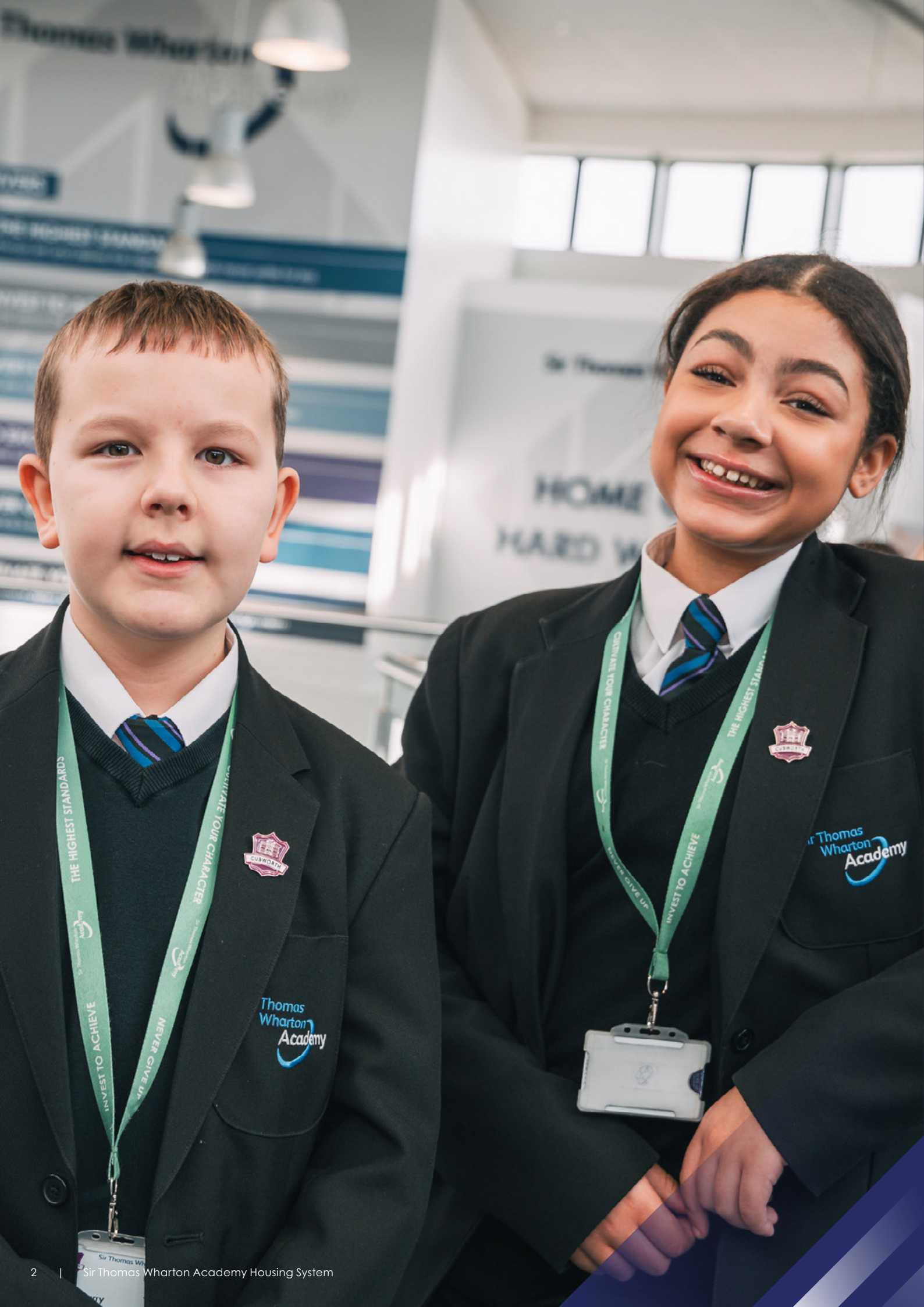




# The House System

Building teamwork, confidence and a sense of belonging through competition.

Sir Thomas Wharton  
**Academy**



# Welcome

Every student at Sir Thomas Wharton Academy is a member of a school house.

The four Houses – Brodsworth, Chatsworth, Cusworth and Wentworth – are named after stately homes within our local area. Each house has its own badge, colour and set of values.

