

## THE ROLE OF THE REBBE

Is it the achrayus and responsibility of a Rebbe to be mechanech his talmidim even beyond the time of his class? Example - if the talmid misbehaves during secular studies, should the Rebbe intervene?

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It is difficult for me to understand this *shayla*. Do we only teach subject matter or do we mold our students so that they should become better *yidden*? If the Rebbe feels his role is only to teach another *posuk* of *Chumosh* or another piece of *Gemorra*, then he should work only for the time that he receives remuneration. However, I don't know of a Yeshiva/Bais Yaakov in this world that would adhere to this type of philosophy.

In trying to help make our students better *Yidden*, we certainly worry about what our students read, watch, whom they associate with outside of the parameters of the *Kodesh* classroom. We are concerned about their physical health, their emotional well-being, their manners, and the entire *arum* and *arum* of the student. Why then, pray tell, should we not be concerned if one of our students is *chutzpadik* to his secular teacher? If the Rebbe attends a *Simcha* on *Shabbos*, which is certainly not in the realm of his teaching time, and sees one of his young students, sitting at a table while older guests have no chair, would it not be appropriate for him to ask his student to give his place to someone older?

From a different perspective, what if a student does an *avleh*, something inappropriate, outside of school hours? The Rebbe finds about it and discusses the infraction with the student. The student then comments, in a non-*chuzpadik* manner, that it was not done on school time and therefore should not be the concern of the Yeshiva, Would the Rebbe's reaction be that one is a *Ben Torah* 24/7? Therefore it is most certainly the concern of the Yeshiva.

Is this not part and parcel of his teaching role in making his students better *Yidden*?

Look into any *Mussar* or *Hashkofo Sefer* and you will see that all of this is quite elementary and requires no further discussion.