BEIS GAVRIEL

Dedicated to the everlasting memory of Rabbi Gavriel and Rivkah Holtzberg, HY"D.

During their brief lifetime, Rabbi Gavriel (Gabi) and Rivkah (Rivky) Holtzberg, of righteous memory, lovingly built and nurtured their Chabad House in Mumbai until they were tragically murdered by terrorists on 26 November 2008. Their kindness and devotion impacted not just the members of the local community but the many Jewish tourists and backpackers who made their way through India’s largest city.

The Holtzbergs dedicated their lives to Judaism and tragically died simply because they were Jewish. The new Beis Gavriel Community Centre will be a space dedicated to providing a warm and open home for all Jews, no matter their connection continuing the Holtzbergs legacy.

Today, Beis Gavriel is the only institution in the United Kingdom bearing the Holtzberg’s name, perpetuating their memory and their legacy of light.

HISTORY

The Beis Gavriel Community was founded in 2008, by a group of motivated individuals under the leadership of Rabbi Menachem and Goldie Junik, to create a warm, family oriented community according to the ethos of the Lubavitcher Rebbe.

Over the last nine years the community has gained an outstanding reputation amongst the wider London community for its authenticity and ability to bring together people from all backgrounds and all levels of observance. It has a unique focus on kindness, care and attention to each one of its families and anyone who comes through its doors. In addition to a fully functioning synagogue, the community also founded Gan Menachem, which has swiftly become Hendon’s premier nursery, currently at full capacity with approximately 80 children and consistently oversubscribed by up to 100 applicants.

Over the last nine years the community has been renting a temporary accommodation in Kisharon’s building on Parson Street. Despite the constrictions of the location the community has flourished. However with Kisharon’s redevelopment, we now continue to find ourselves in a temporary location-Spectrum House. The time has now come for our community to secure its own centre.

In the summer of 2017 Beis Gavriel joined the Federation of Synagogues as a Constituent Member, thereby assisting in the purchase of 5 Sunningfields Road. There are currently no synagogues or nurseries in the immediate vicinity and the location is ideal for current and new membership. Furthermore, we have achieved planning to construct a large two story extension, which will be purpose built for a fully functioning Shul, Nursery and Community Centre. However, this vision is dependent on financial support from the community and beyond.

“We invite you to learn more about our community and our future plans.”
A SHARED VISION

The vision and dream of Beis Gavriel and its leadership is to provide the best that Chabad has to offer by creating a growing, warm and non-judgemental community without pre-determined stereotypes. We are all one, all the children of Hashem and all striving to do more in our Yidishkeit.

We want to create a centre that has all the tools required to enable everyone to enhance in their spirituality and pursue further growth. From the building of a men’s mikvah and a keilim mikvah, to a growing library of seforim, to a weekly Thursday ‘leil shishi’ learning program to serious minyanim three times a day, and educational classes for women.

We are committed to emulating the following principles in line with a true expression of Chabad philosophy:

1. To cultivate a growing and diverse community of both Chabad and non-Chabad families.
2. To be Hendon’s warmest and most welcoming Community and Synagogue.
3. To create a safe and spiritually nourishing space where children and teenagers can flourish.
4. To provide educational programmes which will inspire members and the local community to grow and feel passionate about their Judaism.
5. To support individuals and families with any challenges they may face, in the best way possible.
6. To organize exciting communal social events on festivals and throughout the year.
7. To ensure that the Centre is occupied seven days a week, to the fullest extent possible.

We have grown our community, we have found a location and now with your help we can continue to build Beis Gavriel together.