



The Liberal Jewish Synagogue

Job Description: Rabbi

Job Title:	Rabbi
Reports to:	The LJS Senior Rabbi and the Chair of the LJS Council
Working Hours:	This is a full-time or part-time post
Salary:	A competitive remuneration package based on experience and on Liberal Judaism's recommended salary scales

Job Summary

The LJS is the UK's largest and longest established synagogue within Liberal Judaism with 1700+ members. It is an established, vibrant and exciting community close to the centre of London. In many ways, it reflects the diversity of London's Jewish population, addressing the spiritual, religious, educational, social and pastoral needs of people of all generations and provenance.

Currently the LJS has a Rabbinic team of two full-time rabbis, further supported by three part time Rabbis with specified roles within the Community. The team is led by Senior Rabbi Alexandra Wright and includes Rabbi Igor Zinkov, both working closely with Rabbi Elana Dellal, Rimon Head Teacher and Director of Youth and Family Engagement.

We are now looking for a further full-time or part-time Rabbi who will introduce new ideas, promote a passion for the principles of Liberal Judaism, engage comfortably with all our members, but especially with younger members, and provide intellectual stimulation for the congregation as a whole, and who will also happily undertake day-to-day rabbinic roles and responsibilities.

The LJS Council has identified the need to create specific goals, learning, communication and events for the 5 key areas of membership:

- Children and Teenagers
- University Students
- Adults from 25 to 45
- Families
- Adults from 45+

The focus for this role will include creating programmes for the younger areas covering post-Kabbalat Torah students, increasing contact with university students, and with adults who fall into the lower part of the 25 - 45 age group.

As well as this, the principal duties of this position are to assist the Senior Rabbi in providing religious and spiritual leadership to The Liberal Jewish Synagogue through officiating at services and other life cycle ceremonies; giving support to Rimon Religion School and adult education; providing pastoral

support to the congregation, assisting with the smooth day-to-day organisation of the synagogue, as required, and undertaking other tasks or duties, as might reasonably be expected of a Rabbi.

Being a Rabbi in this large community will require you to be compassionate, imaginative, hardworking and committed to the principles, values and practices of Progressive Judaism. You will have a passion for building community and be committed to the LJS's inclusive approach and to equal opportunities in all aspects of synagogue life.

The LJS is managed by the Council elected by LJS members together with a Senior Professional team led by the Senior Rabbi and the Executive Director who work in partnership with the staff and a tremendous team of volunteers; most of the latter are members of the LJS. Our new Rabbi will be an individual who is a team player and has the flexibility and willingness to be part of the professional and voluntary teams, valuing their strengths and their mutual support.

Eligibility

Eligibility to be a member of the Conference of Liberal Rabbis and Cantors (CoLRaC).

We would be happy to consider applications from Rabbis with a few years' experience within a community as well as 5th Year Rabbinic Students.

This role is subject to an enhanced DBS (Disclosure and Barring Service) check.

Person Specification

Knowledge and Skills

1. We are a community whose members value our Shabbat and festival services, life cycle rituals, creative liturgy and the music which is integral to our uplifting and thoughtful services. We are searching for a Rabbi who thinks outside the box with the knowledge, skill, creativity and sensitivity to lead the full range of life cycle events, to lead spiritual and stimulating services, and contribute interesting, thought-provoking and relevant sermons
2. We are looking for a Rabbi who possesses the ability to encourage and welcome new members to the community, who can motivate people to play an active part in services and in other synagogue events
3. Our new Rabbi will give priority to younger members in our community, as well as helping to recruit new members who are committed to Liberal Judaism. We are looking for a Rabbi who has a special interest in younger adult groups shown in our key areas and knows how to create stimulating programmes, drawing people into the community, and build fruitful and warm relationships with these age groups
4. We expect our Rabbis to be committed to the fundamentals of Progressive Judaism and to promoting the LJS Vision and Values
5. We are looking for qualities of sensitivity, understanding and compassion, as well as a sense of fairness in our rabbinic team

6. We would expect the new Rabbi to engage in continuing professional development and training.

These are the personal qualities that we wish to see in our Rabbi:

1. Good interpersonal skills with the ability to relate easily to members, visitors and staff; to be confident and pro-active in approaching and welcoming visitors and new members
2. Strong oral, written and digital communication skills with the ability to communicate appropriately with members of all ages
3. Good time management together with skills in prioritising between the many competing demands of being a congregational Rabbi
4. The ability both to provide leadership and to work independently when necessary
5. To work as a member of a team with the existing Rabbis and with the lay leadership of the synagogue is essential, as is the ability to take direction
6. An innovative approach and willingness to experiment with new ideas as discussed with colleagues and agreed with the lay and religious leadership
7. Skills in handling difficult situations when they arise and finding ways of resolving potential conflicts, with an understanding of when it is appropriate to seek further guidance
8. A good understanding of the importance of maintaining confidentiality
9. An ability to give and receive positive and critical feedback and to act upon it
10. The confidence to be able to represent the synagogue, when requested, at external events, and to promote the synagogue.

How to Apply

Please download the [Job Application Form](#) and send with your Curriculum Vitae and a covering letter/email (*maximum 1,000 words*) laying out how you meet the skills and experience described above.

Please make clear how the prospect of joining the LJS at this time and in this role has inspired your application.

Job Application form, CV and letter/email should be sent to: recruitment@ljs.org

The closing date for receipt of applications: **Wednesday 12 March 2025 by 5.30pm**

Please note: Interviews will be held on Tuesday, 22 April 2025 in person, or online if the interviewee is based abroad, using UK time.

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