

## HALE SHULE

*Hale & District Hebrew Congregation, Altrincham, Greater Manchester*

# Rabbi / Rabbinic Couple

Location: Hale, Altrincham, South Manchester

Salary: Dependent on experience, plus excellent package

Closing Date: 25<sup>th</sup> December 2026

## About Us

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Hale Shule is a warm, close-knit Orthodox community at the heart of Jewish life in South Manchester. For many of our members our Shule has been a spiritual and social home for a decade or more, and we take pride in a genuine, welcoming atmosphere that spans every level of religious observance.

We are now looking for our next Rabbinic Couple, to lead Hale Shule into its next chapter.

## The Role

Hale Shule is seeking a warm, energetic and genuinely committed Rabbinic Couple to serve as the spiritual heart of our community. Above all, our members are looking for a couple for whom this is a vocation and a long-term relationship, not a stepping stone. You will be visible, approachable and hands-on: as comfortable delivering an inspiring sermon as you are hosting a Shabbat table full of guests or visiting an elderly member who hasn't been able to get to Shule in months.

Our community spans young families, teenagers, professionals in their 30s and 40s, and long-standing older members, and we need leadership that can authentically connect with all of them. We are looking for a couple who will re-energise engagement with young families and the next generation, while continuing to care deeply for those who have been part of Hale Shule for decades.

## Key Responsibilities

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### Spiritual Leadership & Pastoral Care

- Lead Shabbat, Yom Tov and weekday services, and deliver engaging, meaningful sermons and shiurim.
- Provide warm, genuinely present pastoral care and lifecycle support to members across all ages, including regular contact with elderly and vulnerable members (our members were clear that a phone call or personal visit means more than a text).
- Officiate at lifecycle events (brit milah, bar/bat mitzvah, weddings, funerals and shiva visits) with sensitivity and care.
- Model a modern, positive and approachable halachic and hashkafic outlook that welcomes members at every level of religious observance without judgement.

### Community & Social Life

- Take an active, hands-on role in community and social life, including hosting members at home for Shabbat and Yom Tov meals — our members were emphatic that open, regular Shabbat hospitality should be a hallmark of the role, not an occasional gesture.
- Work closely with lay leadership and volunteers to sustain and grow communal events, sharing the load so that responsibility does not fall on a small handful of committed volunteers.
- Build genuine relationships with members across the full range of ages, backgrounds and levels of observance, and make newer, less connected and disengaged members feel actively welcomed.

### Youth, Children & Family Engagement

- Take a leading, highly visible role in youth and children's programming, including Shabbat and festival services for children and young families.

- Build strong relationships with the Hale Shule nursery and with young families, recognising this group as central to the community's future.
- Support and inspire teenagers and young adults, including Bar/Bat Mitzvah preparation, with energy that keeps them engaged beyond their Bat/Bar Mitzvah year.

### Education

- Provide adult education and lifelong learning opportunities that appeal to a broad range of interests and levels of knowledge.
- Support and help revitalise existing educational programming for children and adults alike.

### Outreach & Wider Community

- Represent Hale Shule within the wider South Manchester Jewish community and engage, where appropriate, in interfaith and civic activity.
- Work collaboratively with neighbouring communities and organisations, maintaining Hale Shule's reputation as an outward-looking, welcoming congregation.
- Maintain political neutrality in the exercise of the role.

## Person Specification

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### Essential

- Orthodox rabbinic ordination (semicha) and relevant pulpit or community experience.
- A warm, approachable and genuinely down-to-earth manner, balanced with the gravitas of spiritual leadership.
- A modern, inclusive outlook that comfortably balances tradition with innovation, and welcomes members across all levels of observance.
- Excellent public speaking and teaching skills, with the ability to inspire a broad, multigenerational audience.
- A demonstrable commitment to pastoral care, including for elderly and vulnerable members.
- A genuine enthusiasm for working with children, teenagers and young families.
- Where applying as a couple, both partners should be willing and able to engage fully in community life.
- A collaborative working style, able to partner effectively with lay leadership and volunteers within an agreed framework, without requiring day-to-day direction.
- Experience revitalising or growing engagement within an established community.
- Experience working with, or alongside, early years/nursery settings.
- A track record of interfaith or wider civic engagement.

## What We Offer

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- A close-knit, welcoming community with real appetite for renewed energy and engagement.
- A committed, active lay leadership ready to work in partnership with the incoming Rabbinic Couple.
- Remuneration dependent on experience, plus excellent package.
- The opportunity to shape the next chapter of one of South Manchester's most community-spirited congregations.

## How to Apply

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Please apply with full CVs and a covering letter setting out your vision for the role, to Julia Harris at: -  
[Julia.Harris@haleshule.com](mailto:Julia.Harris@haleshule.com)