

Temple Aliyah
B'nai Mitzvah Contract

One of the central tenets of the Jewish tradition is to be mindful of our relationships. The ancient rabbis taught about two important types of relationships: the relationship between each individual and God (*Bein Adam LaMakom*), and each individual's relationship with other people (*Bein Adam LeChaveiro*). To these, Rabbi Robert Gordis, of blessed memory, added an important third: we should be mindful of the relationship we have with ourselves (*Bein Adam LeAtzmo*).

Becoming a Bar or Bat Mitzvah means taking responsibility for one's actions as well as the above-mentioned relationships. Through their religious school or day school education and their Bar/Bat Mitzvah training at Temple Aliyah, our students will learn to cultivate and appreciate their unique relationship with God, the Jewish people, and the rest of humanity.

In an effort to show that _____(child's name) understands the importance of their relationship with God, with others, and their own responsibilities as a B'nai Mitzvah candidate, _____(child's name) pledges to abide by the following:

- 1) ***Service Attendance.*** Attendance by the student and ***at least one of their parents/guardians at six (6) Shabbat services during the Bar/Bat Mitzvah tutoring period is required.*** Tutoring begins eight months prior to the Bar/Bat Mitzvah. Specifically, two (2) Friday evening services, and four (4) Saturday morning or afternoon services are required. Shabbat morning services begin at 9:15 a.m. and usually end by noon. Mincha services generally begin between 4:00pm and 5:30pm depending on the time of year. Please note: From week to week, Friday services vary in style and beginning time.

- 2) ***School Attendance.*** Student will take seriously the commandment of *Talmud Torah* (religious study). This is accomplished through attendance and good standing in any of the following: Temple Aliyah's SCJLL, Jewish Day School, Hebrew High, or programs from other approved religious institutions. ***Minimally, students will be required to complete the 7th Grade year. If a student's date falls after the 7th Grade year, they are required to continue their Jewish education until the Bar/Bat Mitzvah date. Students are STRONGLY encouraged to embrace Talmud Torah as a life long journey and continue their Jewish learning after Bar/Bat mitzvah.***

Temple Aliyah makes every effort to make the transition into responsible Jewish adulthood meaningful and spiritual for both students and their families. Failure to abide by this contract may result in the postponement or cancellation of the Bar or Bat Mitzvah.

Student

Parent/Guardian #1

Parent/Guardian #2