

Biography of Keynote Speaker

Chief Rabbi Sir Ephraim Mirvis was born and raised in South Africa, following which he studied in Yeshivot in Israel, where he received his Semicha. He has served as Chief Rabbi of Ireland and Rabbi of the Marble Arch and Finchley communities. As well as being the 11th Chief Rabbi of the United Hebrew Congregations of the Commonwealth, Chief Rabbi Mirvis is also the Associate President of the Conference of European Rabbis and President of the London School of Jewish Studies. He is a frequent contributor to radio, television and the press around the world and in 2015 he received the Freedom of the London Borough of Barnet. Chief Rabbi Mirvis was knighted in the 2023 New Year Honours list for services to the Jewish community, interfaith relations and education.

Biographies of Session Leaders

Nic Abery is an education consultant currently working in schools across Europe, and the Director of LooktoLearn. She is a highly experienced and innovative educator working in the UK, Israel, USA and Europe. She has developed her own unique approach in the integration of Jewish Studies and National Curriculum subjects via museum art, objects and culture.

Yvonne Baron is a dynamic school leader and education consultant with 25 years' experience in primary education. She drives school improvement, leadership development, and curriculum innovation across diverse settings. Formerly founding Headteacher of Etz Chaim Primary, she now supports schools as a Local Authority School Improvement Advisor and through various national and international education initiatives.

Danielle Barta (NLI) Originally from the United States, Danielle made Aliyah in 2010 and brings over 15 years of experience in Jewish and Israel education. She develops curricula and experiential programs that foster meaningful connections to Israel and Jewish identity. Danielle has worked with schools, synagogues, and organizations across Israel and the U.S., including Maccabi, MASA, and the Simon Wiesenthal Center. She holds a BA in International Relations from Rutgers University and an MA in Education from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

Rivka Benouaich has taught both Secular and Kodesh over the last 15 years. She is in her 10th year at Rimon JPS and has been head of Kodesh for the last 3 years. She has taught Hebrew reading to Reception and Year 1 with good outcomes and she is very passionate about teaching Hebrew reading.

Lizzie Caplan is a Jewish Studies consultant for PaJeS and Head of Kodesh at Broughton Jewish Primary school in Manchester. She previously taught at King David Primary school. Born in London, she holds a BSc in Psychology from UCL, a PGCE in Primary teaching and an MA in Jewish Education from LSJS. Lizzie is also a graduate of the UJIA Manchester Lay Leadership programme and is involved in youth development at Prestwich Hebrew congregation.

Esther Cohen Educator, therapist, life coach, and Pikuach inspector, Rebbetzen Cohen is the founder of Reflective Education and Kadimah Counselling. With over 40 years of experience in Jewish education, she works nationally and internationally, supporting schools to embed emotional intelligence, wellbeing, and self-regulation through Jewish Studies. Grounded in Torah values and informed by academic research, her work redefines Jewish Studies as a central pillar for whole-school spiritual and emotional development. Esther also lectures on the BA in Jewish Education at LSJS.

Rachel Coleman has been a Jewish Studies teacher, in a variety of London schools, for over twenty years and became Head of JS at MMK in

2018. She is passionate about developing creative ideas that are challenging, interesting and fun for assemblies, lessons and trips. She has also been instrumental in developing enhancements to the Jewish studies curriculum including a thinking skills programme, intertwined music for chaggim and Jewish General Knowledge, Hebrew reading material, J.S. related computing, and setting up interactive displays.

Bradley Conway is the Head of Kodesh at Gesher school. He is passionate about ensuring all students and their families are able to access and engage with their Judaism in a personal and holistic way. His aim is for everyone to feel accepted, included and engaged in their schools and communities.

Eco-Judaism Naomi Verber, an award-winning Jewish climate activist, is the CEO of EcoJudaism; Jessica Robinson, a qualified teacher with deep experience in climate education, is EcoJudaism's Education Lead; Alan Cohn, a trainee Rabbi, is EcoJudaism's Kodesh educator: All three of them are passionate about Judaism and ecology.

Limor Harary is the Head of innovation and technology department at Gordon Academic College of Education (GACE), in Haifa. She earned a Master's Degree in the Development of Educational Systems specializing in technology integration at Haifa University. Limor is an Apple Distinguished Educator since 2015. ADE Advisory Board EMEA 2019, AET Leader (Apple Education Trainer) GCT (Google Certified Teacher), Lipa Advocates, Nearpod PioNear, Seesaw ambassador. Ministry of Education. She served as observer at MOACH management -Israeli Association for Information Technologies in Education. Limor operates passionately in different areas in order to promote innovative teaching by means of technology

Shosh Hill is a former Head of Jewish Studies at Kerem School and is currently the Bnei Mitzvah coordinator for Gift, believing deeply in the need for educating young people to be givers. She holds both a B.Ed (hons) and a Master's Degree in Jewish Studies. Shosh is a passionate educator and has a particular interest in the use of various Ed Tech tools to enhance pupils' learning and enjoyment within the JS classroom. Shosh is a graduate of the Susi Bradfield Programme and the Ashdown Educational Leadership Fellowship.

