

Chief Executive

OVERVIEW

As we celebrate our 80th year, we are looking to the future and recognise we are at a watershed moment. We are seeking an exceptional leader to grasp an exciting opportunity to create a paradigm shift in what it means to be a Reform Jew and a Movement. We want a leader who is a passionate, committed and dynamic Reform Jew, who embraces and lives by our values and ideology, and has the vision and skills to take us on the next step of our journey.

You will be a suitably qualified professional, capable of providing strong, inspirational leadership and direction. You will need to enthuse our donors and patrons, so that they understand the importance of their commitment to the future of the Movement for Reform Judaism ("MRJ").

You will represent and promote MRJ within both the Reform community and our wider Jewish community, as well as in the national arena. As Chief Executive, you will share your passion with our Synagogues, creating with them a vision for success that is grounded in Reform values. The future of our Movement is with our young people, so you will be instrumental in nurturing our leaders of tomorrow.

You will head the MRJ team, promoting a high-performance culture to achieve our moral, ethical, and principled ambitions. You will need the skills necessary to motivate our experienced, dedicated, and professional staff and to work collaboratively with our 43 communities and their lay and Rabbinic leaders, increasing engagement and MRJ's profile.

MRJ promotes and embraces inclusivity and caring. It is the responsibility of the Chief Executive, leading by example (*dugma ishit*), to ensure that all staff uphold the highest standards when interacting with others.

For the right candidate, we may consider reduced hours, a remit that focuses on your specific strengths that match our priorities, as well as the possibility of a fixed term.

This is a real opportunity to make a difference. If you have the ambition, credentials, and energy to help steer us into the future, we would love to hear from you.

MAIN PURPOSE

Fulfil the prominent leadership role across the Reform community, and lead and manage the Movement for Reform Judaism ("MRJ") to achieve engagement and growth in membership and income year on year.

REPORTS TO

MRJ Chair (or co-Chairs)

PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTABILITIES

- 1 Initiate and develop strong personal relationships with leaders across the Reform community, particularly with Chairs and Rabbis of our member Synagogues, resulting in positive and cohesive partnerships.
- 2 Lead MRJ's professional team to develop, implement and promote our vision and strategy and agree priorities. Engage all stakeholder groups in this process, including the Board, staff, RSY-Netzer, MRJ networking groups, member Synagogues, the Assembly of Reform Rabbis and Cantors ("Assembly"), and Leo Baeck College.
- 3 Personally develop excellent relationships with major donors, as well as grant-giving organisations and foundations, to maximise their engagement and ongoing support.
- 4 Taking guidance from MRJ's communications team, be the voice of MRJ on the national stage and within our communities.
- 5 Attend and participate in the Assembly and work collaboratively and effectively with the clergy to fulfil the agreed MRJ strategy and goals.
- 6 Working closely with the Director of Informal Education, provide strategic and creative support in the development of new and innovative ways of engaging young people, through activities and programmes that sustain their involvement into adulthood.
- 7 Represent MRJ to enhance its position and influence nationally. This will include personal attendance at a variety of community events and meetings, both internally and externally; representing MRJ and appearing in the media; delivering sermons or addresses at Synagogues, etc.
- 8 Develop own personal skills and Jewish learning to enhance own contribution and performance as Chief Executive over time and increase personal fulfilment and long term career success.

PERSON SPECIFICATION

Qualifications

- graduate, professional

Experience

- substantial experience within the British Jewish progressive community
- has fulfilled leadership or senior management roles for more than 5 years
- design and delivery of strategy
- leading, managing and motivating a dedicated team
- experience of successfully working with and influencing other organisations
- experience of working with the media positively and confidently
- worked in organisations with safeguarding and health and safety cultures

Personal skills and behaviours

- able to articulate and live by the values of Reform Judaism
- strategic thinker
- excellent communicator, confident speaker and presenter with open and transparent style
- persuasive yet diplomatic leader, who engages easily with others, and readily shows warmth
- able to challenge others in a facilitative, confident and calm way
- an understanding of business finance and budgeting
- agile and flexible workstyle