



9th October 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

Education with Character

I hope this message finds you well. As we strive to enhance the academic achievements at Avonbourne Academies, we want to take a moment to remind you about our House System, which is designed to support our students in cultivating their "Education with Character" along with developing a sense of community within the Academies.

Education with Character - Our Vision

While academic success and exam results are vital, we believe that a well-rounded education encompasses much more. Our goal is to foster character, compassion, and a sense of service within our students. We encourage them to contribute to both the school and the broader community, to embrace challenges, persist through difficulties, and develop resilience. We aim for our students to reflect on their time at Avonbourne with joy and inspiration, having been equipped to navigate their way successfully through life.

About Our House System

Each student at Avonbourne is assigned to a House upon enrolment, promoting healthy competition and fostering relationships among peers. Students can earn House points through various events and by embodying our REACH values, which contribute to a year-long league, culminating in the awarding of the House trophy.

Throughout the year, Heads of House and House Ambassadors will coordinate a range of activities focused on service, sports, charity, and the arts, with an emphasis on strengthening our connections with the local community.

Upcoming House Events

This term, we have a variety of exciting House events planned. Please encourage your child to participate in the lunchtime activities listed on the Daily Message Board:

- Basketball Competition
- Well-being Club
- Performing Arts
- Board Games

In addition to these activities, our Houses are committed to raising funds for local charities:

- **Chesil House (Head of House: Mr. Newham)** - Supporting **Mind**, dedicated to mental health awareness and resources.
- **Brownsea (Head of House: Miss Cumbers)** - Supporting **Kirsty's Crusaders**, focused on improving lives affected by brain tumours.
- **Durdle (Head of House: Mr Stokes-Carter)** - Supporting **Young Epilepsy**, helping children understand and manage their epilepsy.

Principal: Michelle Dyer



- **Lulworth (Head of House: Miss Slaughter)** – Supporting **Sport in Mind** focusing on improving mental health through sports sessions.
- **Purbeck (Head of House: Mr Murphy)** – Supporting **Friends of the Earth** focussing on climate action and protecting nature.

House Badges

As part of our uniform, students are expected to wear their House badge daily. These badges are given upon joining the Academy and should be displayed on the left lapel of their blazers. If a badge is lost, replacements can be purchased from the school shop (via ParentPay) for £2.00.

Thank you for your ongoing support as we strive to create an enriching environment for our students. Together, we can help them grow into compassionate and resilient individuals.

Yours sincerely,

Ross Goldsmith

Associate Assistant Principal & Head of Physical Education