

New Zealand needs a Jewish Educator and Community Engagement Professional!

Part-time position

Date of Application: November 2022	Date Position is Available: Flexible from January 2023
Congregation: Beth Shalom Progressive Synagogue	
Street Address: 180 Manukau Road, Epsom	
City/Country: Auckland 1023, New Zealand	
Email: office@bethshalom.org.nz	Telephone: + 64 9 524 4139
Website: https://bethshalom.org.nz/	
President: Michelle Wise	Email/Telephone: president@bethshalom.org.nz
Rabbi: Dean Shapiro	



Congregational information

Beth Shalom, Auckland's Progressive Jewish community, is diverse, inclusive, egalitarian and welcoming, with 200 member households who hail from across the globe. We are led by a committed Board of Management and Rabbi Dean Shapiro, who spent three years with us previously and returned a year ago from the United States to live in New Zealand with his family.



Life in Auckland

This is a once-in-a-career opportunity for someone who's ready for a fresh start, a healthy lifestyle and a little adventure to move to beautiful Auckland. Auckland is New Zealand's largest city and the country's commercial hub, with a population of approximately 1.5 million people. It is safe, clean, multicultural and vibrant, offering an excellent quality of life. Auckland sits between two harbours and is often referred to as the "City of Sails" because of Aucklanders' love of water sports and the sea. Living in Auckland is an ideal combination of fantastic cafés, restaurants, bars, theatres and museums, close to stunning beaches and unspoiled nature.

Auckland was rated the third most liveable city in the world on the global Mercer's Quality of Living Survey (2019), evaluated on factors such as personal safety, environment, education, transportation and health. Here are some links to information about the cost of living in Auckland:

<https://www.aucklandnz.com/study-work-and-live/work-and-live/blog/cost-of-living-in-Auckland>

<https://www.expatistan.com/cost-of-living/auckland>

We know how hard it is to move continents. Many of us have done so ourselves, coming to New Zealand from North America, Europe, South Africa, Israel, and around the world. Our community is committed to welcoming and supporting our Educator as they are embarking on this adventure.



The opportunity

This is an opportunity to work autonomously to craft programmes and curricula and shape Progressive Jewish education in Auckland. At Beth Shalom, we are re-imagining our Jewish education offering, starting with launching a new programme for young people aged 6-15 in February 2023 (the start of our school year). We have done a lot of thinking about who we are and what we want our young people to be, feel and do. Now we are ready for a charismatic, dynamic Educator to bring the benefit of their professional knowledge and experience, to help design a new school model and lead delivery of education programmes for this age group and others in our community.

Our Educator will be warm, welcoming and able to connect with all people, particularly young people and their families. They will also have a strong passion and vision for quality Jewish education. The successful candidate will report directly to the Board, as represented by the President or his/her designee(s). While working collaboratively with the Beth Shalom Board of Management, Education Committee and part-time Rabbi, they will have autonomy and scope to make the role their own.

The role will be 0.75FTE (30 hours per week), of which approximately 0.5FTE (20 hours per week) will be Educator responsibilities and the remaining 0.25FTE (10 hours per week) will be leading community engagement. Remuneration will be NZ\$50-60,000 per annum, depending on experience and qualifications. If you are not from New Zealand or Australia, we will support your visa application. We know how this works – we've done it before!

Key duties and responsibilities of the Educator and Community Engagement Professional:

- Design and lead delivery of Jewish education programmes and curricula for children and young people (including Bar/Bat Mitzvah preparation);
- Develop and implement communications and engagement strategies, focusing on retention of members and growth;
- Engage and build relationships with members of all ages and promote their active participation in the life of the community, including adult education;
- Cultivate and maintain collaborative, effective relationships with the Board, the Education Committee, the Rabbi, staff and community members, particularly young people and families;
- Serve as an ex-officio, non-voting member of the Education Committee.

The ideal candidate will have:

- At least 3 years of experience in Jewish education;
- Experience teaching both children and adults;
- Administrative skills sufficient to run a part-time Jewish school; and
- A BA is required, an MA in Jewish Education from an accredited institution is preferred.

Jewish Education for children and young people at Beth Shalom

At Beth Shalom, we are committed to Jewish education that enables our children to:

- **Feel** connected, confident and proud
- **Know** about Jewish religion, culture and history (including Israel) and appreciate Hebrew as a living language
- **Do** Jewish traditions and customs, including those relating to Shabbat and holidays
- **Be** moral, ethical human beings, informed by Progressive Jewish values.



We have developed a Graduate Profile for young people aged 6-15. Our higher-level hopes and expectations for our graduates align with four themes:

1. Jewish Identity: Graduates will have a strong sense of Jewish identity, enthusiastic belonging and personal pride.
2. Community: Graduates will progress through Bar and Bat Mitzvah into adulthood and become engaged members of our community.
3. Knowledge and Wonder: Graduates will be knowledgeable about Judaism, appreciate Hebrew as a living language and be committed to pursuing lifelong relevant learning.
4. Moral Character: Graduates will be moral, responsible human beings, living our shared Progressive values and Jewish ethics.

We also expect that our graduates will have the following capabilities:

1. Understand and participate in the traditions and customs of our community, including those relating to Shabbat and holidays.
2. Be able to lead a Shabbat service in our community.
3. Be able to read and write the Hebrew Aleph-Bet and some key Hebrew words and to be able to communicate in simple Hebrew sentences.
4. Be familiar with key events in Jewish history and the history, culture, and geography of the State of Israel.
5. Be familiar with Progressive Jewish values.



Could this be you?

If an exciting new life in New Zealand sounds interesting to you, we encourage you to apply. Please email your Expression of Interest to office@bethshalom.org.nz, including an up-to-date CV and contact information.

Given the uniqueness of this opportunity, we are also very happy to have conversations with you, on the phone and online, before and during the application process, so you can get to know us and we can answer your questions. Research shows that some candidates hesitate to apply for roles if they feel they don't meet 100% of the criteria. Please don't let this be you! If this opportunity excites you and you think you have the skills and experience to add value (even in ways not specified), please do not hesitate to apply!