



Founding Early Childhood Director

Opportunity Statement

**COME BUILD AND LEAD OUR NEWEST DIVISION AT
KOHELET YESHIVA!**

*A Visionary Role for a Founding Early Childhood Director
in a Thriving, Joyful Community*

Kohelet Yeshiva is buzzing with energy, growth, and joy, and we want you to be a part of it! We are actively searching for a warm, talented, and innovative Founding Early Childhood Director to join our team. We are planning to open the Kohelet Early Childhood Center in August 2027.

This isn't just a job; it's a rare opportunity to lead, design, and inspire from the ground up. If you are an experienced, entrepreneurial, and mission-aligned early childhood educator ready to embody and articulate the mission and vision of a truly exceptional Modern Orthodox Yeshiva by launching our brand-new Early Childhood Center for the 2027–2028 academic year, please keep reading to find out more about this incredible leadership opportunity.



WHO YOU ARE - Why People Love Working with You

You are a growth-oriented educator whose heart is fully invested in the development of young Jewish children.

WARMTH & ENTREPRENEURIAL SPIRIT:

You are a natural leader who is playful but adaptable in the moment, organized but not rigid. You approach the unique challenges of a new program launch with creativity and a proactive mindset. You are willing to take measured risks to see what might be possible, and you learn from mistakes. You smile a lot.

MISSION-DRIVEN DEPTH:

You are a Modern Orthodox role model who is passionately committed to our religious and educational philosophy. You are an enthusiast for Torah, child-centered discovery, and the land of Israel.

A COMPLIANCE MASTER & BUILDER:

Your organizational acumen, prioritization, timely decision-making, and goal setting are second nature to you. You know how to navigate regulatory systems, state licensing, and government mandates with confidence, viewing compliance as part and parcel of a high-quality program.

A MASTER PRACTITIONER WHO NURTURES TALENT:

You have significant experience in early childhood education and leadership. You are a keen reader and implementer of current progressive research, and you know how to distinguish an educational fad from something worthwhile and enduring. You trust your team to get it done, and you're a responsible manager who knows how and when to check on people to ensure they are thriving. You excel at identifying, hiring, and nurturing gifted educators.

A DEDICATED ADVOCATE WHO NURTURES LITTLE CHILDREN:

You adore kids, and it shows! Your profound love for preschoolers is at the core of why you chose Jewish education. You're a fierce advocate for student-centered learning, and you value social-emotional development as the bedrock of all future academic success.

A THOUGHTFUL COMMUNICATOR:

You are known for being responsive, patient, and thoughtful. You bring excellent communication skills, high energy, and a perpetual drive for growth. Your high level of emotional intelligence is obvious in your interactions. You're an active listener who builds deep partnerships with parents and fellow administrators.





Key Focus Areas: Strategic Priorities

You will lead the design, launch, and operations of our brand-new Early Childhood Center during a pivotal and exciting moment for our school. Beyond day-to-day operations, you will be the driving force behind these critical strategic priorities:

1. FOUNDING LAUNCH & REGULATORY COMPLIANCE

The new Director will serve as the chief architect of the center's physical and operational infrastructure. This requires moving beyond basic adherence to state rules to build a culture of safety and operational excellence. This includes:

- Navigating PA Licensing: Working closely with the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services (DHS) to secure a flawless facility application and pass all day-one physical and regulatory inspections.
- Establishing Operational Frameworks: Designing center-wide systems for health, safety, budgeting, scheduling, and emergency management that ensure a smooth debut.
- Admissions & Enrollment Operations: Capitalizing on the student recruitment initiatives launched by the school in October 2026 to convert interested families into a committed, enrolled founding cohort.

2. PROGRESSIVE, STUDENT-CENTERED CURRICULUM DESIGN

We are committed to a constructivist approach that allows our youngest students to explore, discover, and master skills along a developmental continuum. The new Director will be charged with developing and implementing a clear, actionable path for an early childhood curriculum that mirrors the student-centered philosophy of our Kohélet Yeshiva Lab School (KYLS).

3. JOYFUL, IMMERSIVE TORAH & FAITH FOUNDATION

The Director will ensure that Torah and Mitzvot come alive for our youngest learners. You will design a spiritually warm, age-appropriate environment where daily Tefillah (prayer), the weekly parsha, and the rhythm of the Chagim are woven seamlessly into the fabric of the child's day, sparking a lifelong love for Jewish learning.

4. HEBREW LANGUAGE IMMERSION INTEGRATION

We seek a leader who can architect a rich Hebrew immersion environment. This involves structuring daily routines, play, and interactions so that language acquisition happens naturally and joyfully. The Director will lead the charge in identifying, hiring, and coaching native or advanced Hebrew-speaking educators to bring this immersive model to life.

5. VERTICAL K-12 INSTITUTIONAL ALIGNMENT

A premier early childhood center must seamlessly prepare its students for the next stage of their educational journey. The Director will collaborate closely with the K-8 leadership to align academic and social-emotional milestones, ensuring our early childhood graduates experience a natural, fluid transition into the Lab School.

What You Will Be Leading: Core Responsibilities

The Founding Early Childhood Director will steer our newest division and will report to and work closely with the Head of School. As Director, you will serve as the supervisor, coach, and mentor to the early childhood faculty.

