

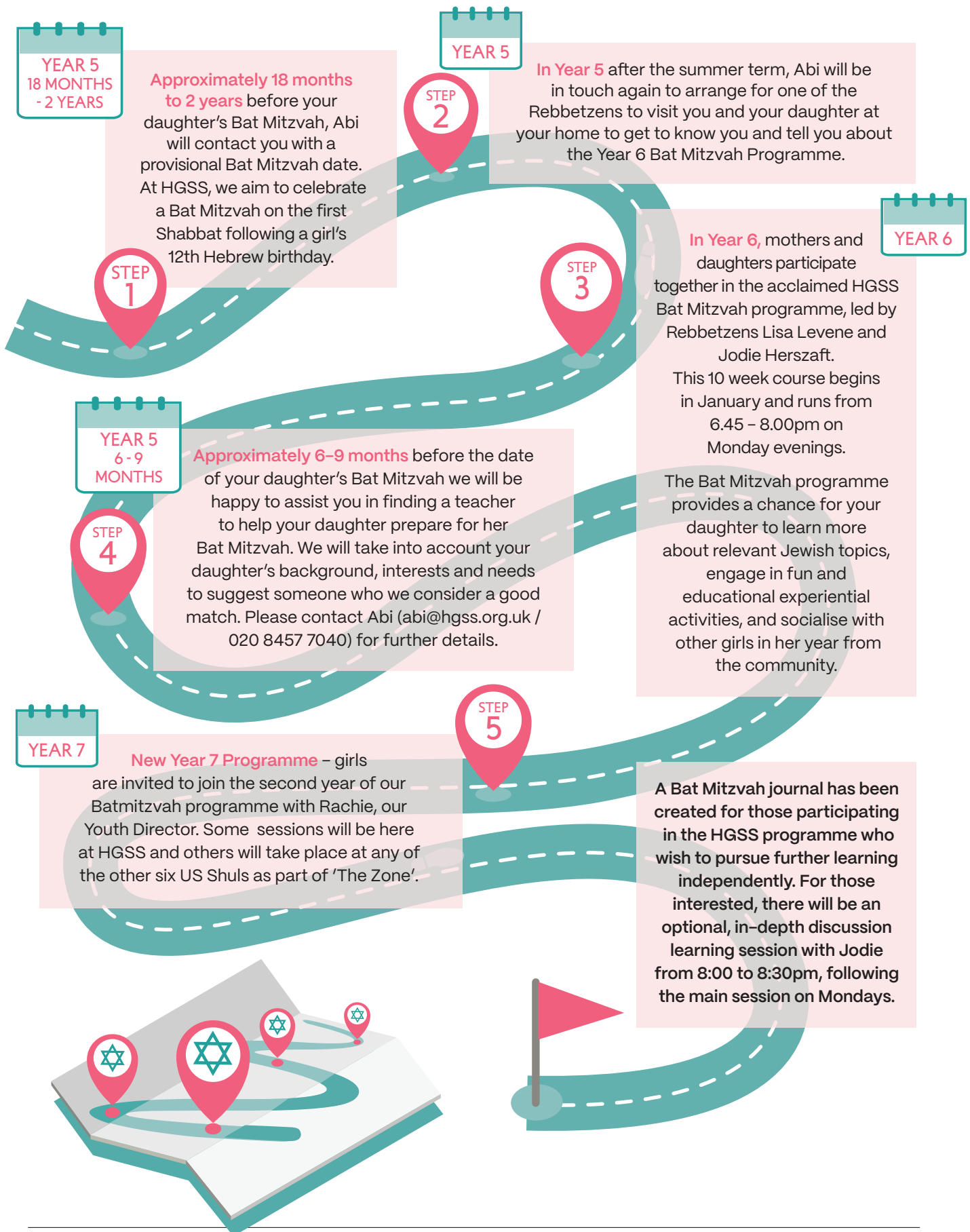
MAZAL TOV!

