



15th July 2022

Dear Parents and Carers

House System 2022 onwards

I am writing to update you on the progress of our work to establish an effective house system at Magna Academy. As you will be aware, over the last two years we have successfully introduced Anning, Talbot and Webster Houses. This gave us a vehicle to enhance student leadership and competition opportunities, as well as fostering a greater sense of belonging within the academy. Our recent House Festival highlighted the positive impact of these changes on our students and staff.

The next step will be to move to a fully integrated house system from September 2022. This means that our three current Heads of Year will become Heads of House. They will be joined by a team of other senior and experienced staff members to ensure the smooth running of each house. We will have three Sixth Form tutor groups next year, due to increased student numbers. Each one will be linked with a house, however the Sixth Form will continue to be led by Mrs Biddle (Assistant Principal) with three separate Sixth Form tutors.

House	Anning		Talbot		Webster	
Key staff	Mrs Cook (Head of House) Mr Hesketh (Director of Humanities) Mrs Kainth (Assistant Principal)		Miss Ridge (Head of House) Mrs Bleeze (Director of Science) Mr Buller (Assistant Principal)		Mrs Huggett (Head of House) Mrs Poet (Director of English) Mrs Needham (Assistant Principal)	
Guiding Principal	<i>Self Worth</i>		<i>Engagement</i>		<i>Purpose</i>	
House 8 Conditions Focus	<i>Belonging</i>	<i>Sense of Accomplishment</i>	<i>Curiosity and Creativity</i>	<i>Spirit of Adventure</i>	<i>Leadership and Responsibility</i>	<i>Confidence to take action</i>
House Mantra	<i>Work hard be kind</i>		<i>Excellence is a habit</i>		<i>Empowered by knowledge</i>	
House Subject Team	House of civilisation and exploration		House of discovery and innovation		House of communication and collaboration	
	Maths, Humanities & Social Sciences		Science, PE, Tech , Art & Business		English, MFL, Media, Drama, Music & ATL	

This model of academy organisation is often referred to as a 'schools within schools' model. There is strong evidence that this type of structure helps to streamline processes and is most effective for supporting students to succeed both academically and pastorally. Successful academies within the Aspirations Trust and throughout the country (e.g Thomas Telford) have benefited from this type of structure. These changes do not change the shape or timings of the day or individual lessons for students.

The vast majority of our students will remain with their current tutor for September. However, by aligning subjects with each house this does mean some tutor groups will move houses. We have endeavoured to keep students with their existing tutor, however there will be some changes due to staff changes such as internal promotion and new staff joining us. Parents/carers will be notified of their child's tutor and house next week in a letter from the relevant Head of House.

For students in Years 8 to 11 that have changed houses we will need to ensure they have the correct house tie. In order to reduce waste and minimise cost for parents we will collect in ties where students have changed houses, launder them and re-distribute. Any ties that are damaged and not of a good quality will be replaced by the academy.

I would like to publicly thank Mrs Spicer for her hard work and commitment covering Mrs Cook's maternity leave as Head of Year 7 this year. I will write again next week, in the meantime I hope all families enjoy the warmer weather safely this weekend.

Looking ahead to next week, please can you ensure your child comes to the academy with a water bottle and wearing sun cream.

Yours sincerely



Ms N Ullah
Principal