



Blackpool Gateway Academy House System Policy

Policy Date:	November 2025
Next Review Date:	November 2026
Trust:	Fylde Coast Academy Trust (FCAT)
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Our Mission Statement

All at Blackpool Gateway Academy are in pursuit of educational excellence. We endeavour to work together with parents, governors and the local community to provide high quality care and education through continuous improvement. Encouraging all children to enjoy learning, develop their best potential and show mutual respect for one another. We promote independence and hope that all our pupils become **'life-long learners'**.

1. Core Purpose and Rationale

The House System at Blackpool Gateway Academy is designed to divide the school into smaller, vertically integrated communities to enhance **well-being, belonging and pupil leadership**.

Core Benefit	Description
Sense of Belonging	Provides a smaller 'family' unit within the school, fostering comfort and easier integration for all pupils, particularly new pupils.
Vertical Integration	Encourages positive mentoring as older pupils guide and support younger house members, bridging year group divides.
Positive Behaviour	Provides a visible, whole-school structure for consistently rewarding positive behaviour, effort and kindness, reinforcing the school's core values via the house point system.
Leadership	Creates opportunities for pupils (e.g. House Captains) to develop essential skills in leadership, organisation and public speaking.
Healthy Competition	Structures fun inter-house competitions, ensuring every child can contribute to their team's success regardless of academic or sporting ability.

2. House Points and Rewards System

The foundation of our House System is the **House Points** reward system, which will be re-introduced to acknowledge and celebrate pupil conduct and effort and will be assigned via Class Dojo.

2.1 Gateway C.A.R.E. Qualities

House Points are awarded specifically when children demonstrate our school's **Gateway C.A.R.E. Qualities**:

- **C - Courtesy**- Being polite and demonstrating good manners.
- **A - Attentiveness**- Listening and paying attention in class, around school, and on the playground.
- **R - Responsibility and Respect**- Taking ownership of actions and demonstrating respect for others and the school environment.
- **E - Empathy**-Understanding and showing kindness towards others.

2.2 Half-Termly Recognition

- House Point totals will be tracked weekly and updated on a central board by the house captains.
- The house with the highest total of House Points at the end of each **half term** will receive a collective **prize or reward** such as a movie reward or ice cream treat.

3. House Events and Competition Calendar

The House System will host a mix of competitive events, fundraising drives and collaborative challenges across the school year.

3.1 Leadership and Initial Meetings

- **House meetings.** All house members will meet with their assigned staff lead and leadership team lead.
- **House Captains** will prepare and share presentations to motivate their teams. The agenda will include discussions around fundraising ideas.

3.2 Termly Inter-House Challenges

The school calendar includes dedicated house events where children will work in their mixed-age teams to complete challenges.

3.3 Fundraising and Themed Days

Specific events will be designated for fundraising for local charities.

Our four charities are:

Red House- Kindness Counts

Blue House- Blue Skies at Blackpool Victoria Hospital

Green House- Trinity Hospice at Bispham

Yellow House- The RNLI

Our House System's charitable focus is exclusively directed toward local organisations that have historically provided vital support and generosity to many of our pupils and their families. This commitment models the profound importance of gratitude and community care, allowing our pupils to actively participate in 'paying kindness forward' and reinforcing the value of thinking beyond oneself.

4. House PE T-shirts

We have provided every child with a PE t-shirt in their house colour to help foster a sense of identity and help to visually represent the pupils' assigned houses during physical activities and competitions. During Sports Day or inter-house matches, house colours make it immediately obvious which team a pupil belongs to, which is crucial for scoring and monitoring large groups of children.

Wearing the house colour also fosters a stronger sense of belonging and collective identity. It encourages pupils to cheer for their teammates, promoting loyalty and camaraderie across different age groups.

The house system thrives on competition, and the coloured shirts are essential for this structure. Since house points are often awarded for sporting achievement, the t-shirts serve as a constant reminder that their performance directly contributes to their house's overall standing.

In essence, the house colour PE kit takes the core goals of the house system—belonging, competition and leadership—and makes them active and visible in the field of play.