

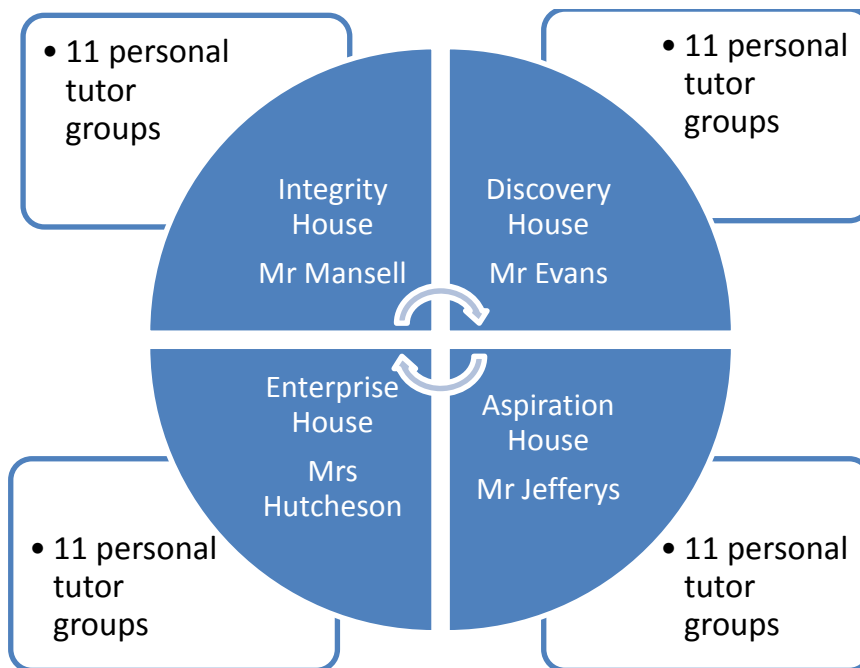
## The Pastoral Structure at The Albany

In July 2010, The Albany School changed its pastoral system from being a 'year based' horizontal system to a vertically based House system. A great deal of research, debate, consultation and planning took place during the year before the system was introduced. The aims of the new system are:

- To continue to improve the academic progression of all students by providing a process where they can learn from each other, guided by staff, on a regular basis. Examples of this may include Year 7 students improving their spellings by being helped by Year 10 students, Year 11 students helping to guide Year 7 students through the options that they could make for GCSE and Year 9 students and older students 'looking after' younger students by giving them advice with extension studies or organisation. We know that the impact of a student guiding another student is huge!
- To improve the level of personalisation for every individual child and enhance the tutor/tutee relationship. This will be established by creating smaller, mixed age tutor groups.
- Our new system will incorporate a weekly mentoring session for one year group and a weekly mentoring session for an individual student. We know that this helps children to achieve as well as they possibly can.
- By allowing personal tutors to have approximately four students of the same age in a tutor group. This will allow a better relationship and the chance for tutors to really focus on a small group of individuals. This will be of real benefit when personal tutors take part in mentoring and reporting exercises.
- Enhancing the opportunity for students to learn from each other, in a positive and supervised climate. This will take place during the tutor period (20 minutes, Monday to Thursday)
- Improving the chance for students to gain leadership opportunities-something which is becoming ever more important to employers
- Reducing some of the barriers that exist between students from different year groups and therefore continue to reduce the frequency of bullying or other worrying concerns for younger students.
- Creating much more competition and events via the House system and therefore enhancing and continuing the work that we have been doing to provide a very positive learning experience for all children.

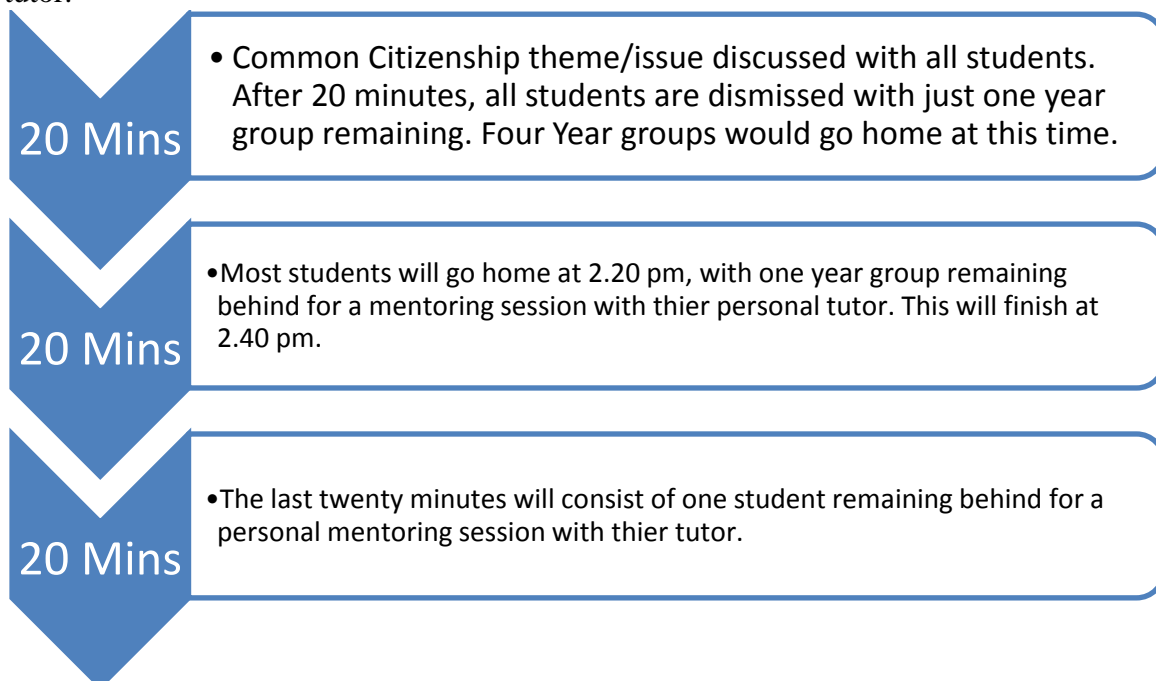
Thus we have established a House system comprising of four House, each with eleven personal tutor groups, and we have also created a tutorial programme designed to develop an inclusive, challenging and different learning experience for students during the twenty minute sessions that take place Monday to Thursday.

I have provided some more details about this below.



Monday-Period Five

Another unique area of our system! During period five all students return to their personal tutors. For the first twenty minutes, all students have a lesson based on a Citizenship, PSHEE, Spiritual or Careers based topic. Following this, (on rota) four year groups are dismissed and one remains for Year based mentoring. Following this session, students are dismissed; however, one student remains and has a 'one to one' mentoring session with their personal tutor.



Inter House Competitions.

There are a number of these during the year, which are designed to encourage as many students as possible to enter. At the end of the Year, the Champion is awarded the House Shield!