

BRIGHTON & HOVE HEBREW CONGREGATION SHABBAT & YOM TOV (2026)

Brighton & Hove Hebrew Congregation is an Orthodox congregation. When attending services on site at Brighton & Hove Hebrew Congregation we ask that you respect our practices and observances by following the Shabbat & Yom Tov policy outlined here.

Electronic or digital devices

- Avoid bringing your mobile phone or digital device (which may include smart watches or rings) into the BHHC synagogue during services on Shabbat and Yom Tov
- If you have a medical or personal reason for bringing your phone into the BHHC synagogue during services on Shabbat and Yom Tov, please ensure it is switched off, on airplane mode, or on silent mode so that it does not disturb other congregants during the service
- If you need to use your mobile or digital device for a medical or personal reason during the Shabbat or Yom Tov services, please make sure that you do this in a private space and not a public location or inside the synagogue
- In an emergency you might need to ask a caretaker or similar individual to perform an action that might be prohibited to you on Shabbat and Yom Tovim (calling an ambulance, police, fire, etc).

Behaviour in the synagogue

- Please avoid talking when the Ark is open
- Please help your children understand that when the Ark is open we avoid talking because it's a sign of respect to Hashem
- Please avoid talking when the Rabbi is reading the sedra
- Please avoid talking when the Haftarah is being read; volunteers undertake a significant amount of preparation to be ready for reading the Haftarah and we respect them by being silent

Being in the synagogue

- Men should cover their heads with a hat or kippah when in the synagogue
- Men should wear smart, long trousers, and avoid wearing casual wear like tee-shirts or sportswear
- Unmarried Jewish and non-Jewish men do not need to wear a tallit
- We ask that women wear smart and modest clothes that cover your arms and knees. Please avoid wearing trousers or shorts when you come to synagogue on Shabbat or Yom Tov
- Married Jewish and non-Jewish women should cover their hair in the synagogue, either with a scarf or formal hat
- Prams aren't allowed in the synagogue although there is space outside the synagogue

Children

- We welcome families to our synagogue and encourage you to enable your children to participate in the service and pray
- To respect the abilities of congregants to pray, we ask that you ensure your children are well behaved throughout the service
- A children's service is also available on most Shabbat at 11am; you can contact the admin office for more details
- If you bring snacks for your children, please make sure they are Kosher

Kashrut

- BHHC has a Kosher kitchen and we expect that anyone using the kitchen will observe the requirement to only bring into it certified Kosher foods (aside from fresh fruits & vegetables)
- BHHC operates a separate mikveh for utensils, please contact the Rabbi through the BHHC admin office if you require it, stating all the details and informations
- Kosher food is locally available in Brighton & Hove from the majority of mainstream supermarkets. There is a separate Kosher deli next to the Kosher restaurant at 29-31 New Church Road.

Brachot

- All foods eaten during the Kiddush on a Shabbat or Yom Tov are preceded by the appropriate brachot (blessings) which are pronounced by the Rabbi
- We ask that you refrain from eating or drinking anything before the Rabbi has made the brachot and make sure that your children can follow this practice too