Rationale

We shared this and pupils said that they felt that it was important for pupils to know why we want to have a House System. They said it was clear and they would like to know more about this at an assembly.



House Structure

Pupils liked the idea of 4 Houses instead of 8 as they felt it was easier to remember and it had more impact.

However, concerns about the numbers of pupils if there were 4 houses and they felt that if two houses were put together then pupils would not get to know everyone

They liked the idea of 'Spinning the wheel' as this gave them the best of both as 8 Houses could become 4 Houses

They felt that all teachers should be linked to a house



Leadership Structure

Choose 2 representatives from each year group. Prove they are serious about the job- deliver a speech

It should be equal and the S5/6 pupils should not have all the responsibility

Pupils felt that there should be 2 House Captains as well in S6



House Theme Names

Group did not have any strong feelings in this area. Some of them liked the idea of trees and liked the idea that it tied in with school. They mentioned landmarks/famous people but felt that this was overdone.

If trees were chosen they did not want oak used as it had connotations of strength. Choose trees that pupils had to find out more about. Learn something about your house's identity.

Although they liked the opportunity to comment, they felt that it did not really matter and pupils would accept whatever names were chosen.

Choose 4 and let them vote.



Branding / Advertisement

Pupils liked idea of colour and a badge but not a circle as this is too linked to primary. They preferred a crest with name on it too. They liked idea of tartan colours or a house tie

Group liked the idea of house motto but concern was that it would get confused with school motto. 8 mottos might be too many



Pupils thought that having a competition to decide on motto or design for badge would be a good idea. Having house boards/displays/social media to promote/link to community



Events / Launch Events

Pupils were keen to focus on all areas- not just sport Have events in Performing Arts/ Maths/English/Science

Have houses raising money for charities

Team building event for houses

Each House is designated a week where they have to come up with an idea/theme e.g bake sales/karaoke/musical — promotes mental health etc

Rewards / Points

Points/tokens for taking part in events/ achievement in any area in and out of school

Tokens could be deposited in clear boxes at office. Display boards highlight amount of points- house leaders

Concerns about points being allocated for uniform/attendance/behaviour-fair

Pupils felt that a reward event at the end of the year would be good. They would like to choose this.

House Group Assemblies

Group felt that it was good to have the same groups for assemblies to get to know people

Having a spread of S1-6 was too much at times and we could have groups of S1-S3 and S4-S6

They thought the seniors should lead to begin with as previously nobody took on the role and it was very awkward. This could then rotate. Look at ways to learn something about each person in the group.

