Ysgol Greenhill School

Pastoral ‘House’ Structure

September 2018
As we conclude the academic year of 2017-18 we see the end of the current pastoral structure that exists at Ysgol Greenhill. The pastoral structure at Greenhill moves to a vertical ‘house system’ rather than a linear ‘year’ based structure from September 2018.

We, as a pastoral team, believe that the ‘house’ structure will bring a plethora of benefits to all pupils at Greenhill:

• The ‘house system’ will be an effective way of bringing pupils of different age groups together.
• Our ‘house system’ will create a cohesive school community and helps break down perceived barriers between age groups.
• The ‘house system’ places a greater emphasis on mutual support and responsibility / with greater opportunities for student leadership.
• Our older pupils will assume leadership and mentor roles and our younger pupils have older students that serve as role models.
• Each student will become naturally connected with other pupils in their house. This promotes a community culture.
• The upper school pupils will have clearly defined expectations in relation to being positive role models. Those pupils with leadership responsibilities can/will share advice e.g. settling into secondary education, advice relating to GCSE and A’ Level choices, revision guidance and exam preparation.
• Tutors can attend to a small number of students at the same time – New intake; Option choices; work experience. Each tutor will have a small number of pupils from certain year groups who will need their guidance and attention at specific times.
• Tutors get to know their pupils over the years as they move through the school.
• Increases scope for pupils to develop their social skills through working with pupils of different ages via a mentoring and support role.
• The ‘house system’ offers the pupils practical preparation for the work place – where else in life do we interact exclusively with people the same age as ourselves?
• Siblings will be placed in the same house as their other family members – during house competitions this conjures a huge sense of competition and rewards involvement in non-academic and after-school events.
• A sense of tradition will be created and developed over subsequent years with the family connections to a specific ‘house’. Parents and guardians will develop and form closer relationships with the ‘Head of House’ and tutors due to this ‘house’ affiliation.
• The ‘house’ structure will raise the profile of the House activities / competitions / charity work.
• Throughout the year older students will be provided with opportunities to lead activities for younger students in their ‘house’. ‘House’ competitions are envisaged across all curriculum areas on a half termly basis.
• We anticipate that the connections formed across year groups through the ‘house system’ will be a favourite aspect of pupils’ Greenhill experience. We anticipate this to be a catalyst for a marked change in attitudes towards learning – because of the competition and the identification of each student within a house, there will be constant encouragement for students to do their best.
• All members of staff at Greenhill will be allocated a ‘house’. Therefore; the sense of belonging and identification goes further than the pupils.
The ‘House’ structure

The structure of each ‘house’ has been extensively researched, discussed and considered carefully with a multitude of combinations taken into account and considered. The final decision and the outline of the structure can be seen below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Head of House – Mr Calvin Williams</th>
<th>MILLER HOUSE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Form Tutor: Ms S Rook</td>
<td>Form Tutor: Mr N Davies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 7 and 8 pupils</td>
<td>Year 7 and 8 pupils</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Form Tutor: Mr T Bercury</td>
<td>Form Tutor: Mr D Osborne</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 9, 10 and 11 pupils</td>
<td>Year 9, 10 and 11 pupils</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Head of House – Mr Jonny Leigh</th>
<th>GALAHAD HOUSE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Form Tutor: Miss R Chilcott / Mrs M Williams</td>
<td>Form Tutor: Ms L Scale</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 7 and 8 pupils</td>
<td>Year 7 and 8 pupils</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Form Tutor: Mr J Evans / Mrs K King</td>
<td>Form Tutor: Ms R Evans / Mrs T Thomas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 9, 10 and 11 pupils</td>
<td>Year 9, 10 and 11 pupils</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Form Tutor: Mrs L Thomas</td>
<td>Form Tutor: Mrs L Thomas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 9, 10 and 11 pupils</td>
<td>Year 9, 10 and 11 pupils</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
As you can see each ‘house’ will contain:

- 3 x Y7/8 forms
- 4 x Y9/10/11 forms.
- Each form will have a roughly even spread of the ‘year’ groups pupils.
- Each form group will also have a number of Year 12 and 13 pupils with it. This will allow for the essential mentoring and guidance from older students to take place.
- Each ‘house’ will therefore contain 7 forms and consequently 7 form tutors.
- The improvement and development of student leadership is an essential and vital part of the ‘house system’ model. Each ‘house’ will have ‘House Captains’. These will come from the current senior perfect team that features the Head Boy and Head Girl applicants from this current academic year. Each form will also have ‘Form Captains’.

### The ‘House’ population

The population of the ‘houses’ has taken a considerable amount of time to do. This is largely due to the multiple factors that we wished to consider.

- Numerous factors were considered whilst populating the ‘houses’.
- A large number of our pupils found themselves naturally placed into a ‘house’ due to a sibling connection.
All of our previous knowledge and information relating to pupils has been considered and taken into account.
Pupils have all been told who their ‘Head of House’ and ‘form tutor’ will be in September.
Pupils will all be presented with a small badge to wear upon their tie / blazer / jumper in their house colour during their first official ‘house’ assembly with Mr McGovern when we return in September.

House names

As you are all aware a consultation took place whereby all current Greenhill pupils and transitioning Year 6 pupils were asked to provide their thoughts and opinions in relation to the ‘house’ names.

The pupils were given some suggestions to prompt thought and categories to consider. The ideas were all collated. A full school council meeting then took place on Tuesday 10th July at 10.05am. The pupils were provided with the brief and all of the suggestions / ideas for consideration.

The final decision made by our Greenhill school council was for the ‘houses’ to be named after four iconic Tenby lifeboats. The link to our local coastal community has been recognised in this choice and this decision will forge strong and long-lasting connections with the RNLI.

The ‘house’ names are as follows:

- **MILLER house** – named after Haydn Miller the current Tenby lifeboat that was launched in 2006
- **GALAHAD house** – named after Sir Galahad the lifeboat launched in 1986
- **WEBB house** – named after John. R. Webb launched in 1923
- **DEVEY house** – named after William & Mary Devey launched in 1902

Each ‘house’ is also linked to a colour for ease of identification.

Assemblies

Pupils will have a weekly ‘house’ assembly led by their ‘Head of House’. We will also hold ‘special’ assemblies when messages specific to a certain year group are necessary. The pupils will also have assemblies delivered by their ‘House Captains’ and members of the school leadership team when appropriate.

‘House’ accommodation

The ‘houses’ will be accommodated on a specific corridor within school to create a unified zone that is affiliated with the specific house. This area of the school will contain the ‘House Noticeboard’ and will eventually include signage containing the colour, names, logo and motto of the specific house. This will obviously develop over time.

‘House’ competitions

The ‘house’ competitions are to be an integral part of the ‘house system’. Each curriculum area will be asked to devise a ‘house’ competition to take place during the academic year. All pupils will participate in the various competitions whenever possible. Each competition will generate ‘house points’ that will total up over the year. The larger school events of the Eisteddfod and
Sports day will also feed into this. The ‘house competitions’ will conclude with the presentation of the ‘House Cup’ to the winning house.

We aim to foster a sense of productive and healthy competition. Pupils will be encouraged to support, acknowledge and celebrate in the successes of their fellow house members.

To conclude

This is undoubtedly a period of change at Greenhill and one which fills the pastoral team with great excitement. We all truly believe that this new pastoral ‘house system’ will benefit and enhance the experience of pupils at Greenhill.

We would like to thank you all for your on-going support and wish you all a relaxing, enjoyable and restful summer break.