Raachel Lewis is a Jewish Studies teacher at MMK (Mathilda Marks-Kennedy Primary School)

Rabbi Matt Marks is Executive Head of Tribe UK and Strategic Consultant for Jewish Life at BNJC. A Sacks Scholar alum, he supports UK Jewish Chaplaincy in Brighton & Hove with his family. Matt is a PhD candidate exploring Rabbi Sacks' intellectual legacy, and leads initiatives that inspire and engage young people across the Jewish community

Jessica Overlander-Kaye is the joint Wellbeing Manager at PaJeS and also Wellbeing Practitioner at JCoSS. With 20 years' experience working in pastoral and wellbeing in both schools and informal education settings. She is a Trauma Informed Practitioner and an advanced Practitioner in Parent & Child therapy. She has delivered many sessions to parents/educators on encouraging young people to thrive and meet their potential and the importance of emotionally available adults.

Rabbi Dr. Yehuda Pearlman has been the Principal of Broughton Jewish Primary School since 2013. He has an MSc in Education Leadership and Management, a PG Cert in Jewish Education and a Post Graduate Foundation in Systemic Practice. Last year he completed a PhD in Jewish Spiritual Education and has developed a programme called Lev LaDaas which supports educators in their quest to become Jewish Spiritual Educators.

Chaviva Pink is a Mum and Head of HR at Amsy Chartered Surveyors. She is also a teacher, teacher trainer and author. She teaches EYFS at King David, Manchester and will share strategies for introducing Aleph Beis in an engaging, multi-sensory way to reach every child.

Rabbi Dr. Daniel Rose is a British-born Jewish educator with experience working globally for educational institutions as an educator, content and curriculum developer, and educational consultant. Daniel is Director of Education at Koren, Jerusalem, where he has developed the Koren Magerman Educational Siddurim and is currently working on an educational series of Tanakh resources for Jewish schools. He is also Director of Education at the Rabbi Sacks Foundation where he develops educational resources such as the Ten Paths to God

curriculum, and the Family Edition of the weekly Covenant & Conversation series. Daniel also has teaching roles at the London School of Jewish Studies and the Tikvah Fund.

Janine Rose has been the Executive Director of Pikuach since 2022. With over thirty-five years' experience in education, she has held senior leadership roles, lectured on QTS and QTLS programmes, worked as a consultant for school improvement, became a Pikuach inspector in 2014, led inspections from 2016, contributed to the 2020 framework, and is responsible for the 2025 Pikuach framework.

Jo Rosenfelder is a commercial media lawyer, with an MBA and an MA in Jewish education. In 2012, together with Adam Taub, she founded Etgar, which currently delivers 3 programmes a year to Jewish primary and secondary students covering Jewish general knowledge, knowledge about Israel, and debating skills.

Rabbi Joel Sager is Headteacher of Pardes House, a leading VA Jewish primary school in London. Joel has worked in schools for almost 30 years and has been a Headteacher for over 17 years. He has a Master's degree in education, is a qualified Headteacher, an Ashdown Fellow and a Fellow of the Chartered College of Teaching. He is a governor of another Jewish primary school, sits on several educational committees and is a consultant advisor for schools in the Jewish community, in both the UK and abroad. Joel has also been an Ofsted inspector for the last 3 years.

Sarina Salom has worked at Lauder Athens Jewish Community School in Greece for 25 years as a Hebrew and Jewish studies teacher. She teaches both in kindergarten and classroom settings, utilizing the Talam method to enrich her students' learning. She is also a proud mother of two wonderful children, Eddie, who is 19, and Celine, who is 17.

Jenny Sinaveli studied Early Childhood Education at the University of Ioannina, Greece, and for the past eight years she has had the joy of working as a preschool teacher at the Lauder Athens Jewish Community School in Greece. She is passionate about meaningful, play-based learning, and also the proud mother of a very sweet 16 month old girl, named Errika.

Eliezer Segal. Winner of the award for 'Innovation in Primary School Jewish Studies', Eliezer loves bringing creativity into his lessons! He currently teaches JS at Mathilda Marks-Kennedy Jewish Primary School (MMK).

Rabbi Mark Silkoff is Head of Kodesh at Hasmonian Primary School. He has previously served in Jewish education leadership roles at Moriah and JFS and has lectured on the LSJS BA Jewish Education course. Over two decades in Jewish education have given him a clear perspective on inspiring children and guiding teachers in the art of meaningful engagement.

Sarah Wagman is an educational consultant and the headteacher of a new Jewish secondary school in Paris. Born in France and trained in languages and education, she taught in London for 15 years before leading the secondary school direct teacher training programme at the London School of Jewish Studies. Sarah is passionate about the influence that each teacher can have on the future of young people and the importance of giving them the tools they need to succeed.

Rabbi Dr. Raphael Zarum is Dean of the London School of Jewish Studies (LSJS) where he holds the Rabbi Sacks Chair in Modern Jewish Thought, established by the Zandan family. He is also the Scholar in Residence at the Central Square Minyan in Hampstead. His latest book, *Questioning Belief: Torah and Tradition in an Age of Doubt*, was a Yeshiva University Book Prize finalist. Rabbi Zarum hosts the *Big Questions of Jewish Belief* podcast and travels the globe lecturing in Jewish communities and diverse institutions.