

United Synagogue Job Description



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| JOB TITLE | Rebbetzen |
| LOCATION | Hadley Wood Jewish Community |
| WORKING HOURS | Part-Time |
| SALARY | Depending on experience |
| REPORTS TO | The Chairman of the Board of Management |
| BENEFITS | 20 days' holiday, plus Bank Holidays and Jewish festivals when they fall on a normal working day; Ride-to-Work Scheme; Auto-Enrolled Pension |
| JOB PURPOSE | To provide religious, spiritual, pastoral and educational leadership to the community, and to lead the growth of the community |
| ECCLESIASTICAL AUTHORITY | The Chief Rabbi |

About us

- Our vibrant and flourishing community started twenty-five years ago, meeting in homes around Hadley Wood. Originally, we were an offshoot of Cockfosters and N Southgate Synagogue, but we became an independent member of the United Synagogue in 2012. The successful candidates will be our fourth Rabbinic couple.
- We have had our own permanent home in Hadley Wood since 2002. In 2018, we completed a full rebuild of our shul and now benefit from outstanding, purpose-built, modern facilities.
- We are known for our welcoming, intimate, and friendly environment, with an outstanding community spirit and a shared understanding of our aims and objectives.
- Despite varying levels of religious observance within the community, we have one of the most engaged memberships within the United Synagogue. As an example, with ~250 members, we regularly have 60 attendees on Shabbat morning.

About you

- You are an innovative, inclusive, and inspirational Rabbinic Couple who are excited about the opportunity to lead and develop our special community in Hadley Wood. You are strong communicators, organised, and focused on driving results.
- You are either an exceptionally high-potential and mature 'first time' community Rabbinic Couple, or a Rabbinic Couple who have benefited from experience in other communities.
- As Rabbi, you are prepared to make a full-time commitment although there might be time for other activities or studies. As Rebbetzen, you are available to work part-time (we can be flexible on number of core hours required). We are fully open to discussing how we can construct roles for each of you that meet the community's needs while respecting your other work or other commitments.
- Even if you didn't grow up or train in the United Synagogue, you 'know your way around' a United Synagogue community and its services, norms etc.
- You are willing and happy to live in Hadley Wood. For the period of time that you're with us, you're committed to building a life here, to making your home here, and to thriving here.

About our opportunity

- Compensation: we are fortunate to be able to offer a very competitive compensation package, aimed to attract top candidates and to reward them accordingly.
- Accommodation: next door to the shul and connected via the garden, we provide a beautiful detached, four-bedroom house with a recently re-designed and landscaped garden, and ample off-street parking. The house is a 5 minute walk from Hadley Wood mainline station, with regular and quick connections to Finsbury Park, Kings Cross, and Moorgate.
- Benefits: 25 days' holiday, plus 8 public holidays; auto-enrolled pension.

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Role profile in detail

Core responsibilities

(We have a strong preference for Rebbetzen candidates who can, subject to discussion and appropriate accommodation, take on these core responsibilities)

- Balancing community responsibilities with your need for family time and privacy, you'll entertain Hadley Wood members on Friday nights and for Shabbat lunch regularly (at least 3 meals per month).
- You'll lead children's services in Hadley Wood each Shabbat and work to increase attendance at these services.
- Within permitted halachic boundaries as defined by the Court of the Chief Rabbi, you will encourage and teach women in religious practice. For example, you will maintain and expand our successful women's Kabbalat Shabbat services, and you will seek out other opportunities for women's learning and engagement.
- You'll lend special focus to the 'Under 50 / Young Families' population to ensure that, through a variety of means including our successful Young Families Friday Night dinners, we engage that population to provide future leadership of the community.
- In conjunction with the relevant committee of the Board of Management and the lay leadership, you will actively and enthusiastically represent the synagogue to its members in a pastoral capacity, attending to the spiritual and emotional needs of members of the community and their families.
- You will support and encourage members of the community in developing greater knowledge and understanding of Judaism, Halacha, Jewish traditions and practice, and Israel, through acting as a role model and through dialogue, education and personal involvement.

Further responsibilities

(Our ideal candidates would be able to take on many of these further responsibilities. These also appear on the job description for the Rabbi, reflecting that each couple may choose to divide these responsibilities differently.)

- You'll ensure that all chagim are celebrated vibrantly and inclusively as a community by taking an active and leading role (in coordination with the HWJC Board of Management) in making arrangements, including services for the Yamim Noraim, Chanukah and Purim parties, communal Seder etc.
- You'll develop and implement religious, educational and social programmes for the children and teenagers of the community, including taking full responsibility for the running and curriculum of our after-school Cheder program, including playing a teaching role yourself and arranging additional teaching staff as needed.
- You'll take an active and leading role in formulating and delivering programmes of an educational nature for the general adult membership of the community, designed to broaden and deepen their knowledge and commitment to a broad spectrum of Jewish knowledge, understanding and activity.
- You'll work with our designated Board member to enhance our community's presence online, perhaps using your own social media presence as a way to attract new members to, and engage existing members with, shul activities.
- You will participate, where possible, in the social activities of the community.