All four Houses contain students from years 7 to 13, uniquely enabling different year groups to come together and compete in healthy competition, whilst also developing a sense of house identity. Students remain in their allocated house each year, with siblings being placed in the same house. Staff members are also placed in the same house as their tutor group, embodying the house spirit fully in the academy's ethos.

Under the guidance of a Head of House, each house takes part in assemblies and extracurricular events across the academic year.

The overall aim of the House System is to provide students with the opportunity to align themselves with a house and develop a sense of pride and cohesion with all other team members. As students and staff are split evenly between the four Houses, they will work closely with students from other years and a range of staff in order to gain house points that will not only benefit them personally but also their House. House points are available through House activities and competitions around the academy on a daily basis. Linked closely with Character Education, the House System is designed to help students develop aspects of their character that will help them in their learning and personal development as well as all other parts of their daily life, both now and well into the future. These include Teamwork, Determination, Working Together, Resilience, Pride, Creativity, and Leadership.

Resilience, Investment, Determination and Empathy are all areas through which students can achieve house points throughout the school day. Students will also be expected to work towards their PLEDGES each week, which are designed to encourage students to go "above and beyond" in order to develop their skills, expand their life experiences and contribute to the academy community and wider society. Students will be awarded 25, 50 and 75 house points for the completion of bronze, silver, and gold awards. Finally, students can take part in a range of House activities on offer. These will take place at lunchtimes and after school, and involve a wide range of subjects and skills. Just participating will allow students to gain house points but competing and winning will bring even more.

**Miss L Gerrard**

House System Coordinator



# House Leader Welcome

## Mr Smith Brodsworth House Leader

Brodsworth will provide our students the chance to live life to the fullest, laugh until their sides hurt, embrace their passions, develop a love for learning, and create unforgettable memories and lifelong friendships!

Our House System offers everyone the opportunity to develop leadership skills—leadership of ourselves, our choices, our drive, and our responsibilities. My first role within the House System is to live and breathe Brodsworth! I am committed to leading and supporting all students in our house and taking an active role in organising and running House Events and competitions.

I will make sure the House System provides students with enrichment opportunities they might not otherwise experience, and I will continue to work closely with our House Captains to keep improving the House System.

My vision is to “unleash the character potential of our brilliant young adults by creating a strong sense of belonging, identity, and pride.”



MOTIVATE • INNOVATE • CELEBRATE

## Mr Khan Wentworth House Leader

The House System at Sir Thomas Wharton Academy provides both students and staff a real sense of ownership and pride. What makes it even better is how everyone approaches it—with enthusiasm and respect. Students enjoy friendly, competitive rivalry with their peers, showing their house spirit both around the school and during Inter-House Competitions.

As Wentworth House Captain, my role is to keep this energy alive and growing, encouraging every pupil to get involved in supporting their house through a wide range of activities and competitions—not just in sports, but in areas like technology, enterprise, and creative problem-solving.

At Sir Thomas Wharton Academy, everyone is valued, and the House System is a fantastic way to celebrate all kinds of talents and skills.

My vision for Wentworth is to become the most “innovative” house, not just by winning competitions, but by consistently demonstrating qualities like teamwork, ambition, and fairness in all our projects and challenges. Whether we achieve success or simply strive for it, we will do so together as one house team.



CREATE • BELIEVE • ACHIEVE

## Miss Slattery Chatsworth House Leader

The House System is key to building a strong sense of identity, pride, and honour among members of Sir Thomas Wharton Academy. Inter-House Activities provide students the chance to showcase their individual strengths, talents, and teamwork skills, while working together toward goals that are increasingly ambitious.

My role within the House System is student-focused. I aim to motivate, inspire, and encourage each member of Chatsworth to achieve their own version of success. I will foster a sense of community and team spirit, boosting morale so that every student feels inspired to give their best and enjoys the rewards that come from their commitment.

My vision for Chatsworth is to always strive for improvement, no matter the outcome. I want all Chatsworth students to lead by example and encourage other Houses to reach their full potential.



EXPECTATION • VALUES • SUCCESS

## Miss Casswell Cusworth House Leader

The House System at Sir Thomas Wharton Academy is important because it provides students of all ages the chance to work together, showing that age is never a barrier to friendship or collaboration.

At its core, the House System is about creating a community that inspires high aspirations, personal growth, and most importantly celebrates every success. My role within the House System is to guide and support students so they can reach their full potential.

