



## The Nova House System

Every student at Nova Hreod is part of the house system. Each student is placed into one of our four mixed-age houses and into a mixed-age house tutor group. They become part of the house family and the tie they wear shows which house they belong to. Each morning, pupils join their house and tutor group for roll call and registration and then for a 25-minute tutor session or an assembly.

We believe that vertical (i.e. all year groups represented in each tutor group) tutoring promotes individual responsibility, enhances students' confidence and encourages an environment of collaboration and teamwork. Our vertical tutoring system allows students to work together to develop tolerance, trust and empathy. Younger students are helped, guided and inspired by older students. Older students develop important leadership and social skills.

Tutor time activities include a regular check of students' equipment, monitoring of attendance and epraise points (including checking positions on the school leader boards!), and reading and discussion of a topical article, linked to the assembly that week.

Mixed-age tutor groups will be led by a Head of House and a team of tutors who work with parents and carers. They monitor progress, provide personal support, encourage high achievement and challenge underachievement. There is also a House Manager for each house who works with parents and carers when there are pastoral concerns, including behaviour or attendance.

We have chosen the names of our houses to link with the name of our school – Nova Hreod. A 'Nova' is an explosion of a star so bright that it can outshine an entire galaxy. Our four houses are named after constellations and were chosen by our pupils in May 2018. They are: Pegasus, Aquila, Orion and Cygnus.

We firmly believe that the sense of identity and belonging created through the house system will allow all students and staff to play their part in making us an exceptional school.

Throughout the year, our House Championship provides opportunities for healthy competition and fun through a wide range of competitions, with associated reward points for participation and winning. Each year, only one house can be crowned House Champion!

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## **Student Leadership**

There are so many ways for students to become leaders at Nova. Here is an outline of the roles and responsibilities of our student leaders.

### **The School Council**

The aim of the School Council is to provide a forum for discussion, by students' representatives, of issues raised by students or staff which affect the life of the school. The school council allows views to be expressed and heard and creates a further opportunity for effective communication within the school and for appropriate actions to be taken.

#### *Student Elections and Representation*

In September of each year, each tutor group will elect one representative (a **tutor rep**) who will be the representative for the tutor group at House Meetings. This is the forum for discussion of ideas or suggestions from the tutor group.

These House Meetings also involve the **House Representatives**. There are two House Representatives in each house, who are elected by the whole house in September of each year after candidates present to the house in assembly. House Reps have additional responsibilities and attend additional meetings to represent the house at Senior School Council meetings.

#### *Head Girl and Head Boy*

These prestigious positions are held by Year 11 students, handpicked by the senior leadership team. They are responsible for chairing Senior School Council meetings and represent the school in various ways at evening events and open days.

### **Prefects**

We have appointed more than 20 prefects, who are currently in year 11. Their duties will include supporting staff with duties at lunchtime, organising the epraise shop and supporting on open evenings. There will be an application process in the Autumn term for the new year 10s to take on the role of shadow prefects, who will learn from year 11 and will take over their positions in February half term to allow year 11 prefects to focus on their studies in the run-up to GCSE exams.

## **Sports Captains**

The important role of Sports Captain is held by a girl and a boy from each year group in each house. They are selected by Heads of House after applications made in September. The main focus of this role is to organise teams for interhouse sports competitions and plan participation in Sports Day events.

## **Peer Mentors**

The role of the peer mentors will be to support vulnerable year 7 and 8s with, for example, reading, home study and settling within academy. The programme will take its first mentees during term 3 after the training of selected Year 10 students has been completed.

## **Student Librarians**

Student Librarians play a fundamental role in the library during break time and lunch where they help to re-stock shelves and check books in/out. For an application form to become a Student Librarian, students should see Ms Telling, the Librarian and Careers Officer.

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## **Praise and Rewards**

The use of rewards and competition underpins the Nova Hreod Academy House system. It is firm belief that through competition and reward at every at every level of our students will strive to succeed and will reach their full potential.

Nova Hreod Academy rewards students for the following things:

1. 10 points termly for 100% attendance.
2. 10 points termly for no behaviour points.
3. 10 points termly for no homework detentions.
4. 10 points termly for student leadership positions (only awarded if taken part in this activity and it has been signed off).
5. 10 points each term is awarded to the student with the highest house points per term (this is reset each term).
6. 10 points is given every two terms for students that have been voted as the best achievement in subject and the most effort made.
7. 1 point is given for 100% attendance each week.
8. 1 point is given for no behaviour points each week.
9. 1 point is given for no homework detentions in a week.

10. 1 point is given for high quality work, strong home study or excellent verbal contributions in lessons.
- Students can gain extra house points by being involved in after school activities (the SuperNova programme), as well as representing the school in sport, academic or cultural events.
  - Students can gain house points for high achievement and progress in examinations.
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### **Pupil Charter**

At Nova Hreod Academy staff will offer an extensive range of opportunities to allow students to develop ambition, resilience and virtue.

We believe in a broad and rich experience for all students who will look back on their time at Nova Hreod Academy with a greater understanding of the world.

**We ask that students pledge to complete the following by the end of their time at Nova:**

1. Taken part in a school show, performance or public speaking event.
2. Taken part in an individual or team sporting opportunity.
3. Committed to a minimum of two extra-curricular clubs for at least half a term.
4. Attended at least two trips that broadened my understanding about the world we live in.
5. Attended a residential trip.
6. Helped others by participating in a social action campaign or by volunteering my time.
7. Participated in experiences that have helped me make informed decisions about my future and how to get there.
8. Heard from an inspirational speaker.
9. Demonstrate the academy's expectations and attributes.
10. Demonstrate Leadership skills.