New Generations Committee

Who is in the team

The Education committee (New Generations) is made up of the following members:
Rabbi Richard, Paul Bloomfield (Headteacher), Di Kamall, Jo Twyman, Marco Liebeskind, Anna Federman & Lee Federman and Sharon Pinhas (chair). We would like to thank everyone for their work this year.

Summary of work undertaken, including notable challenges/achievements

<u>The committee has undergone various changes this year:</u>

- It was agreed at a meeting in February 2019 that the New Generations committee would focus specifically on children and families, rather then incorporate adult education as it has previously done. One of our main tasks this year is to lead on how we can better engage with families.

- Di Kamal stepped down from her role as chair. We are extremely grateful for all the work she has put in and we are pleased she has decided to remain a member of this committee as we value her knowledge and experience. Sharon Pinhas has taken over as chair. We are very pleased to welcome 2 new members to the committee, Anna and Lee Federman. We are currently in the process of trying to recruit some additional new members. We have produced a flyer promoting the role of the committee which will be emailed/handed out to all Cheder parents/carers. We would particularly welcome parents/carers of Bar/Bat Mitzvah or Kabbalat Torah children.

<u>Achievements:</u>

- Weekly Cheder attendance has increased; there are currently 17 children attending each week
- Cheder children with the support of Cheder staff have worked hard to produce a new prayer book for family services and we are extremely proud of the finished result
- The committee has supported several key events in the shul's calendar including a well-attended Chanukah party, and fantastic Purim spiel
- The committee has supported the "Come Shabbat with Me" initiative by hosting 2 children and family evenings at the homes of Cheder parents. These were very successful and we would like to make this a regular event

Ongoing projects/initiatives/objectives/challenges for next 12 months

- The committee has noted that the average age of the Cheder teachers has decreased. This brings both opportunities and challenges and we grateful to Paul for providing extra support and training to the teachers
- We are committed to ongoing discussion as to how we can continue to increase Cheder numbers
- The committee is currently exploring ways to actively engage older children/teenagers (14-18 years) e.g. a youth council/forum to contribute and offer ideas from a young person's perspective to Council. They may also be involved in organising activities for their age group
- We are currently discussing the expansion of Yachdav & Kabbalat Torah with a view to linking in with neighbouring synagogues SWERS And Sukkat Shalom
- Responding to parent feedback we are currently considering how we can best support children with extra needs in Cheder and family services. We are interested in some of the ideas used in the Shabbat Shelanu services and will be consulting with Mich Sampson on this