



From Generation to Generation

Welcome to
Edgware & Hendon Reform Synagogue
We would love to see you coming through our doors

Membership Information Brochure



118 Stonegrove, Edgware, Middlesex, HA8 8AB
Telephone: 020 8238 1000 Email: admin@ehrs.uk Web: www.ehrs.uk
Charity:1172458 Company:10622971



Edgware & Hendon
Reform Synagogue
ק"ק לדור ודור

Our Doors Are Open

Edgware & Hendon Reform is a synagogue that knows the idea of a 'local' shul has taken on new meaning. Our community is the spiritual home of people from the streets around 118 Stonegrove and further afield - places like Watford, St Albans, Shenley, Finchley and Moor Park. We know that what matters most is not proximity, but connection: with one another, with our tradition, and with our spiritual and learning selves. We are proud of our links with Reform Judaism and we celebrate our members making religious choices that strengthen their Jewish identities. This booklet will give you some information about our community and the kinds of services we provide. We encourage you to see this document as an invitation for dialogue with our Rabbis, our chair and our Community Care team. Our team love meeting new people and we can't wait to hear your story.

What Does Membership Mean?

That depends on you! As a member of EHRS, your rabbis will be on hand to help you celebrate lifecycle events including baby blessings, Bar/Bat Mitzvah and weddings. They will also provide care and support during illness and officiate at funerals. Our Community Care team will help you navigate difficult challenges in life and act as a resource for connecting you with charities and organizations that can provide extra support. Our Youth Centre provides activities and schemes for school age children and our Education team oversees Orot, our religion school. A monthly magazine, LeDor VaDor, ensures you stay up to date with all our exciting educational and cultural learning sessions and events and a weekly email, Our Week Ahead, gives you weekly notices on our current events. If a leadership role piques your interest, whether it be service taking, teaching, or joining a committee or council, membership is a great way to start on that journey. For some, attending weekly services is not their preferred way to feel Jewishly engaged. At EHRS, we honour and appreciate those who find spiritual fulfilment in volunteering and doing good works for the wider community. We have a dedicated group of men and women who act as befrienders, helping to alleviate the loneliness and isolation of some of our older members. Our Community Centre is part of the Together in Barnet homeless shelter scheme, providing a safe place to sleep and meals for the most vulnerable in our borough. Teens volunteer their time to mentor younger children as they go through the Bar and Bat Mitzvah practice. Perhaps the most incredible mitzvah of them all is performed by our Chevra Kadisha group - those who prepare our loved ones for burial.

Learning is an essential part of Jewish life, and at EHRS we recognize that we are all at different levels. Our Jewish information class Cornerstone at Stonegrove is for those who are new to Judaism and for those who are returning and looking for a refresher. Hebrew and Yiddish are taught throughout the year. Our rabbis are accomplished educators whose passion for Jewish life is sure to inspire you. Please be in touch with them to hear more about what they have on offer now! Most importantly, our Synagogue relies on membership income to do its meaningful work and by becoming a member, you become a part of sustaining Reform Jewish life in North West London and beyond.

During Covid 19

The Coronavirus Pandemic has changed so much about life as we know it. That's why it's all the more meaningful for us that you've reached out to become a member. Your membership fees will enable us to continue supporting the many families in our community who find themselves dealing with grief, income loss, isolation, illness and stress. During this time, our synagogue has been guided by two integral Jewish teachings: **דִּינָא דְּמַלְכוּתָא דִּינָא** (dina d'malchuta dina) and **פְּקוּחַ נֶפֶשׁ** (pikuach nefesh). The first teaches that the law of the land is the law; in other words, we will abide the guidance provided by our government. This has meant limiting the numbers of people allowed to attend our services in our Synagogue building, at funerals and at shivas. We follow these rules because we truly believe that doing so enables us to uphold this second teaching: that we must do all we can if it means the saving of a life. As the government's policies change, we will evolve with them.

