

## Guidelines for Family Visits – Spring 2020

Parents/guardians are welcome to visit their children during the TRY program. Ramah Israel offers a **TRY Family trip** which is specifically geared to exposing our students' families (all ages) to Israel programming in the spirit of Ramah's educational approach. The dates for the TRY Family trip are April 14-17, 2020. More information can be found on our website (<http://try.ramah.org.il/parent-family-trip/>).

1. Parents/guardians are asked to inform the administration in advance of any visit. All visits that remove students from the regular program must be approved by and coordinated with the TRY Director.
2. As a rule, family visits should not take place during the first two weeks (January 27-February 10) or the last two weeks of the program (May 17-31).
3. Students may not miss classes during the **last two academic weeks** except in extraordinary circumstances.
4. Students may miss **up to two days** of classes to spend time with their parents/guardians. These days may not include exam days or ICC field trips.
5. Students are responsible for all work, material, and/or exams missed as a result of any time off. Teachers will continue with regular lesson plans and testing schedules.
6. Parents/guardians should **not** schedule time with their child at these times:
  - i. **January 27 - February 7, First two weeks**
  - ii. **February 13-15, Masada tiyul & Shabbat Yachad**
  - iii. **February 26 - March 1, Kibbutz Ketura**
  - iv. **March 16-18, Midterms**
  - v. **March 25-31, Poland**
  - vi. **April 14-16, Pesach Tiyul**
  - vii. **April 19-24, Gadna & ICC**
  - viii. **April 27-29, Yom Hazikaron & Yom Ha'atzmaut**
  - ix. **May 1-2, Shabbat Yachad Tzfat**
  - x. **May 17-May 31, Last two weeks of program**
7. Many families visit around the Pesach holiday. **Please take note that all students are to be picked up/travel to hosts on the day before Pesach, and only return to regular programming on the 6<sup>th</sup> day of Pesach for our big tiyul (trip) to the North.** All students will be required to stay with hosts during this period of time. Visiting families are welcome to join us, starting on the 6<sup>th</sup> day of Pesach, April 14<sup>th</sup>, for our four day "Family Trip" (more details here - <https://try.ramah.org.il/parent-family-trip/>). Students are not excused from this integral TRY experience.
8. For all family visits, please consider that in addition to the fun surrounding a parent/guardian visit, some students can become very homesick during or following a visit. Please bear in mind that there will be other students who were not visited by their families who may feel sad during or following their peer's family visit. From our experience, visiting families often try to include friends if possible, i.e., invite a friend to join you for dinner.
9. Sometimes, parents/guardians like to join their children on part of a TRY *tiyul* (educational day trip) or sit in on classes. We would be happy to help coordinate this when possible. Please be in touch with our Family Liaison, Nicole Dror, [liaison@ramah.co.il](mailto:liaison@ramah.co.il).