

OVERVIEW OF ROLE - PINNER RABBI

As the Rabbi of the Community you will, within the limits set by the Halacha, as interpreted by the Chief Rabbi as the Ecclesiastical Authority of the United Synagogue, act as the authority on religious issues for the community abiding by and upholding the constitution, tradition and usages of the United Synagogue.

You are expected to actively and enthusiastically promote and encourage membership of the Community and to represent the Community to its members in a pastoral capacity, attending to their and their family's religious, Jewish educational, spiritual and emotional needs. This includes playing an active role in tending to the welfare needs of the sick, poor and otherwise disadvantaged in the Community.

It is expected that you will take an active and leading role in social, cultural, educational and welfare groups within the Community, formulating and delivering programmes of educational activity for families and for the general adult membership of the Community, designed to broaden and deepen their knowledge and commitment to a wide spectrum of Jewish knowledge, understanding and activity. Equally, by conspicuous leadership, open dialogue and personal involvement, you will assist, encourage, strengthen and support teenage youth of whatever level of commitment to develop a true understanding of traditional Judaism and to identify with the Anglo-Jewish community.

You are required to play a full part in all Religious Services in the Synagogue, and to ensure, in consultation with the local Honorary Officers, that these services are conducted within the Laws and Bye-laws of the United Synagogue.

Additionally you should encourage and reinforce the Community's identification and links with the State and People of Israel through personal commitment and involvement at both communal and religious levels within and beyond the local Community.

Your accountability in relation to the above responsibilities will in all religious matters be to the Chief Rabbi, and in respect of all other affairs of the Community directly to your line Manager who will normally be acting in conjunction with local committees depending on the circumstances.

Needless to say, you will devote the whole of your working time and attention to your duties and will not engage or be concerned in any other employment or activity of whatever nature without prior written consent of your Line Manager. Within this context you are expected to support local community and United Synagogue fundraising activities and projects to the exclusion of others.

JOB DESCRIPTION

JOB TITLE: Community Rabbi at Pinner United Synagogue

1 MAIN PURPOSE OF JOB

To provide religious and spiritual leadership to the Pinner United Synagogue community

2 POSITION IN ORGANISATION

Reports to: Chair, or the person nominated by the Chair of Pinner Synagogue;
Chief Rabbi (functional)

3 SCOPE OF JOB

Pinner United Synagogue is a large community with a diverse membership and ambition to maintain its current membership, increase their engagement in all aspects of the community and expand its numbers if reasonably possible. There is scope to build on the facilities available locally: The Moriah Jewish Day School, the proximity to JFS, children's services for all age groups and youth activities on a shabbat. There are outstanding social services provided by Pinner Care, and a flourishing organised social scene.

The synagogue employs one administrator, two caretakers, two shabbat workers (until March 2019) and a welfare co-ordinator. The Rabbi will work alongside these employees to further the aims of the synagogue, to connect with existing members and attract new members to the shul. The Rabbi shall work closely with the Honorary Officers and the Board of Management in the running of the synagogue in all its aspects and shall minister to all congregants regardless of religious belief or practice.

4 DUTIES & RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Must be committed to the ethos, customs and practices of the United Synagogue under the authority of the Office of the Chief Rabbi.

5 Services

1. To attend and play a full part in all religious services in the synagogue, teaching the appropriate attitude to prayer by example; to lead services as required, using modern Hebrew pronunciation, to leyn frequently, to maintain the customs and practices of the United Synagogue relating to services, and to ensure that all services are conducted in accordance with the requirements of the lay leadership acting within the by-laws of the United Synagogue.
2. To actively and enthusiastically represent the synagogue to its members in a

pastoral capacity, attending to the religious, spiritual and emotional needs of members of the community and their families at all times.

3. To officiate at Bar and Batmitzvot, weddings, levoyas, shivas and tombstone consecrations, whenever possible.
4. To deliver engaging, motivational, topical and well-prepared sermons on Shabbat and Yomtov of appropriate length that educate, inform, challenge and inspire members of the congregation.