Even with restrictions, we are proud of what we have been able to accomplish:

Shabbat Services have continued online through Zoom and our EHRS livestream with a limited number being able to book in person attendance, Kuddle-Up Shabbat for children under 6 is continuing weekly on Zoom and monthly in person, nearly a hundred members volunteered to phone members in their areas enabling us to set up our Circles of Support groups, international learning groups have established new relationships between EHRS & Synagogues in the wider Reform world, Reform Synagogues across the United Kingdom joined together for Yom HaShoah, we have celebrated several young men and women becoming Bar and Bat Mitzvah, a weekly late evening Friday Night Candle lighting, song and discussion session has been started, funerals and shivas have been conducted in ways that ensure everyone is safe and able to participate. Covid-19 has not dimmed our enthusiasm for outreach; rather, it has given us the opportunity to meet the challenge with creative solutions.



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Our Vision

Edgware and Hendon Reform Synagogue is a vibrant welcoming community. We are a congregation that values tradition, belief and practice while responding to the challenges of modern life.

EHRS' vision is to be a community which:

- offers a variety of activities aimed at meeting the diverse religious, cultural, social and educational needs of our members
- supports its own members and works for the good of the local community, Israel and the world as a whole
- is committed to Jewish learning, both for its own sake and that of the wider community around it
- celebrates what makes Judaism enriching and relevant to the lives of our members
- actively engages in interfaith dialogue and shows respect to others and their communities upholds the teachings of Torah and works for equality, truth, justice and peace

About EHRS

The opening of the Northern Line to Edgware in 1924, and subsequently the extension of the Bakerloo Line to Stanmore in 1932 set the seal on the future of Edgware as an area of population growth. In the 1920s and early '30s there was a steady increase in both the general population and the Jewish inhabitants of Edgware and Stanmore, and by 1930 several hundred Jewish families were living in the area. On November 1st 1934 thirteen dissatisfied members of the recently established Edgware United Synagogue decided to form a club which would in itself be a stepping stone to a new congregation.

A temporary committee was formed and the next three months saw a furious rate of activity. Committee meetings were held every few days, a variety of problems being addressed. At an early stage it was agreed that the new body would be called "Edgware and District Progressive Jewish Fellowship". At that time the only Reform congregations in London were the West London Synagogue in Upper Berkeley Street and the North Western Reform Synagogue in Golders Green. The West London Synagogue and its minister, Rabbi Reinhart, had been very helpful in advising the Edgware committee about setting up an independent synagogue, and in December 1934 Rabbi Reinhart had addressed a public meeting in Edgware on "The Problems of Judaism Today". In January 1935 the West London Synagogue offered practical help by way of taking the Edgware children into its religion classes, without charge, provided that the children could be delivered and collected. Matters approached a climax during the first week of February 1935. Discussions had been held with officials at West London Synagogue on the practices of Reform, and the new body in Edgware decided to become a part of the Reform movement. On February 12th 1935 it was formally decided to form a synagogue to be called "Edgware and District Reform Synagogue".

Hendon Reform Synagogue was founded in 1949 by a group of hardworking and dedicated families wishing to create a Reform Community in Hendon. In the beginning, meetings were held in the homes of the founder members until the first synagogue, which became the Kingsley Fisher Hall [named after founders Sidney Kingsley and Ben Fisher] was built several years later. Services were held in the Methodist Meeting Hall in the Burroughs and as the congregation grew, in other local halls whilst they dreamt of having their own building. In 1950 a disused tennis club became available and was purchased for the sum of £2,600 with funds raised from donations and social events, and at last this small congregation had a plot on which to place a building. Work was completed in 1955 and a consecration service for the new synagogue building was held on 6 March by the late Rabbi Dr Arthur Katz who had been Minister from the "dream's" beginning.

The congregation soon outgrew the original building and so after a further programme for fundraising, construction of the annexe which became the synagogue began in 1965. Two inspiring walls of stained glass windows were commissioned and then offered to congregants to donate in memory of their late loved ones.

These magnificent windows depicting both Judaica and biblical scenes together with the marble walls surrounding the hand made Ark provided the warm and serene backdrop of the synagogue. A consecration service took place on 14 January 1968 attended by 500 people.

The inaugural service of the merged EHRS was held on 15 July, 2017.