I want students to truly understand the value of teamwork and recognise that every member of Cusworth is important because we can only succeed together!

My vision for Cusworth is for every member to wear their Cusworth badge with pride and to go above and beyond, striving not only to be the best House at Sir Thomas Wharton Academy, but one of the best Houses in the country!



CREATIVITY • VIGOUR • RESILIENCE



“All four houses contain students from years 7 to 13, uniquely enabling different year groups to come together.”



EXPECTATIONS • VALUES • SUCCESS

## Chatsworth

Chatsworth House is a stately home in Derbyshire, England, in the Derbyshire Dales north-east of Bakewell. The seat of the Duke of Devonshire, it has been home to the Cavendish family since 1549. It stands on the east bank of the River Derwent and looks across to low hills between the Derwent and Wye valleys. The house is set in expansive parkland and backed by wooded, rocky hills that rise to heather moorland. It contains major collections of paintings, furniture, Old Master drawings, neoclassical sculptures, books and other artefacts. Chatsworth has been chosen in several surveys as Britain's favourite country house.

The house and garden were first constructed by Sir William Cavendish and Bess of Hardwick in 1555. The Elizabethan garden was much smaller than the modern garden is now. There were terraces to the east of the house where the main lawn is now, ponds and fountains to the south, and fishponds to the west by the river. The main visual remnant of this time is a squat stone tower known as Queen Mary's Bower on account of a legend that Mary, Queen of Scots, was allowed to take the air there while she was a prisoner at Chatsworth. The bower is now outside the garden wall in the park. Some of the retaining walls of the West Garden also date to this era, but they were reconstructed and extended later.

# House Histories

## Brodsworth

Brodsworth Hall, north-west of Doncaster in South Yorkshire, is one of the most complete surviving examples of a Victorian country house in England. It is virtually unchanged since the 1860s. It was designed in the Italianate style by the obscure London architect, Philip Wilkinson, then 26 years old. He was commissioned by Charles Sabine Augustus Thellusson, who inherited the estate in 1859, but the original estate was constructed in 1791 for merchant and slave owner Peter Thellusson. It is a Grade I listed building. The Hall is constructed in ashlar limestone, some quarried on the estate, with lead and slate roofs. Stonework, windows and interior fittings were reused from the older building. The building is "T" shaped with the servants' quarters forming the upright.

The main block, forming the cross-bar, is 2-storey rectangular range having 9-bay frontage. The house has more than 30 rooms, ranging from grand reception rooms with original furnishings to the servants' quarters. The house is surrounded by Victorian period gardens, which are used for special events throughout the summer. The house is noted for Charles Sabine Thellusson's collection of paintings and sculptures, including a large collection of Italian sculptures bought at the Dublin International Exhibition of 1865.



MOTIVATE • INNOVATE • CELEBRATE



## Wentworth

Wentworth Woodhouse is without doubt one of the finest and grandest Georgian houses in England and, at 606 ft, is famously considered to have the longest facade. Wentworth was built principally for Thomas Wentworth, later Marquess of Rockingham, and comprises the unusual combination of two back-to-back houses, which began with the West Front from 1724-28, followed by the East Front from 1731-50. Its list of architects includes, Ralph Tunnicliffe, Henry Flitcroft and John Carr; the West Front is built of brick in the English Baroque style, whilst the East, is in sandstone and is a classical, Palladian masterpiece. The Rockingham's were one of the greatest Whig dynasties of the 18th Century and Wentworth Woodhouse was a centre of great political influence. Charles, the 2nd Marquess was Prime Minister in 1765-66 and again in 1782. On his death the estate passed to the Earls Fitzwilliam, who remained in ownership until the late 20th Century.

Following the death of the 8th Earl Fitzwilliam in a flying accident in 1948, a greater part of the house was vacated and in 1950, it was let to the West Riding County Council, who made use of it until 1986, first as a teacher training college and then as part of

Sheffield City Polytechnic. The house and its 87 acres of grounds, were sold to a private purchaser in 1988, again in 1999 to the Newbold family and then in April 2017, to the Wentworth Woodhouse Preservation Trust.

“By engaging in an array of house activities, we can earn house points every day during tutor time.”