WE ARE DELIGHTED THAT YOU
WILL BE CELEBRATING YOUR
DAUGHTER'S BAT MITZVAH
WITH US AT HGSS



THE BAT MITZVAH JOURNEY AT HGSS INCLUDES THE FOLLOWING STEPS:

We are thrilled to accompany you and your family on this journey as you plan the celebrations for your daughter's Bat Mitzvah. Thank you for letting us be a part of your simcha.



HGSS BAT MITZVAH CELEBRATIONS

The service options listed below give some examples of how you can celebrate and mark your daughter's Bat Mitzvah at HGSS. Please bear in mind that we are fortunate to be part of a vibrant community, blessed with many families celebrating Bar and Bat Mitzvahs, weddings and other family events. Please start your conversations with the Rabbinic Team as early as possible to ensure that you can secure your allocated date and a member of the team to officiate at your simcha.

Girls celebrate their Bat Mitzvah once they have turned 12 years of age in the Jewish calendar. The following Service options can also be used as guidelines for you to tailor a ceremony that is meaningful for your family. We highly recommend that you discuss your plans with a member of the Rabbinic Team who have the expertise to ensure you have the best experience.

FRIDAY NIGHT CANDLE LIGHTING: Before Shabbat begins, your daughter has the opportunity to participate in a beautiful candle lighting ceremony where she will deliver her Dvar Torah to family and friends. During the ceremony, the Bat Mitzvah Prayer and parents' traditional blessings can be recited. Additionally, your daughter will be addressed by a member of the Rabbinic Team and presented with a certificate, Chumash and Siddur. Please note that the candle lighting needs to be completed before Shabbat begins. The candles should be lit in the same location where the family is eating their evening meal. Therefore, if you are not hosting Friday Night Dinner at the Shul, then some form of light Kiddush must be served after the service. Please note that this must be booked in advance with Sharon Drucker and may not be possible during the summer months because of the time Shabbat begins.

SHABBAT PRESENTATION: During the Shabbat morning service in the main Shul, a member of the Rabbinic Team will address your daughter in the presence of the whole community just before Adon Olam. In addition, she will be presented with a certificate, Chumash and Siddur along with the traditional blessings. This option is available all year round. Please note this is ideal if you are planning to have a party at another venue but would still like involvement and a presentation from the Rabbinic Team.

PRIVATE BAT MITZVAH CEREMONY AFTER THE SHABBAT MORNING SERVICE: Your family and friends will be invited to return to the Shul following the Main Service and Kiddush for a private ceremony (at approximately 12.30pm). The ceremony includes celebratory prayers and songs. Your daughter will deliver her Dvar Torah followed by the Bat Mitzvah Prayer and parents' traditional blessings. Your daughter will be addressed by a member of our Rabbinic Team and presented with a certificate, Chumash and Siddur.

HAVDALAH SERVICE: (Winter months only). Your guests are invited to participate in a private Havdalah ceremony, led by a member of the Rabbinic Team. Your daughter will deliver her Dvar Torah to your guests, followed by the Bat Mitzvah Prayer and parents' traditional blessings. She will be addressed by a member of our Rabbinic Team and be presented with a certificate, Chumash and Siddur. The earliest time this service can start is at least an hour after Shabbat ends.

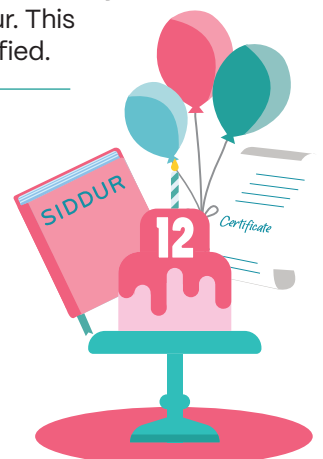
SUNDAY CEREMONY: This is a private service in the main Shul where your daughter is able to deliver her Dvar Torah to your guests. Various songs may be included, along with the Bat Mitzvah Prayer and parents' traditional blessings. Your daughter will be addressed by a member of our Rabbinic Team and presented with a certificate, Chumash and Siddur.