Our Rabbinical Team

Rabbi Mark Goldsmith is Senior Rabbi at Edgware and Hendon Reform Synagogue. Before joining EHRS in 2019, Mark served Alyth Synagogue in Golders Green from his appointment as Principal Rabbi in 2006, Finchley Progressive Synagogue from 1999-2006 and Woodford Progressive Synagogue from 1996-1999. He gained Semichah (rabbinic ordination) from Leo Baeck College in London where he is now lecturer in Jewish Life Cycle and Homiletics. He was Chair of the Assembly of Reform Rabbis UK from 2011-2013 and Chair of the Rabbinic Conference of Liberal Judaism from 2004-2006.



Mark's study passion is Jewish Business Ethics. He holds a degree in Management Science from the University of Manchester. He has written and taught on the topic over the past 20 years and served on the Executive Committee of the International Interfaith Investment Group since its foundation, aiming to encourage faith organisations and their members to invest their assets in accord with the values of their faiths. He loves working with and getting to know people. He is sure that it is the connection and healthy relationships between diverse people of all generations that is the bedrock of Jewish community. This, for him, is the most important aspect of EHRS. "This synagogue's strength is the commitment and empowerment of its volunteers and the deep and strong relationships between people who have got to know each other through EDRS or HRS and now form one community, making a difference to the Jewish world and their own lives, supported by Jewish values, teaching and practice."

Rabbi Mark is married to Nicola, who is a Hand Therapist, a specialisation of Occupational Therapy, and is President of the International Federation of Societies for Hand Therapy. They have two daughters, Alice and Miriam.

Rabbi Debbie Young-Somers grew up down the road in Radlett, and attending RSY's Shemesh every summer. She went to university as far away from a Jewish community as she could find, in Lancaster, where she majored in Religious Studies, focussing on Hinduism and Judaism. She ended up running the JSoc, setting up a 5 way dialogue society and half way through her studies realised what many others had suggested years before, that she wanted to be a Rabbi.



After working as Student Fieldworker for RSGB, studying at The European Centre for Jewish Studies in Stockholm and working for the Council of Christian & Jews, she began her studies at Leo Baeck College, where today she is a lecturer on Religion and Dialogue.

She wrote her final thesis on What women have done with Niddah, and is known for her creative Mikveh liturgies. She is also co-chair of the Mikveh Project UK's education and liturgy group. She received semichah in 2009 and was part of the Rabbinic team at WLS until 2013, when she joined Reform Judaism as their Community Educator, where among other things she produced a new National curriculum for conversion courses. She has been published in several books ranging from interfaith topics to liturgy. She is a regular broadcaster on Radio 2's Pause for Thought, news reviews on BBC London and BBC 3 Counties Radio (where she recently hosted the Sunday Breakfast for a year). She is married to Gary (who is a rabbi in his own right, qualified to answer questions on kashrut) and they are tired parents to Eliana, 7, and Michah, 4.

Rabbi Mati Kirschenbaum was born in Wroclaw, a city in South-West Poland, to a family that hide their Jewishness due to post-war antisemitism in this country. Mati reclaimed his family's Jewish heritage in his teens, becoming an active member of the Jewish community in Warsaw, where he studied international economics. Mati's communal engagement motivated him to choose a career of a Jewish professional; while at university he worked as a coordinator of a training programme for Polish Jewish community activists.

The joy he drew from teaching combined with Mati's passion for communal life motivated him to pursue the rabbinate. Having trained for the rabbinate in Germany and Israel, Rabbi Mati received his rabbinic ordination from the Leo Baeck College in July 2020.

Upon ordination, Rabbi Mati served as a Rabbi at Bromley Reform Synagogue in South-East London. Rabbi Mati joined EHRS in November 2021.

Rabbi Mati loves long walks and believes they are a great way of connecting to Judaism. He looks forward to exploring local nature (and Judaism!) with you.



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Synagogue Services

As well as in person attendance, some of our services are available online using the EHRS Livestream through the website, Zoom and Facebook Live. For Service Zoom details please refer to 'Our Week Ahead' emails, or email admin@ehrs.uk

To book in person attendance, please go to the calendar section of the website, and select the date and service you wish to attend.

If you are not able to use the website, then please call the EHRS office on 020 8238 1000.

Erev Shabbat

Kuddle-Up Shabbat Service: Every Friday 16:15 - 16:45

Join our Rabbis and the Shabbat dinosaur for Shabbat stories and songs.
Best for younger children.

