



SIR THOMAS FREMANTLE SCHOOL

A CO-EDUCATIONAL SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS AGED 11-19

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14th May 2021

Dear parents/carers,

RE Developments of the pastoral system at STFS

This year, the pastoral team at STFS have evaluated our current systems and have developed a plan to improve our pastoral provision and support across the school. We wanted to share with you this vision and our plans for the next academic year.

In October 2020 we conducted a comprehensive survey of students, parents and staff to evaluate the effectiveness of our pastoral provision. Using this feedback, combined with the needs of our growing school, we have made the decision to revamp the house and tutor system.

For the next academic year, STFS will be revamping and improving the house system. One of the main changes from this will be the expansion to four houses from three. This will allow for fairer competition throughout the school and provide a better framework to celebrate all the achievements of our students. As part of this move, we need your help in naming the new house(s). We wanted to give students the opportunity to take ownership of this decision within their school. We appreciate that our current house names can be considered a bit outdated and perhaps students might feel attached to the current system but this choice is for them. Please can students (together with their parents) complete the linked [form](#) (by 28th May 2021) to suggest new names for our four houses at STFS. All students will be assigned to one of the four houses for the next academic year. It is our hope that their house will become part of their identity within the school and something that they are proud to represent. Students will share their house identity with their peers from other year groups. We will be introducing a programme of inter-house competitions across the full curriculum which will contribute towards our rewards programme.

In order to enhance our pastoral offer across the school, there will be a transition to year-based tutor groups. This is to provide more tailored provision during form time, ensure high quality educational support for all students, focused pastoral care for the evolving challenges of navigating secondary education and the development of skills to prepare them for life after school. This change will allow us to reduce the number of students within our tutor groups and ensure that each year group will be served by a learning lead and a team of four tutors who will move with them through their time at school. This team will be best placed to deliver an engaging and varied programme to best meet the needs of our students. It is our intention to ensure that before breaking up for summer, all students will have met their new tutors and know what house they will be a part of. This will allow for a smooth start to the next academic year and allow students to focus on their studies from the get-go. Teaching groups will be mixed across houses to allow for collaborative learning and the opportunities to earn rewards for their house across the school.



This is something that we as a school are really excited about. We believe that this will allow us to make some positive changes that will help to enhance the experiences of our students at our school. Learning Leaders will be holding assemblies explaining the process in a bit more detail to students in the coming weeks and hopefully they will be as excited about this as the teaching body.

Yours faithfully,

Mat Payne
Director of Learning Leaders

