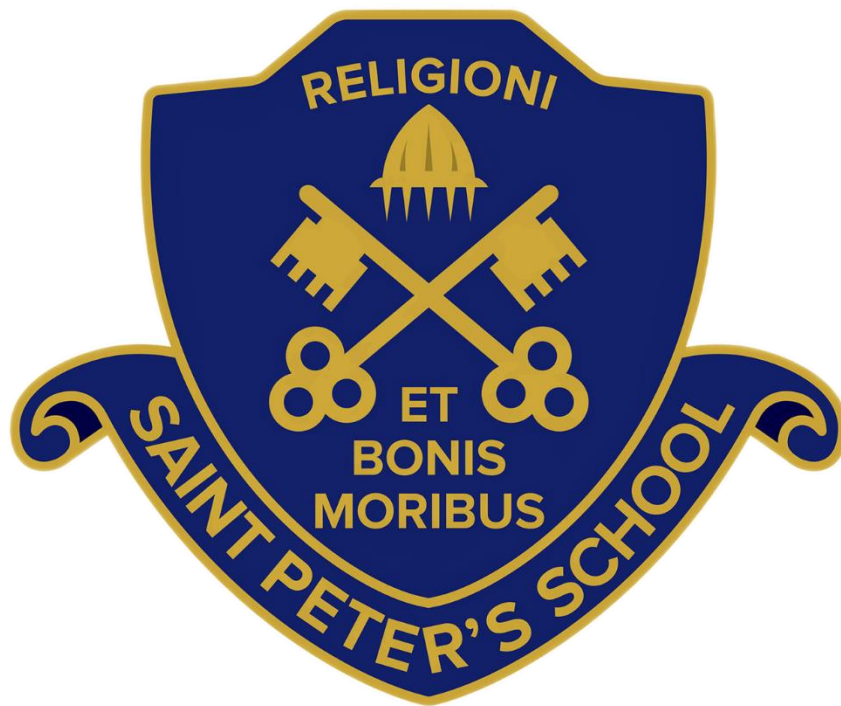


St Peter's R.C. Primary School



House Points Policy



| | |
|---------------------|------------|
| Policy date | April 2025 |
| Date of next review | April 2028 |



St Peter's R.C. Primary School

House Points Policy

Rationale

This policy explains how Houses are arranged, how pupils gain House Points and how members of Houses are rewarded.



Article 29

Your education should help you use and develop your talents and abilities. It should also help you learn to live peacefully, protect the environment and respect other people.

The mission of the Catholic school is to develop as a community of faith and learning, providing the highest quality of education, and offering formation through the promotion of Gospel values, through celebration and worship, and through service to the common good.



The House system has been an effective way of promoting team spirit at St Peter's RC School and encouraging learners to aim high and take pride in achieving House Points. As pupils from every class are in every House, the system is an effective way to mix year groups and encourage following our values and achievements throughout the school.

We have four houses – St Andrew, Elphinstone, Kings and St Machar. The names are based on Catholic history in Aberdeen and Scotland:

- St Andrew (blue house) is the patron saint of Scotland and the brother of St Peter.
- Bishop Elphinstone (red house) petitioned Pope Alexander VI to found Aberdeen University in 1495.
- King's College (green house) is named after King James IV, who was the King when Aberdeen University was created. King's College chapel is one of the oldest chapels in Aberdeen, and we go there at least once each year as a whole school.
- St Machar (yellow house) was reputed to be a companion of St Columba. A fourteenth-century legend tells how God (through St Columba) told Machar to establish a church where a river bends into

the shape of a bishop's crosier before flowing into the sea. The River Don bends in this way just below where the Cathedral now stands. According to legend, St Machar founded a site of worship in Old Aberdeen in about 580.

Allocation of Houses

Pupils are allocated to a house when they start P1 or when they join our school at a later stage. Where possible, children of the same family are allocated to the same house whilst ensuring that the number of children in each house is fairly balanced.

Teachers are given a list of the children's Houses and can allocate new children. Teachers must inform the office about this allocation and about any changes.

All members of staff except the Head Teacher are allocated to one of the Houses. Staff members of Houses are expected to support House Captains. House Assemblies are led by members of staff allocated to each House, supported by House Captains. Staff are asked to join in competitions and quizzes organised for the Houses.

Captains

There are two Captains for each House. At the beginning of the new session, P7s will be given the opportunity to nominate themselves in writing as House Captains. P7 pupils who do not wish to nominate themselves as House Captains can write a letter in support of a classmate's nomination. The Senior Leadership Team (Head Teacher and Deputy Head Teacher) will then interview all the children who have nominated themselves. They will decide on the Captains after consultation with class teachers.

The Captains will wear badges to show their position in the school.

Captains will be expected to:

- Bring their House into assembly quietly and sensibly
- Sit at the front of their house at assembly and encourage good behaviour from members of their House
- Be a buddy to younger children in their House
- Be an example of exemplary behaviour and attitude

- Help in the lunchroom when requested
- Collect and count up the house points
- Organise House competitions
- Contribute to House Assemblies
- Propose ideas that will improve the House System
- Represent pupils on school occasions by greeting visitors, escorting them, giving short speeches of welcome or thanks etc
- Attend meetings with the Head Teacher or Depute Head Teacher

Captains whose behaviour or attitude is not a good example to others will be asked to stand down from the position.

Awarding House Points

House Points are awarded **one at a time**. Any member of staff can award House Points to any child for demonstrating achievement in any aspect of their learning or behaviour. Children and Houses will also be awarded House Points at assembly for good behaviour and/or participation. Every member of staff has a supply of coloured tokens and can give one of the appropriate colour to a child who has gained a House Point. The token has to be posted into the transparent box for each House in the Gym Hall.

The Head Teacher and Depute Head Teacher can hand out gold tokens to any pupil for special achievements, being especially helpful, going above and beyond or for exemplary positive behaviour. The gold tokens are posted in the transparent House Point boxes. Gold tokens are worth 10 points.

Rewarding Winning Houses

The House Captains will empty the House Point boxes on Friday lunchtimes. They will count all the tokens, write the totals in their House Captain books and inform the Head Teacher or Depute Head Teacher before assembly.

Every House has a display area in the hall where Captains can display House achievements and points won.

There will be weekly recognition as well as an annual award.

Weekly Award: At the end of each assembly, the weekly winners will be announced. Members of the winning house will stand for applause and congratulations.

Annual Award: Potted sports organised by House Captains is an annual event where the pupils work together in their houses and compete in sporting events earning house points for the day.

The House who has earned the most points over the year will have a an extra event to celebrate organised with the House Captains and Head Teacher. The name of the House will be inscribed on the Anne Lyden Shield to be displayed in the school Reception Area.