

# ISRAEL FAST TRACK FELLOWSHIP 2021



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OUR ISRAEL. OUR FUTURE.

In partnership with

**IMPACT**  
Reimagine Israel Education 





**UJIA Israel Fast Track is a programme like no other. Over three months you will go deeper into your understanding of Israel than ever before. It will help you stand out from the crowd, both in the Jewish community, in your university applications and your future career.**

Now in its 5th year we are thrilled that in 2021 we've partnered with the IMPACT Israel Fellowship to deliver a multidimensional online learning and leadership experience. You'll join with a small group of peers from across the UK to engage with multiple perspectives on Israel and delve into challenging questions of identity and leadership. Over the course of 10 sessions you will be empowered to be leaders in the Israel conversation in the community, online and on campus.

You will also have access to Israeli politicians, activists, journalists and thought leaders. Participants should have a good basic knowledge of Israel before participating in the course. The course will look in-depth at Israel today from politics to history to society to the conflict and will develop participants as informed and inspired leaders.

In the programme, fellows will have the opportunity to learn virtually from experienced educators and expert guest speakers from the UK and Israel. You will debate and discuss collectively as a cohort and in Chaburot (group study).

The fellowship is rooted in the following four educational goals:

### 1. Reimagine Zionism:

As a fellow on Israel Fast Track you will grapple with the meaning of various Zionist ideas and what they mean today. Every fellow will be challenged to develop their own Zionist narrative.

### 3. Unity not Uniformity:

We seek to build a "big tent" of leaders. While not uniform in their beliefs, politics or opinions, fellows are united in their commitment to Israel as a cornerstone of Jewish life.

### 2. Engage Complexities:

Wrestling with complexity is integral to any educational process. Learners come to autonomous choices, guided by their own meanings and values.

### 4. Educate to lead:

With renewed understanding in how to relate to Israel, Israel Fast Track fellows will be empowered to lead the "Israel conversation" in their communities.





# PROGRAMME DATES FOR 2021

There are 10 sessions in total and each session is either 2 or 3 hours taking place on Sundays across February, March, April and May. Sessions will predominantly take place virtually and will be 2 hours from 10:00 am to 12:00 am. If Covid-19 restrictions allow for in-person gathering of the whole cohort then sessions will be 3 hours and from 10:00 am to 01:00 pm.

## The programme dates are:

- › Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> February  
*Half-term*
- › Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> February
- › Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> February
- › Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> March
- › Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> March
- › Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> March  
*Pesach*
- › Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> April
- › Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> April
- › Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> April
- › Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> May



# HOW IT WORKS

The Fellowship will be a **completely online program** for up to 20 fellows. As the Israel Fast Track Fellowship takes place entirely online, it is crucial for the educational experience to be diverse, engaging, and thought-provoking. We have constructed a plan that involves both live engagement and off-line small group tasks. Fellows will interact both individually, in small working groups and as a cohort. Fellows will be expected to participate in offline discussion and group work between Sunday sessions. This will be facilitated and supported by a UK based Madrich and mentor.



# IS THIS FOR ME?

If you are someone who wants to explore, in a serious, high-quality and in-depth way, the big questions surrounding Israel today, and you want to use this expertise to become an informed leader of your peers and in the community, then yes, this is for you.

You'll finish the programme more knowledgeable about Israel, more reflective about its options, and more able to articulate how you feel about its issues.

We are actively seeking a diverse group for this programme. We want people from across the religious and political spectrum, and who have a range of views about Israel. As long as you are supportive of the existence of Israel as a Jewish state (broadly defined) and are willing to hear and engage with a spectrum of opinions, we want you to apply.

## HOW MUCH DOES IT COST?

The programme is very heavily subsidised and costs £250.00.

If your family's financial circumstances are such that this cost would prohibit your participation on the programme, we have financial assistance available. Please tick the relevant box on the application form.

## WHAT DO I NEED TO DO TO APPLY?

To register your interest in the programme and to receive the application form [click here](#).

- › Applicants must be able to commit to participate in all parts of the programme.
- › Applicants must be between 16-18 years old in the equivalent school years 12-13.
- › Applicants must have the permission of a parent/guardian to apply.
- › Applicants are welcome from across the UK.

## PAST PARTICIPANTS:

*Please note the following testimonials were from the past 3 years of programming.*

“My expectations were far exceeded – genuinely, hands down, this was the best Israel programme I have ever done. The group was diverse and bonded well. The people who came to speak to the group were amazing – meeting and getting to really have a dialogue with the Israeli Ambassador was a particular highlight. We heard multiple narratives, were asked hard questions and all came out knowing a massive amount more. I would thoroughly recommend signing up – it was an incredible experience.”

“I wanted to say thank you for what has been an amazing year. You have awoken in me a whole series of questions about Israel, Zionism, the relationship of Israel to the Diaspora and my own life choices. I’m now definitely going to take a gap year in Israel.”

“We met the Israeli analyst and author Yossi Klein Halevi. He spoke to us about how he sees the Israeli left and right, and his developing and sometimes conflicting ideas about the conflict with the Palestinians and the Israeli society. I came away with my head spinning – in the most positive way possible! It was the kind of experience that I would never get on any other Israel programme.”

“There genuinely didn’t seem to be an agenda, it wasn’t about trying to convince us of anything except that we should have really thought hard about our own opinions and be able to defend them with arguments and experiences. I feel like I have come out of this programme with much more knowledge and understanding – and many more questions.”

“There was a great social dynamic. We were very different people, but there was mutual respect. I engaged with viewpoints I had never taken seriously before, and I am coming out with a much more nuanced understanding of Israel than I had before this programme.”



For more information on this programme please contact Eli Gaventa,  
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**This programme is brought to you by Impact Israel Education in partnership with UJIA**

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