CREATE • BELIEVE • ACHIEVE



## Cusworth

Cusworth Hall is an 18th-century Grade I listed country house in Cusworth, near Doncaster, South Yorkshire in the north of England. Set in the landscaped parklands of Cusworth Park, Cusworth Hall is a good example of a Georgian country house. It is now a country house museum. The present house was built in 1740-1745 by George Platt for William Wrightson to replace a previous house and was further altered in 1749-1753 by James Paine. On William's death in 1760 the property passed to his daughter Isabella, who had married John Battie, who took the additional name of Wrightson in 1766.

He employed the landscape designer Richard Woods to remodel the park. Woods was one of a group of respected landscape designers working across the country during the 18th century and Cusworth was one of his most important commissions in South Yorkshire, another being at Cannon Hall. Woods created a park of 250 acres with a hanging and a serpentine river consisting of three lakes embellished with decorative features such as the Rock Arch and the Cascade.

“Students can take part in a wide range of house activities. These activities will be easily accessible to encourage mass participation and will involve a cross-curricular links, community work and collaboration amongst all year groups.”



CREATIVITY • VIGOUR • RESILIENCE



# House Representation

Our House System is underpinned by our Student House and Vice Captains. In order to facilitate the organisation and running of House events, we have a team of students who fulfil the roles of House and Vice Captains to support and drive mass participation in all of our House events. The current roles within the structure are: House System Chair, House System Board and House/Vice Captains with each student being responsible for a specific House challenge. Each year, we recruit new students to join our House System team, enabling students to develop their confidence and to cultivate their character.

## Weekly Wins

Each week, students have a subject-based Weekly Win activity to complete which are specifically designed to help broaden their skill set, beyond the academic curriculum, to develop their charisma.

## Box Task

Box Tasks are opportunities for students to unleash their creativity, find moments for mindfulness and take part in an activity that allows them to develop their artistic flair.

Every two weeks, during Monday tutor period, students are presented with an activity to complete in their free time which will then be submitted into the House Boxes on the atrium balconies.

## Extended House Projects

Our Extended House Projects are an opportunity for students to further develop their intelligence and independence by undertaking a research project. Throughout each half term, students are assigned an inspirational leader who has made a cultural, spiritual or moral impact in society. Students have three sections of the project to complete: Research, Read, Create—full completion will mean that students are awarded 225 house points.

## House Competitions

Sports Day is run on a House basis, with each House competing to be crowned the House Champions. The Sponsored Walk is an opportunity for students and the wider community to come together to raise money for a good cause and to give back to those in need. Year 12 students are elected as House Captains. They help organise House events and gain valuable leadership experience for their UCAS applications or CVs. We run regular House competitions within every department and host annually the Sir Thomas Wharton Academy Great Academy Bake Off and Christmas Hamper Design.

## Awareness Days

We recognise the importance of students being aware of wider world events and how they contribute towards their daily life. Throughout the academic year, students are presented with an array of awareness day challenges which are centred around a creative task that links to an important key date within our society. Through completion at home, students can bring in their creations and earn 100 house points.

## Community Involvement

Through our fundraising events, students have the opportunity to support campaigns such as Children in Need, Help for Heroes and other local charities such as ECO Foodbank and Tickhill Road Hospice.

Members of our Parliament have autonomy over their own area of responsibility where they can lead and drive change under the five categories: Community, Enrichment, Charity, Environment and Student Welfare. Our academy Prime Minister has said that "being a part of the Student Parliament has enabled my confidence to flourish and provided me with the opportunity to support other students in having their voices heard."



# WINNING HOUSE TRIP

This will be available to all students in the winning house.

Students need to have contributed towards their house by participating in house competitions.



## End of Year - House Reward

In order to reward students for their participation in house events, we provide students in the winning house with an End of Year - House Reward. This trip enables all students in the winning house to celebrate the successes that they've achieved throughout the academic year, further fostering a sense of familial identity within the House System. All students who have positively contributed to the House Competitions will be invited to the End Of Year Reward Event.

Two years ago we launched our first ever end of year house rewards trip, reigning champions Cusworth enjoyed an all expenses paid trip to Xscape in Castleford where they got to enjoy 3D mini-golf, laser quest and enjoy food with their friends.

Last year we went bigger and better! The winning house, Wentworth, had a thrill filled day at Alton Towers and were able to enjoy the attractions of one of the best theme parks in the country. The trip was such a success that this will now become our Annual House Reward and each year our winning house will get to experience an exceptional day.

We will continue to provide students with opportunities to participate in the House System and secure their invite to our Annual House Rewards Trip.



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