**Lesson Plan**

Title: The experience of Jewish people in medieval England

Lesson objectives:

* To know key dates and events relating to the Jewish community in medieval England
* To know where Jewish communities settled in England
* To know why Jewish people came to England and describe their relationship with the Crown
* To use the poem of Meir ben Elijah to identify aspects of Jewish peoples’ experiences in medieval England

Activities (note: resources can be found on corresponding PowerPoint and handout):

**Starter – slide 2**

Pupils list three groups of immigrants to Britain pre-1066. Extension – say why those groups came.

**Task 1 – slides 3 & 4**

Pupils use the events provided to construct a timeline of medieval England alongside events in the Jewish community’s experience. This will enable them to understand events relating to the community in the wider context of English history.

Differentiation:

* This task can be lengthened or shortened by adding/taking away events and/or jumbling them up chronologically. The timeline can also be kept and added to as pupils work their way through the period.
* Pupils can be tasked with identifying or speculating on/trying to work out links between events in Jewish peoples’ experience and those in wider English history.

**Task 2 – slide 5**

Pupils use either of the maps to pinpoint the centres of Jewish population by 1150.

Differentiation: use the map with place names already on and get pupils to highlight them.

**Task 3 – slide 6**

Pupils read the extract from the website and answer the set of comprehension questions on slide 6.

**Task 4 – slide 7**

Analyse Meir’s poem, reading for meaning and unpicking what we can learn about the experiences of Jewish people in England in the medieval period. Scaffold a response to the question: *What can we learn from this poem about the experiences of Jewish people in England in the 13th century, and their responses to these experiences?* by writing sentences in response based on lines 1-3, followed by pupils writing sentences based on lines 4-6. An alternative question would be *‘How useful is this source to an historian studying the experiences of Jewish people in medieval England?’*