



The House System

HISTORY

- The House system was founded in 1914, with the names originally relating to the neighbourhoods that the boys lived within: Catford, Bellingham, Ladywell, Lewisham, Forest Hill, Hither Green, Sydenham and Brockley.
- The system was founded in order to provide a range of academic, cultural and sporting activities, thereby nurturing team spirit, loyalty and pride.
- In 1919, following the Great War, the Houses were renamed after eight former pupils who died in the conflict: Bennett, Thomas, Griffiths, Johnson VC, Goosey, Wilson, Lane and Ross.
- In 1988, to improve the level of competition, the number was reduced to four and the Houses were named after the first four Headmasters of the College:
 - Forder (incorporating Bennett & Thomas)
 - Hecker (incorporating Griffiths & Johnson)
 - Stuart (incorporating Goosey & Wilson)
 - Usherwood (incorporating Lane & Ross)

PURPOSE

- The House system continues to exist in order to provide a range of competitive activities in order to nurture team spirit, loyalty and pride. The House system is particularly important in providing opportunities for pupils who would not normally represent the College to participate in inter-school competition.

ORGANISATION

- On joining the College, pupils are allotted to one of the four Houses.
- The House system begins in Year 4 and runs throughout the College, to Year 13. The system in the Preparatory School (Years 4-6) is separate from the Senior School. This document applies to Years 7-13 only.
- House events are split into three categories: Creative, Academic, and Sport.
- In the Senior School, each House is led by a Head of House.

CAPTAINS AND VICE CAPTAINS

- House Captains are selected in years 13, 10 and 8 to assist with the selection of teams in their age bracket.
- Vice Captains are also selected across the three House categories to assist the House Captains with team selection and should actively be involved in events based around the specialist area.
- House Captains lunches will be a regular feature throughout the year. These are prior to House Assemblies and create a more formal opportunity for House Captains and Vice Captains to meet and talk through team selection.
- The Head of House is responsible for ensuring that their House Captains are fulfilling their roles in an efficient and effective manner.
- Houses hold regular meetings to organise teams, read out results and present awards and certificates.
- The Heads of House are overseen by the Deputy Head Pastoral.
- The activities programme is coordinated by the House Activities Co-ordinator, who works closely with the Assistant Head Co-Curricular and Deputy Head Pastoral
- The prefect who is allocated with responsibility to the House System will meet the Head of Houses on a weekly basis.

PUBLICITY

- Information is publicised on the electronic notice board in the main foyer. This allows results updates and winners of the various cups on offer.
- The newly formed House Crests are displayed in the main foyer. These are the amalgamation of previous house badges before they were made into four.
- A noticeboard in the middle corridor will be allocated to the house system, this will have details of upcoming events and photographs of the Heads of House.
- House Events will be photographed by the College and included on our Instagram and Twitter Accounts (a St Dunstan's College Instagram Page- agreed with Marketing).
- The website will feature a blog about the House System.

The House System			
Author/s:	Paul Cozens Nicholas Hewlett	Date Reviewed:	Michaelmas 2019
Date Ratified:	Michaelmas 2019	Next Review Date:	Michaelmas 2020
Committee:	N/A	Clerk to the Governors	N/A
		Signature: