



**LEIBLER
YAVNEH
COLLEGE**

בית הספר הדתי הציוני "ליבלר יבנה"

03 November 2020
16 Cheshvan 5781

Dear Yavneh Community,

Today, Leibler Yavneh College has launched a student wellbeing policy, committed to ensuring a safe and inclusive community for all students, staff and community members – including those students who identify as LGBTI+.

The policy was drafted to clarify the school's position on this issue, ensuring that all students and staff continue to feel safe and supported.

The policy, which can be viewed [here](#), adapts and provides Australian context to Chief Rabbi Ephraim Mirvis' publication, "[The Wellbeing of LGBTI+ Pupils – A Guide for Orthodox Jewish Schools](#)", which addresses halacha, as well as the emotional importance of the issue. This policy should be read in conjunction with the College's Positive Relationships (including Anti-Bullying/Harassment) Policy, which may be found [here](#).

As is clear from the Chief Rabbi's Guide, caring for the wellbeing of LGBTI+ students does not negate nor detract from our commitment to Torah and Torah values. It is our obligation, as part of our commitment to Torah.

To familiarise staff with the new policy, LYC teachers have undertaken professional development, ensuring they are equipped to support students who identify as LGBTI+.

As part of the staff training, Rabbi Mirvis shared a public conversation with Yavneh alumnus Eitan Meyerowitz, who provided a unique, personal insight into his experiences as an LGBTI+ student in the school. This interview can be seen [here](#).

We would like to thank Rabbi Danny Mirvis and College Psychologist, Ms Adele Ribnick, for overseeing the formulation of the policy and staff training program.

With best wishes to all our families,

Cherylyn Skewes
College Principal

Ari Schachna
Co-Chair

Gerard Max
Co-Chair