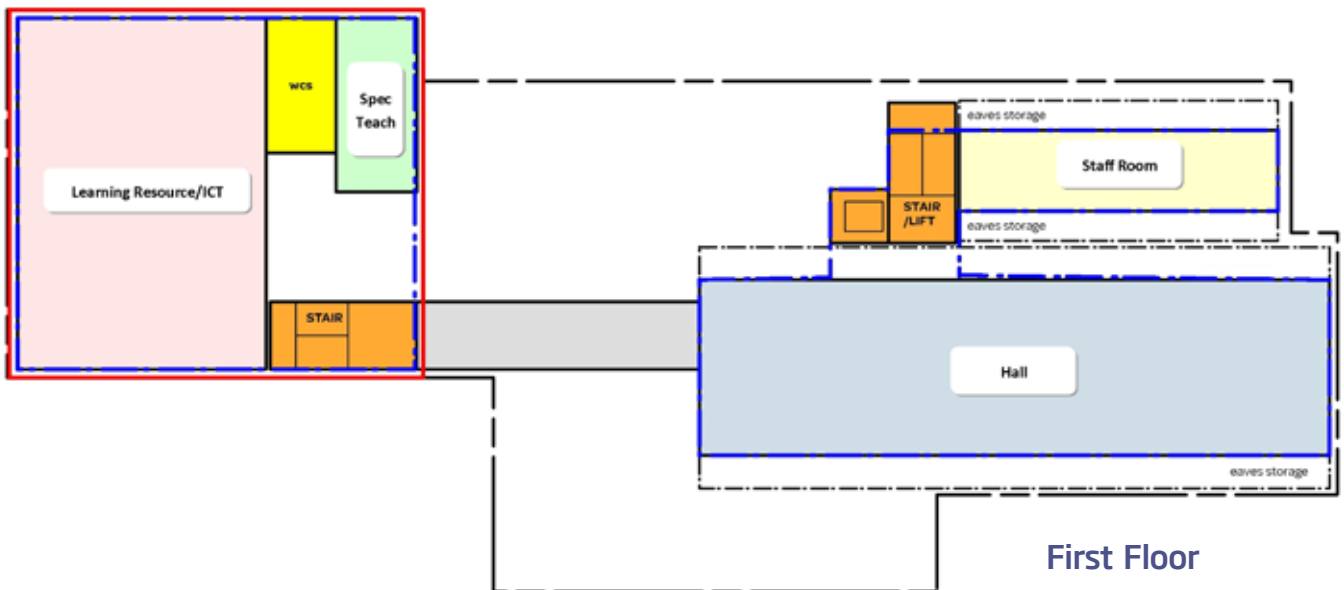
In undertaking the planned purchase and renovation of this particular site, and in light of the current economic climate, the trustees and governors of Morasha have been mindful of the need to keep capital costs to a minimum, whilst ensuring that we create first-rate academic premises and facilities for Morasha's children.

**"The future of our school is the future of our community. We cannot grow our school and community without you. Please, join us, build with us and grow with us."**

Working closely together with our architects, we are exploring a two-phased re-development of the campus that will build premises in line with modern educational requirements, matched to our capital fundraising campaign, which will create a single form entry Jewish primary school on one site. The anticipated total purchase, re-development and building costs involved with this project will be in the region of £3-4 million which we expect will enable us to achieve a fully functioning, Jewish primary school at the heart of our community.



# Floor Plans



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Finchley Jewish Primary School Trust

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