



2<sup>nd</sup> May 2023

Dear Parent/Carer,

**Re: New House System**

We are excited to inform you that we are relaunching the house system at Handsworth Grange Community Sports College after a period of time without it. This will include new houses and new identities to ensure it plays a pivotal role in school life.

The aim of the house system is to provide students the opportunity to positively contribute to their house. By pupils engaging in everyday school life and participating in house competitions it will be giving back to their house to create a collective identity. By having a house system, we aim for it to create a sense of student and staff belonging to the school and the community, which will continue to build upon positive relationships that are already well established within the school. In addition to this, it provides opportunities for pupils to develop important life skills such communication, team work and leadership whilst raising self-esteem and self-confidence that encourages each pupil that leaves our school to be well rounded individuals ready for the next steps in their life.

After taking feedback from pupils in regard to the house identity theme via Microsoft forms in tutor time, I can unveil that the 4 houses will be called after an area of Sheffield. This was chosen to celebrate our city and the areas within it to create a long-lasting house identity with cultural and career links to the wider community.

Each pupil will be assigned to a house which will be one of the following:



**Kelham**



**Ecclesall**



**Don Valley**



**Sheaf Valley**

Pupils will stay in the same house until they leave Handsworth Grange. All staff members are also allocated a house to be a part of. Each house will be overseen by two Head of Houses that are members of staff but will be further supported by House Captains. One boy and one girl from each Year group will be appointed and will have further responsibilities within their house. More information will be shared with pupils about this during the summer term when applications will also take place.

There will be various opportunities for pupils to get involved in house competitions across the school throughout the school year such as fortnightly house competitions within tutor time, Sports Day, inter-house activities within lessons but also at lunchtime and afterschool. Pupils will be awarded 'house points' for their contribution during each competition which will go towards your child's overall achievement points record. This then will contribute towards their houses accumulative total of achievement/house points creating a house leader board. Each half term the biggest contributors to the house leader board will be rewarded to celebrate their exceptional attitude and involvement towards the house system. Should a student receive a behaviour point this will be automatically

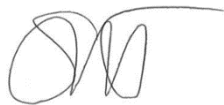
deducted from the house leader board. Updates on the house leader board will be shared fortnightly with pupils within tutor time and parents via parent app and our social media outlets.

We recognise that any change to school life can generate anxiety amongst students, staff and parents. We have met with staff and have informed all students about the new house system during tutor time. We hope this will alleviate any anxieties that students may have, so that they can look forward to the new house system with enthusiasm and excitement! If you would like further clarification on the house system then please do not hesitate to contact us via our school website.

We passionately believe that the house system will bring opportunities to celebrate our pupil's commitment and success, increase enjoyment to school life enabling all students to be the best they can be throughout their journey at Handsworth Grange Community Sports College.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,



Suzy Mattock  
Headteacher



Maddy Daly  
Teacher of Physical Education  
Transition Coordinator & House System Lead