Erev Shabbat Service: Every Friday 18:30

followed by Kiddush

Friday Night Lights: Monthly at 20:00

Join our Rabbis on Erev Shabbat for a warm and friendly candle lighting and Shabbat songs.

Shabbat Morning

First Shabbat Shiur: Monthly 9:15-10:15

Our Shiurim are on all kinds of areas of Jewish life.

Bite of Torah: Monthly 9:15-10:15

Learn Torah with our Rabbis at these sessions, which are full of new insights that bring Torah to life.

Shabbat Morning Service: Every Saturday at 10:30

followed by Kiddush.

Shabbat Club: Every Saturday 11:15-12:15

A Shabbat experience for up to 11 year olds to enjoy Parasha and Shabbat themed activities, stories and songs. Finishes in time to join the community for Kiddush.

Parallel Shabbat Services: Our parallel services such as HaKol B'Seder, Healing Service, Shabbat for the Soul, Cornerstone, and Shabbat BaBayit will also occur from time to time in addition to the regular Shabbat Morning Service.

Sunday Service

Sunday Shacharit: A short Service is held weekly at 9.30

Those saying Kaddish are especially invited.

*****Festival Services** held throughout the year are indicated in our LeDor VaDor magazine as well as in the weekly 'Our Week Ahead' email.***



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Groups at EHRS

Together Groups

EHRS Together Groups are all about making our congregation of over 3000 people a place where we know each other and are can find people who share their interests. It's a great way of making sure that more and more of our members find the people within the Synagogue that we would especially enjoy getting to know.

The idea is this: your synagogue supports our members in creating groups, which could be as few as five or six people or as many as twenty-five to thirty, around any interest or topic that sits alongside the values of the Synagogue. They could be shared care groups or interest groups. They could be groups to help meet a challenge. They could be groups just for fun. They could be learning groups. The principle is that they are led by members of the Synagogue with the support of the Synagogue staff team to get started, get out to members and find resources.

Together groups are a natural way of bringing our community together, person by person and helping our Synagogue to be more and more. It is a way of building great relationships in our lives with people we do know and with people we don't.

Types of groups we currently have on offer are:

Bereavement, Coffee & Chat, Cook-a-Longs, Foraging, Israeli Dancing, Let's Talk - An EHRS Mental Health Initiative, Rabbi Kraft Memorial Book Club, Rambling, Rosh Chodesh, Schmoozing with the Rabbis, Singing Circle, Talmud Class, Whiskey Tasting.

Please go to www.ehrs.uk/togethergroups on the EHRS website for more details.

Activities and groups within EHRS are:

- All Things Jewish (Adult Education)
- Bar & Bat Mitzvah Classes
- Bereavement Support Group
- Bridge Club
- Chevra Kadisha
- Cornerstone
- Environmental Action Team
- Football
- Interfaith Group
- JACS
- Nagila Pre-School
- New Options (Activities for the over 60's)
- Not The Women's Guild
- Orot (Religion School Classes)
- Security Volunteer Group
- Social Action Group
- Uniformed Groups (Beavers, Cubs, Scouts, Brownies)
- Community Care (Monthly Lunch Club, Memory Way)
- Young Adults
- Young Families
- Youth Centre (Holiday Play Schemes & special events)
- Yoga

Committees & affiliated organisations of EHRS:

- Board of Deputies
- Communication Advisory Group
- Community Contact
- Employment Support Group
- Friends of YCC
- House Committee
- Reform Judaism
- Twinned Communities Odessa & Belarus
- UJIA

For information about any of our events and activities please contact the Synagogue or visit our website

**020 8238 1000 - admin@ehrs.uk - www.ehrs.uk
118 Stonegrove, Edgware, Middx, HA8 8AB**

Community Care

At EHRS we strive to support all our members to the best of our ability and resources. While joining with our members in happy occasions, we also recognise that difficult situations can affect all of us at some time in our lives and we aim to be a first port-of-call if that occurs. The wellbeing of our community is of paramount importance and we encourage our members to look out for the welfare of each other.

We employ a professional Community Care Practitioner, Val Joseph, who operates a confidential helpline with a dedicated telephone number and she is assisted by Marissa Rosenthal and anyone can call them and be assured of strict confidentiality. If they are not available when you call you can leave a message and they will call you back as soon as possible.