PRIVATE FUNCTION: You may prefer your daughter to deliver her Dvar Torah at the party venue. The Bat Mitzvah Prayer and parents' traditional blessings can be recited, and your daughter will be addressed by a member of our Rabbinic Team and presented with a certificate, Chumash and Siddur. This option is available all year round, but will only be possible if the function is kosher certified.

A member of our Rabbinic Team will be delighted to meet with each family to discuss how to make your daughter's Bat Mitzvah truly special and memorable.

There are many other creative ways for girls to celebrate their Bat Mitzvah that can be discussed with any member of the Rabbinic Team, who will be delighted to help. To arrange a meeting please contact Abi (abi@hgss.org.uk / 020 8457 7040).

If you would like to enquire about booking the hall for your function, please contact Sharon (sharon@hgss.org.uk / 020 8457 7041).



HGSS BAT MITZVAH PROGRAMME

Led by Rebbetzens Lisa Levene and Jodie Herszaft

Please note that sessions are subject to change and may be swapped or modified at any time.
For the most up-to-date details, please check the weekly WhatsApp updates.



LAYING THE FOUNDATIONS

Explaining the importance of foundations through an introduction to the journal.



ISRAEL

Exploring the significance of Israel and its personal meaning to us. This session offers an opportunity to express ourselves creatively.



APPRECIATING THE GIFTS WE HAVE

Using music as a springboard to understand the beauty of the morning Brachot, allowing us to appreciate the gifts we have.



POWER OF CHESSED

Understanding the importance of chessed, or loving-kindness, from a Jewish perspective by practically performing this mitzvah working on charitable projects that support those in need.



FAITH OR COINCIDENCE

Exploring the concept of 'emunah' or faithfulness through the use of interactive tools.



BEIN ADAM L'CHAVERO

Gaining insight into our interpersonal connections by exploring the significance of the mitzvah of making challah.



BODY VS. SOUL

Exploring the Jewish perspective on the interplay between body and soul and how it can manifest in the context of physical movement.



JEWISH APPROACH TO BEAUTY

A class led by Rochelle aimed at uncovering the Jewish perspective on the meaning of beauty. As we approach Purim, this will be explored through the eyes of Queen Esther.



DEBUNKING THE MYTHS OF SHUL

Exploring the essence of prayer, we guide the group on a tour of the Shul, providing an opportunity to experience and witness the holiness of the Torah first-hand.



FRIDAY NIGHT GRADUATION DINNER

The programme concludes with a special Friday Night Dinner together with the whole Rabbinic Team, a time to reflect and look forward to the second year of the Bat Mitzvah programme.

The HGSS Bat Mitzvah programme is dedicated to the memory of Lucy, Maia and Rina Dee z'l. Growing up in Hampstead Garden Suburb, Lucy (then known as Lucianne Shaw) attended Kerem School and our HGSS Bat Mitzvah Programme. After graduating from Oxford, Lucy travelled the world with her husband Leo, before dedicating their lives to Judaism and Israel. As Rabbi Leo and Rebbetzen Lucy Dee, they served United Synagogue communities in Hendon and Radlett, before making Aliyah with their young family. Our programme will celebrate Lucy's Jewish values in the place where they were born.

RABBINIC TEAM

Rabbi Marc Levene, Senior Rabbi – rabbilevene@hgss.org.uk

Lisa Levene, Senior Rebbetzen – lisa@hgss.org.uk

Rabbi Luis Herszaft, Community Rabbi – rabbih@hgss.org.uk

Jodie Herszaft, Community Rebbetzen – jodie@hgss.org.uk

Chazan Avromi Freilich, Chazan, Welfare & Pastoral – chazanavromi@hgss.org.uk

Rochelle Freilich, Education, Welfare & Pastoral – rochelle@hgss.org.uk

Elie and Rachie Simon, Youth Directors – youth@hgss.org.uk