



5 October 2022

Dear Parent / Guardian,

As you may know at Maiden Erlegh School in Reading, we have a **House System**. Our Houses are **Triton, Griffin and Phoenix**. When students join the school in Year 7, they are assigned to a House which they remain attached to throughout their Secondary School journey.

The aims of our House System are centered around **Identity, Collaboration, Competition and Leadership**, as explained below:

- The House System is an effective way to help pupils develop their **identity** within the wider school (not only to their year group - who they will get to know quite quickly).
- The House System offers students an opportunity for **collaboration** with students beyond those they share the classroom with, which creates a truly cohesive environment and ensures that age is not a barrier to friendship and collaboration.
- The House System allows our students to engage in a wide variety of enrichment activities and brings in an element of **competition**. This gives an opportunity for students to explore their cultural and academic interest beyond the classroom in a more relaxed environment. In MER, we pride ourselves in the wide inter-house competitions offered each year, which extend to all subjects and year groups; from the awaited Sports Day, to termly competitions such as Bio-Bakes, Languages Week, Cypher Challenge, Be Kind, The Voice and Dance-Offs, amongst many other house challenges. All challenges will be posted on our new Twitter account [@HouseSystem MER](#).
- The House System allows students to take responsibility, giving pupils the chance to learn and develop **leadership** skills and feel empowered within their school community. There are a variety of leadership roles, as listed below, in which students work with the Senior Student Leadership Team and Personal Development and Enrichment Coordinators to support the school House System and realise the other aims listed above.

The House System is not possible without the support of the entire school community, including staff, parents and students. Therefore, each year we call for student applications to the different roles that the House System allows. We are looking for the following roles and students should apply through the links below (they must be logged into their Google Classroom accounts in order to open the links):

- [Year 7 House Representatives](#), open to year 7 students only.
- [Year 8 House Representatives](#), open to year 8 students only.
- [House Captains](#), open to year 10 students only.
- [Deputy House Captains](#), open to year 9 students only.

Applications will close on 13th October and interviews will take place shortly after. The selected students will hold the post for one academic year. We appreciate your support at home with encouraging your child to apply if any of the roles available is of their interest. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Best wishes

A Bruna

Ms A Bruna
Spanish and French Curriculum Leader / Associate Assistant Headteacher