Monthly Lunch Club, monthly at 13:30

Community Care at EHRS has pleasure in inviting you to join our Monthly Lunch Club. With a friendly and welcoming atmosphere, you will have the chance to connect with others and feel a greater sense of belonging to our wonderful community. Booking in advance is essential, cost £8.



Memory Way Café, monthly 14:00-16:00

This monthly social group is for people living with dementia together with their family carers. Every month we will offer a warm and welcoming environment, support & advice, and of course tea and cake. A donation of £2 per person will be greatly appreciated.



Let's Talk - An EHRS Mental Health Initiative

If you would like to speak to a mental health trained volunteer on a confidential 1:1 basis, please contact us at letstalk@ehrs.uk. If you need help with more specific advice and support please contact us at letstalk@ehrs.uk



Coffee & Chat, fortnightly on Wednesdays, 10:30-12:00

Our tea and coffee mornings take place in the EHRS lounge every second and fourth Wednesday of the month for those on their own who would like to meet others in the same situation.



Bereavement Group

Have you suffered the loss of a partner, relative or friend? Would you welcome the opportunity to meet others who can understand how you are feeling? We have a Bereavement Support Group which offers reassurance and comfort through the depth of shared experience.



We are always looking for welfare volunteers to work with children, youth and the elderly. Please let us know if this is something that interests you.

If you or someone you know would like to talk to us, please contact the Community Care Department, on 020 8238 1013 or email communitycare@ehrs.uk

Some activities have returned in person, whilst others currently take place online. For more information on what is taking place due to Covid-19 restrictions, please call Val or Marissa on 020 8238 1013

Jewish Education

Children's Education

We have a vibrant children's education programme called **Orot** (lights) with over 100 children who meet every **Sunday morning at 9:45**. Orot has been described as the 'best in the area'. Our success is measured by the many young people who continue with us after Bar or Bat mitzvah to complete High School or GCSE and then become teaching assistants and teachers. We try to approach education holistically by encouraging and fostering the relationship between Orot, the Youth Centre, Young Families, RSY Netzer, uniform groups and Jewish cultural activities, such as trips to places of interest that enrich the Jewish experiences of our young members. If you are thinking about sending your child to Orot, you are very welcome to come to visit us and your child to join a class to try us out.

Bar/Bat Mitzvah

Having had an interview with Rabbi Mark approx 2 years before their 13th birthday, each child starts to prepare for their Bar/Bat Mitzvah 4 terms before their celebration date. Each child is assigned a 1:1 tutor who will meet them weekly to teach them to read and leyn their Torah portion, Haftarah, and/or Shacharit service.

We have Bnei Mitzvah classes with approximately 45 students preparing for their Bar/Bat Mitzvah yearly. We are especially recognised for the individual and sensitive way we respond to children with special needs. We believe in making it possible for every child to have a Bar/Bat Mitzvah celebration where they will feel proud of what they have achieved whatever their ability. We have a regular attendees at our monthly Torah breakfast especially held for B'nei Mitzvah families and we hold regular Shabbat services for all ages. We regularly welcome non-Jewish schools in to learn about what a synagogue is and what happens here such as our festivals, as well as teaching about what happened in the Holocaust as part of our Holocaust Memorial Day events.

For more information please contact education@ehrs.uk or call 020 8238 1014

Adult Education

EHRS' All Things Jewish committee put on an array of events that cater to many different interests. Our comprehensive adult education programme ensures that further learning can be not only fun but even leave you wanting more.

It's not all about Jewish learning, we pride ourselves on offering our members the chance to unwind with entertainment nights, EHRS EveryJew Cinema, Stonegrove Serenade -

Music for the Community, interactive cookery demonstrations, talks by fascinating speakers and we are even responsible for the popular annual EHRS Awards where we honour those in our community who have made a difference in society.

There really is something for everybody, so why not explore the great range of upcoming events we've got planned. Don't forget, we can get pretty booked up so make sure you sign up nice and early if something appeals to you.

For more information please visit our page on the website www.ehrs.uk/atj or email us at atj@ehrs.uk.



Cornerstone

Cornerstone, our introduction to Judaism course is open to everyone in the community, and those exploring conversion.

