

18th of July 2023

Dear Parent/Carer



## **Re: The new House System**

I am writing to you as the new Head of Enrichment to let you know about an exciting change that is coming to Chaucer from September 2023. We will be introducing a House system which will impact all students and staff at Chaucer school. This letter will outline some of the changes and how they will affect you and your child.

### **Why a house system?**

A house system is an exciting way to develop positive relationships between students around the school, not just within form groups, and it helps to foster a sense of healthy competition, teamworking, and it should encourage our students to learn to be supportive of each other in and outside of the classroom, promoting our core Chaucer values of *respect, kindness and responsibility*. Additionally, the house system should allow students to get to know their teachers outside of the classroom context, creating an opportunity to build good relationships as they work together to support their house.

Furthermore, this new system should allow us to introduce a wide variety of new activities and competitions across the school, some academic, some creative and some just for fun. There should be something that everyone can get involved in, so everyone can benefit!

### **How will this affect your child?**

Each student will be allocated one of our 3 houses, this should be their house throughout their Chaucer journey. Students of each house will work together to earn points for their house, both through the current behaviour system, and through a series of house events and competitions that will take place throughout the year. Members of staff, including your child's form tutor, will be allocated a house also, so there will always be someone to cheer them on and support them in getting involved in house events.

To help your child remember their house, and maintain house pride, each student will have a badge to wear on their blazer to represent their house. Like their blazer, this should be worn at all times as this will help teachers awarding points to the correct house.

There will be opportunities for students from each house to demonstrate responsibility through the role of House Council, sharing student voice about issues around school as well as being involved in the decision-making process for house and school events. This is a great opportunity for your child to make their voice heard and demonstrate their responsible nature.

Chaucer School, Wordsworth Ave, Sheffield, S5 8NH

Headteacher: Joanna Crewe

[enquiries@chaucer.sheffield.sch.uk](mailto:enquiries@chaucer.sheffield.sch.uk)

[www.chaucer.sheffield.sch.uk](http://www.chaucer.sheffield.sch.uk)

0114 232 2338

## How will this affect you?

Support from you will be extremely beneficial in helping our students make the most of the new house system; encouraging them to wear their blazer and house badge with pride, supporting them and pushing them to be involved in the house events throughout the year.

## What will the house system look like?

The three houses will be named after excellent Sheffield role-models, Jessica Ennis-Hill, the Olympian, Helen Sharman, the first British astronaut in space, and Pete McKee, a fantastic local artist.

**Ennis**



**Sharman**



**McKee**



Each house will be made up of:

**A Head of House**

**Teachers within the house**

**Two form groups from each year**

## What to expect throughout the school year?

Members of staff throughout the school are working on putting together an exciting timetable of events, including sporting competitions, crafting events, reading challenges and many more. There should be activities which will appeal to every student, and an opportunity for students to share their suggestions for events, as well.

If you have any queries, please get in contact using my email address below.

Yours faithfully,

Miss C Prottis

Head of Enrichment | Teacher of French

[cprottis@chaucer.sheffield.sch.uk](mailto:cprottis@chaucer.sheffield.sch.uk)