

## Who is Arden's Character lead?

Hello, I'm Miss Begum – Teacher of Science and House Character Lead for Arden. At Erdington Academy, our House system is more than just friendly competition – it's a vital part of how we promote belonging, character development, and personal growth. As the proud Character Lead for Arden House, I'm thrilled to introduce what makes our house a powerful community for every student who joins it.

Arden House takes its name from the historic Forest of Arden, a place rooted in English literature and mythology. A forest known for being a place of transformation, discovery, and growth. Much like the forest,

Arden House is where our students begin to carve their own path, overcome challenges, and emerge stronger, more confident individuals.

## Why Arden House?

Belonging to Arden House means being part of something greater than yourself. It's about taking pride in your house, pushing yourself to be your best, and supporting others along the way.

Our pupils gain valuable leadership opportunities, such as becoming House Leads, event organisers, or role models for younger students. They benefit from a strong character education that focuses on core values like integrity, responsibility, empathy, and resilience. Additionally, students have a real voice in shaping Arden House through active involvement in planning events and strengthening the house community. This experience fosters a deep sense of pride and identity that stays with them long after their time at Erdington Academy.

## Join Us in the Arden Journey

At Arden House, every student matters. Every voice is heard. And every success – big or small – is celebrated. Whether you're winning points on sports day, delivering a speech in assembly, or simply showing kindness to a peer, you're contributing to the legacy of Arden.

Research shows that students who take part in extracurricular activities and out-of-hours learning tend to perform better academically, develop stronger social skills, and show greater motivation. These activities also support wellbeing, build confidence, and help students feel more connected to school.

If you're a student or parent visiting this page, know that Arden House is where confidence is built, friendships are formed, and potential is unlocked. We are more than a house – we are a family, rooted in tradition, driven by character, and growing every single day.

We look forward to welcoming you into the heart of the Forest of Arden.