6 Religious Education and Instruction

1. To act as the authority on religious issues for the Pinner United Synagogue Community within the limits set by Halacha and the United Synagogue constitution.
2. To support and encourage members of the community in developing greater knowledge and understanding of Judaism, Halacha, Jewish traditions and practice, and Israel through acting as a role-model and through dialogue, education and personal involvement
3. In conjunction with key personnel and relevant Synagogue committees, to develop support and implement youth and children's services, religious, educational and social programmes for the children and teenagers of the community, including courses leading to recognised qualifications and post Bar and Bat Mitzvah activities.
4. In conjunction with the leadership of Pinner as required to assist the hub cheder activities attended by children of members to achieve its goals.
5. In conjunction with the relevant committee of the Board of Management and the lay leadership, to develop and implement initiatives for young adults at University, away from home and living in Pinner so as to maintain their links and involvement with the community.
6. In conjunction with the relevant committee of the Board of Management and the lay leadership, to take an active and leading role in formulating and delivering programmes of an educational nature for the general adult membership of the community, designed to broaden and deepen their knowledge and commitment to a broad spectrum of Jewish knowledge, understanding and activity, for example, delivering Shiurim to various groups. In particular, to develop and deliver a regular and frequent text based shiur and also a regular and frequent shiur designed for those with a lesser level of religious knowledge. Further, to encourage and promote the pre-existing programme of Dvar Torahs on Shabbat and the weekday S.E.E.D programme.

7 Pastoral Activities

1. In conjunction with the relevant committee of the Board of Management and the lay leadership, to play an active role in tending to the social and welfare needs of members of the community.

2. In pastoral activities, to actively and enthusiastically represent the synagogue to its members. This includes attending to all of the religious, spiritual and emotional needs of members and their families. Whilst this will clearly include all aspects of bereavement, e.g. funerals, shivas and stone settings, the community also places a high priority on tending to the welfare needs of the sick (at home or hospital), the housebound, poor and otherwise disadvantaged in the community. Similarly the social integration of the Rabbi into the community is seen as a high priority for both the Rabbi and the community and to assist with this the Rabbi should develop a programme and habit of both entertaining members in his home on Shabbat and festivals and being entertained by members in their homes.

8 Extra-Communal Activities

1. In conjunction with the relevant committee of the Board of Management and the lay leadership, to encourage and reinforce the community's identification and links with the State and people of Israel through personal commitment and involvement at both communal and religious level within and beyond the Pinner Jewish Community.
2. To play a prominent and visible role in the social, cultural, charitable, educational and welfare groups and activities within the community and where appropriate in the wider community, including local Jewish welfare organisations and liaison with the Moriah Jewish Day School and other Jewish Schools.
3. To represent the synagogue where appropriate at civic or interfaith activities.
4. To undertake such other duties in support of the above accountabilities, including participation in Synagogue committees, as and when requested by the lay leadership of the community.
5. At all times, to uphold and maintain the ethos of the Pinner United Synagogue community and the wider United Synagogue.
6. To represent the Pinner United Synagogue Community at appropriate forums within the local, United Synagogue and wider Jewish community as and when required.
7. To undertake any other activity, or assume any other responsibility that would reasonably be expected of a Community Rabbi.

9 QUALITY & OPERATIONAL STANDARDS

Quality assurance is an essential component of this post. Support and supervision meetings will take place at least quarterly to provide support to the Rabbi. In the first year these meetings may be more frequent. At these meetings quality measures will be agreed with the Rabbi together with the half year objectives.

These could include quantitative measures such as

- number of events organised (shiurim etc)
- numbers attending
- range of activities
- repeat visitors
- New members at synagogue

The Rabbi will be expected to produce monthly reports for the Board of Management. The report will include a report on the activities in the previous month, and a plan for the future month. Expenses will be detailed and should be agreed with the financial representative in advance.

10 OTHER

You will be expected in undertaking the above role to comply with any policies and procedures that United Synagogue may issue.

Any other reasonable duty as may be assigned that is consistent with the nature of the job and its level of responsibility.

This job description is not prescriptive; it merely outlines the key tasks and responsibilities of the post. These key tasks and responsibilities are subject to change.

Any changes will be made in consultation with the post holder.