1. EDUCATIONAL VISION & PROGRAM LEADERSHIP

- **Set the Vision:** Translate Kohélet Yeshiva's core values into a vibrant, progressive early childhood vision.
- **Cultivate & Coach Talent:** Recruit, hire, supervise, and support a high-caliber team of early childhood educators, fostering a culture of professional excellence and collaborative growth.
- **Ignite Joyful Learning:** Facilitate a culture where the joy of play, exploration, and accomplishment is paramount.
- **Professional Development Champion:** Lead programs for orientation, in-service training, and progressive early childhood pedagogy. Serve as an accessible, hands-on mentor.

2. OPERATIONAL & GROWTH LEADERSHIP

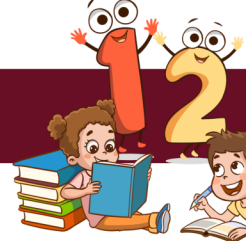
- **Be the Chief Ambassador:** Serve as the primary marketer and ambassador for early childhood recruitment, engaging local shuls and young families to secure full enrollment.
- **Financial Stewardship:** Manage the early childhood budget, adhering to the annual plan set by Senior Leadership.
- **Architect of the Environment:** Oversee the procurement of high-quality learning materials, space design, master schedules, and extended care programs.

3. COMMUNICATIONS & PARTNERSHIP

- **Visible & Approachable:** Be a highly visible, warm, and accessible presence in the hallways, maintaining a peaceful, positive environment.
- **Exceptional Parent Partnership:** Build strong personal partnerships with new families through proactive outreach, parent education, and warm responsiveness.



THE RUNWAY: Your First 12 Months



Because this role officially begins full time in July 2027, just a couple of months before we welcome our first students, you will have to hit the ground running. Therefore, in the months leading up to your start date, you'll work with the Kohélet Yeshiva senior leadership team using this roadmap designed to transition our successful student recruitment efforts into a flawless operational opening.

While the school leadership team will begin building community interest and collecting initial inquiries in October 2026, your arrival in July 2027 marks the official countdown to the first day of school.

Here is what you will focus on and achieve during your first year:

LATE FALL – EARLY WINTER 2026: INTEGRATION & LICENSING FINALIZATION

You will immerse yourself in the Kohélet Yeshiva Lab School (KYLS) culture to deeply understand our progressive, constructivist model. Simultaneously, you will assume leadership of the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services (DHS) application, auditing our physical space to ensure complete compliance with state square-footage, health, and safety mandates.

WINTER 2026 – EARLY SPRING 2027: STAFFING & CURRICULUM MAPPING

You will launch a search to identify, hire, and onboard native or advanced Hebrew-speaking educators. You will also map out the early childhood scope and sequence, ensuring joyful integration of the weekly parsha, Tefillah, and Chagim.

SPRING 2027: OPERATIONS & ADMISSIONS PUSH

You will finalize the Parent Handbook, establish center-wide safety protocols, and build out the admissions pipeline to transition October inquiries into formal, finalized enrollments for our opening cohorts.

SPRING 2027: PROCUREMENT & INSPECTIONS

You will oversee the procurement of progressive, open-ended classroom materials and Reggio/Montessori-inspired furniture. You will guide the facility through final zoning, fire safety, and environmental clearances to pass the formal state inspection and secure our official Certificate of Compliance.

SUMMER 2027: TEAM TRAINING & GRAND OPENING

You will lead an extended professional development summer institute for your founding teaching staff, focusing on progressive pedagogy and our Hebrew immersion system, culminating in the historic September 2027 grand opening of the center!



Our Culture and Commitment

We are a warm and embracing Modern Orthodox, K-12 yeshiva day school committed to cultivating Bnei and Bnot Torah who think critically and creatively while exuding confidence and compassion. We believe in the power of student-centered learning, differentiated instruction, meaningful assessment, and deep personal relationships.

Our team is positive, joyful, collaborative, reflective, and deeply connected—to one another, to the community, and to the school. As professionals—many of whom are also parents in the school—we are passionate about children and education, open to feedback, curious, and collaborative. You'll be joining a leadership structure that is dedicated to supporting academic AND social-emotional excellence.

About Kohelet Yeshiva and Our Thriving Area

Kohelet Yeshiva is a distinguished Modern Orthodox yeshiva day school situated on a beautiful four-acre campus in the thriving Jewish community of Lower Merion, PA. We offer a warm, embracing environment that fosters scholarship, intellectual curiosity, love of learning, and a profound commitment to Halachic Judaism. Our faculty and students come from Lower Merion, Cherry Hill, NJ, Center City Philadelphia, Elkins Park, Overbrook, Yardley, Northeast Philadelphia, and Allentown.

Our location offers easy local access to Philadelphia, world-class universities, and excellent professional opportunities, and is conveniently located halfway between Washington, DC and New York City. The Lower Merion Jewish community is vibrant and growing, complete with multiple Orthodox shuls, a Yoetzet initiative, a thriving Kollel, and multiple Kosher restaurants.

We offer a generous benefits package including medical, dental, tuition remission, and more.

The Details

The new Founding Early Childhood Director will begin in the role full time in July of 2027. Part-time work in the rollout phase ahead of the center's formal opening will be compensated.

If you think this amazing opportunity might be the right fit for you, please reach out to Rabbi Maccabee Avishur, Head of School, for a confidential conversation.
mavishur@koheletyeshiva.org

koheletyeshiva.org

Martha & Harry Stern Campus
223 North Highland Avenue, Merion Station, PA 19066