



# Sir Joseph Williamson's Mathematical School

A Member of Leigh Academies Trust

Headteacher: Mr E Hodges



5<sup>th</sup> November 2018

Dear Parents and Pupils,

Thank you to all who have voted for the name of our new 7<sup>th</sup> House.

This letter explains how we intend to allocate students to this new House, which will directly affect those in Years 7-12.

For current Years 7-8 (8&9 in September 2019), we plan on converting the seven teaching groups into the seven Houses.

Current Teaching group	House
Teaching group J	becomes Bridge
Teaching group O	Castle
Teaching group S	Gordon
Teaching group E	Pitt
Teaching group P	River
Teaching group H	Thetford
Teaching group W	7 <sup>th</sup> House

It may seem daunting for those in current Years 7 and 8 to be moved House, but as they have plenty more time here at the Math, moving to different House provides them with the opportunity to expand their own friendship groups and become more interconnected with those in their year. Also, as they are not currently taught in their House groups, we think the House loyalty they have acquired so far may not be as strong as students in other years. This approach allows the students to integrate fully into the House System, something they may not have experienced prior to this change.

For current Years 9-12 (10-13 in September 2019), we will randomly assign pupils to the 7<sup>th</sup> House. We understand pupils will have established friendships and strong House allegiance, but the 7<sup>th</sup> House provides a great opportunity for youngsters to create history by joining this House.

Those with extremely close ties to their existing House will be excluded from this allocation process, but we'd ask parents to inform us if this applies to their son or daughter.



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A student can be excluded from House re-allocation if one of the following circumstances apply:

1. Their father was a member of the current House.
2. They have a younger sibling in the current House.
3. They have an older sibling in the current House.
4. They gain a House Official role (House Captain, Sports Captain etc).
5. They have ever captained a House team for their current House.
6. They have ever received House Colours (current Year 11 & 12).

We will begin the administration behind the re-allocation process from Term 3 onwards, and pupils and parents will be informed if they are set to join the new House during the week after Founders Day.

Parents who wish their child to be exempt from re-allocation because one of the five criteria are applicable, must inform us at [office@sjwms.co.uk](mailto:office@sjwms.co.uk) by Friday 28th December.

Yours sincerely

Mr. E. Hodges  
Headteacher