Our Cornerstone programme is open to any member of the community wanting to deepen their Jewish knowledge, as well as those exploring conversion and non-Jewish partners wanting to learn more about creating a Jewish home. Join us for prayer-book Hebrew (in 3 streams

from beginners to intermediate) 19:00-19:45, and/or for Jewish Studies 20:00-21:30, Tuesday evenings during term time. Each term also features an explanatory Shabbat Service which the whole congregation is warmly invited to.

For more information please email rabbi.debbie@ehrs.uk



Young Families, Youth & Young Adults

Young Families

Our Young Families programme runs events, groups and support for you and your little ones. Get involved to give your little ones a taste of our wonderfully welcoming & fun family events, a fantastic opportunity to meet other young Jewish Families. We work closely with our Education Director, Youth Workers, Nagila nursery and of course our Rabbis to make every meeting special for the whole family.

Our regular activities include:

Shabbat Stay & Play, Friday mornings

Kuddle Up Shabbat, Friday afternoons

Shabbat Club, Saturday mornings

Other activities we offer throughout the year:

Chumash Babies, a sensory Shabbat experience for babies and their families

Into the Woods, Building Sulkat Shalom (shelters of peace)

Mitzvah Day Tea Party

Tea & Tots

Chagim celebration parties

Please visit www.ehrs.uk/youngfamilies, the EHRS Young Families Facebook Page or contact youngfamilies@ehrs.uk/020 8238 1025



EHRS Youth Centre

Our youth centre offers children the space to express themselves and have fun in a safe and structured Reform Jewish environment. EHRSYC is run by our Youth Worker, who along with a dedicated and trained team of volunteers, bring activities for everyone no matter their age. There are so many activities for all age groups throughout the year from weekly to one off, at EHRS and off site. With a large space and great equipment we are able to create whatever atmosphere we desire. Festivals have a big effect on us with our Sukkah decorating, Chanukah and Purim parties, Shavuot celebrations and Family Fun Days.

An annual Pesach Play Scheme, Kaytana & Kadima Summer Scheme & other half term schemes are also run by the Youth Centre for all those aged 5 - 14. During some schemes we offer day trips and bring in specialist entertainers. For those in School Year 9 and upwards, we run a 2 year Hadracha course, training young people to work within EHRS clubs, play schemes and religion school. The course covers various aspects of youth work & leadership.

For more information please visit www.ehrs.uk/youthcentre, the EHRS Youth & Education Facebook Page or contact youth@ehrs.uk/020 8238 1024



Young Adults

Young adults form a vital part of Jewish communities, however it can sometimes feel hard to find what you are looking for within synagogue life. At EHRS, we have created a friendly and vibrant group that meets to learn and try something new. Try our Beer and Shiur sessions or our Cook-a-longs led by Rabbi Debbie.

Past Shiur discussions have been on the topics of 'The Challenge of Choseness – is it a blessing or a curse?', Is Mikveh really for Everyone?, Teshuva in the Movies, "MeToo & Dina, Will the real Chanukah Story please stand up?

Past Cook-a-Long's have included Shavuot cheesecakes, Vegan dishes, Chinese fakeaway, fresh pasta, Chollah making, Tu B'Shevat Seder and cocktails & ice-cream.

Got an idea for an evening's activity? Be in touch with Rabbi Debbie rabbi.debbie@ehrs.uk and become part of making it happen!

Visit our Facebook page EHRS Young Adults or the website www.ehrs.uk/youngadults



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Nagila Pre-School



At Nagila we offer a safe, secure and stimulating setting in which pre-school children are free to develop to their full potential, in a friendly and nurturing environment. We provide a developmentally appropriate curriculum which encompasses the Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum as set down by the Department of Education.

The Early Years Foundation Stage covers the ages 0–5, and continues through the Reception Year at full time school, which prepares children to move onto Key Stage 1 when they reach school age. Research shows that children who have attended pre-school are at an advantage in school work when they are tested at the age of seven.

There are seven areas of learning covered.

