

**Ben Weich**

June 8, 2018



## Ex-bar mitzvah tutor Jason Blair jailed for sexual assault of teenage girl

He is known in the Jewish community for his work as a glass-blower, creating pieces for chupahs





Jason Blair (Photo: Jason Blair)

A glass blower and former bar mitzvah tutor has been jailed for seven years for the sexual assault of a teenage girl.

In April, a jury convicted Jason Blair, of Mill Hill, North West London, of five counts of sexual assault against a single victim, who was aged 13 and 14 at the time of the offences.

Sentencing him on Friday, Judge Philip Grey ordered Blair, a 47-year-old father-of-two, to sign the sex offenders' register for life.

Blair is known in the Jewish community for his work as a glass-blower, creating pieces for chupahs, and also as a chazan and events manager for bar mitzvah parties.

He has also worked as a tutor for bar mitzvah boys.

Passing sentence, the judge told Blair: “You calculated, rightly at the time, that [the victim] would not take steps to report you.

“The reality is that you have brought this all down on yourself. It is right that in sentencing I focus on the impact of your offending on the victim.

“There will be long-lasting and devastating impacts of offending of this nature.”

He added that Blair’s attempt to silence the victim through “emotional blackmail” was an aggravating factor, as was his refusal to admit the offences.

In a statement read by prosecutor Beverly Cripps, the victim she said that her schoolwork had suffered because of the abuse, as had her relationships with “male teachers and boys”.

"My schoolwork has been badly affected," she said in the statement.

“I am uncomfortable being around male teachers. I feel socially weird. I feel awkward and I don’t like feeling this way.

“I don’t like boys hugging me or putting their arms around me, even when they are just being nice.

“Sometimes I am alone... or on the bus and I find myself thinking about what happened.

“I don’t know the right words to express how I feel. The closest word I can think of is uncomfortable.”

I don't know the right words to express how I feel. The closest word I can think of is uncomfortable.

The judge noted Blair had no past convictions and had helped friends “through difficult times” in the past.

But he added the offending was "serious and sustained" and the victim's age was an "aggravating factor".

## RELATED STORIES

UK NEWS

### Chazan found guilty of sexual assault



Ben Weich

Monday, April 30, 2018

UK NEWS

### Jewish lawyer halts Al Quds Day march



Ben Weich

08:41

UK NEWS

### Hezbollah flags flown at Al Quds Day march



Ben Weich

Yesterday, 20:48

## MOST READ

UK NEWS

**Jewish lawyer halts Al Quds Day march**

COMMENT

**My son was killed. I ...**

FEATURES

**Spurs and the Jews: t...**

ANALYSIS

**Big Bang? It's kosher**

SPECIAL REPORTS

## St John's Wood: A rich seam of Jewish life little more than a six-hit from Lord's



Ben Weich

Thursday, June 7, 2018

WORLD

## Kippah worn by Berlin assault victim on display



Ben Weich

Monday, June 4, 2018

WORLD

## Author of Holocaust book honoured at rabbinical summit



Ben Weich

Tuesday, May 29, 2018

UK NEWS

## Popular simchah venue goes up in flames



**Ben Weich**

Wednesday, June 6, 2018

UK NEWS

## Jewish councillor suspended over World War II tweets



**Ben Weich**

Monday, June 4, 2018

COMMUNITY NEWS

## Delight as sale of Leeds housing block reversed



**Ben Weich**

Tuesday, May 29, 2018

UK NEWS

## Gordon Brown calls for fresh Labour antisemitism report



Ben Weich

Wednesday, June 6, 2018

UK NEWS

## Hate case opens door to Shoah denial trials



Ben Weich

Thursday, May 31, 2018

UK NEWS

## Cruise disaster survivor in plea to find man who saved him



Ben Weich

Monday, May 28, 2018

## Subscribe to our Newsletter

The JC offers several email newsletters to keep you updated with our news, features and comment. Take your pick from a daily update, the Editor's weekly selections, politics and sport — or choose all four.

Register

Sign In



[About us](#)

---

[Advertising](#)

---

[Terms & Conditions](#)

---

[FAQs](#)

---

[Privacy policy](#)

---

[Contact us](#)