Pedagogy of Partnership (PoP) is a research-based pedagogy and Jewish content provider that focuses on relationship-centered education and helping learners cultivate empathy, curiosity, collaboration, and communication skills. PoP helps learners improve their communication and interpretive skills in order to better engage with Jewish texts and wisdom.

Milton Gottesman Jewish Day School of the Nation’s Capital (MILTON) has been selected for the inaugural cohort of the PoP Day School Fellowship. Elementary School Director Arielle Derby will lead a team of MILTON educators — general studies teachers Marissa Bullock and Hanina Goldstein, and Judaic studies teacher Nechama Malkiel — in this endeavor.

“The PoP Fellowship offers Jewish day schools an opportunity to expand and innovate Jewish educational thinking,” said Head of School Naomi Reem. “We are fortunate to have an exceptional Jewish and education professional like Arielle to lead our team, and to have talented educators like Marissa, Hanina, and Nechama who are dedicated to promoting academic excellence, meaningful learning, and deep engagement among our students.”

In her two years at MILTON, Derby has led the Elementary School Division with vision, skill, and copious enthusiasm.

“We are honored to be part of the inaugural Pedagogy of Partnership cohort and excited for this opportunity to lead, learn, contribute, and connect with other Jewish day schools,” said Derby.

As part of the multi-year fellowship, participants will attend two immersive summer institutes and numerous professional development units throughout the year. Derby will work with teachers to learn and implement PoP strategies in their classrooms and she will attend a PoP leadership institute each year.

The fellowship is administered by Hadar in collaboration with the Pedagogy of Partnership, and is funded by a joint grant from the AVI CHAI, Kohelet, and Mayberg Foundations.