Three prime areas of learning: Personal, Social and Emotional Development, Communication and Language, and Physical Development

Then four specific areas of learning build on the prime areas: Literacy, Mathematics, Understanding the World, and Expressive Arts & Design

We provide a range of stimulating materials and activities. Activities include water, sand, clay, painting, singing, drama, nature, cooking, dancing, musical appreciation, woodwork and crafts, which are all provided on a regular basis. Letter and number work form part of everyday activities and routines, which helps to develop the children's understanding of numeric concepts and literacy skills.

For older children these areas are also addressed more formally to cover early mathematics and pre-reading and pre-writing work.

The children's awareness of their Jewish heritage is encouraged in a number of ways. They learn about all major festivals, and end each week with a Shabbat celebration.

We encourage the children to be kind and helpful to other children, and to be creative and active themselves. We aim to prepare children for their entry to primary school so that they leave us as confident, happy children, keen to learn and absorb knowledge, and socially ready and mature to fit into the new social group at their school. Parents are considered partners and recognised as the most important educators of their own children.

Children can start Nagila from the age of 2. In order to help your child feel more confident with us, we invite children who are offered a place to visit us with a parent prior to starting and we also like to visit you and your child at home.

We are delighted to announce that we now offer extended hours in a newly refurbished space.

Monday – Thursday 07:45 –17:30 and Friday 07:45–12:00

Please visit www.nagila.org.uk or contact nagila@ehrs.uk/020 8238 1022



Nagila is registered with the Borough of Barnet, complies fully with the requirements of The Children Act, and has been rated as an Outstanding Provider by Ofsted three times, most recently 2019.

Jewish Joint Burial Society

The JJBS is the provider of funerals for Edgware & Hendon Reform Synagogue.

People try to avoid even thinking about funeral arrangements especially if they are younger. However EHRS like most synagogues has to deal with all aspects of Jewish life for their members and part of membership of our community is contributing to the Burial Fund run in conjunction with our partner JJBS (Jewish Joint Burial Society).

This organisation has been established for nearly fifty years and was originally a grouping of Reform Synagogues, but is now responsible for some Masorti and Liberal congregations mainly in London but with some affiliates around the country.

The JJBS is the main user of the Western Cemetery near Cheshunt at which the Society has made major investments to provide a dignified and attractive facility. As well as burials there is an alternative cremation choice which members can select when joining EHRS. All members are eligible for standard cover of their future funeral costs. This is a compulsory part of EHRS membership.

Applicants aged over fifty years old are required to pay an additional one off charge calculated on a sliding scale according to age. This does not apply if membership is being transferred from another JJBS community.



Concerned about the environment?

As a forward looking organisation JJBS acknowledges the social and demographic changes in Jewish society as well as the environmental concerns we all have. In that respect, the Society has taken the positive step of establishing an alternative natural **Woodland Cemetery** adjacent to the main cemetery.

This is the first Jewish Woodland facility in Britain and only the second in Europe, answering the need for a more ecologically sound and a more natural solution for the environment that still conforms to Jewish religious practices.*

I'm Jewish my partner is not.

A further new development at JJBS is the recognition that there are an increasing number of marriages and partnerships, sometimes long standing, where one of the partners is not Jewish and therefore not able to have a funeral at the same place as their partner. Here again the JJBS have recognised this need and have designated areas in the Woodland Cemetery for either a woodland or a lawn burial for non-Jewish partners. To meet this inclusivity initiative there is now an option for the non-Jewish partner to be welcomed as an associate partner affiliate of EHRS paying the same JJBS annual fee as a full member would and getting the same benefit as their Jewish partner.

There can be variations that apply according to circumstances and advice from one of our team should confirm how this matter would affect your membership application.

**The Woodland option can be chosen when joining EHRS or at any time later.
An additional onetime fee to JJBS is then applicable.*

The Jewish Joint Burial Society, 1 Victory Road, Wanstead, E11 1UL, 020 8989 5252

Contact Details



Edgware & Hendon Reform Synagogue

118 Stonegrove, Edgware,

Middlesex HA8 8AB

Telephone: 020 8238 1000

Email: admin@ehrs.uk

Web: www.ehrs.uk

For more information about membership of EHRS, or any of our events and activities
please contact the Synagogue or visit our website

The reception office is open at the following times:

Monday to Thursday

9:30 – 17:00

Fridays

9:30 – 15:00

Eve of Festivals

9:30 – 13:00

Sundays

10:00 – 12:30

