



Southend High School for Girls

An Academy Grammar School

Southchurch Boulevard, Southend-on-Sea, SS2 4UZ

Headteacher: Mr J Carey MEd (Cantab), BA (Hons), LLE, NPQEL

23rd April 2021

Dear Parents, Carers and Students,

This week, students in Year 11 and Year 13 have been making final preparations for their exam board assessments (EB1s), ready for the start of the programme on Monday. As stated in previous communication, we have tried to make the process as stress free as possible, whilst maintaining the necessary rigour and integrity demanded by the exam boards. We have been impressed by students' commitment and positive approach.

JCQ guidance for students, parents, and carers

JCQ released guidance for students, parents, and carers earlier in the week; this is attached to the email sent with this letter. Much of the information has already been shared in our previous communications. Also, exam boards have made their additional assessment materials available on their websites. Miss Riebold will lead an assembly after the EB1 assessment week to review a few of the finer and additional details responding to the new guidance.

Year 10

On the subject of assessments, Year 10s will be pleased to learn that they will receive their PPE (Pre-Public Examination) timetable next week. Good luck to Year 10s in this programme. The PPEs are an important aspect of a student's journey through school, especially as they help to prepare for the demands of end of year national examinations.

Mental Health First Aid training

As part of our ongoing commitment to improving our mental health and wellbeing provision, we have been working in partnership with a local charity, *TrustLinks*. *TrustLinks* works across South-East Essex to support people experiencing mental health difficulties, unpaid carers, and other community members. Their projects support over 1,500 people a year in Southend, Rochford, and Castle Point.

On Tuesday, Miss Marcel and a group of Sixth Form students took part in a workshop with the organisation, looking at stress and anxiety management. We are hoping to run similar workshops for other year groups in the coming weeks.

Next week, we are launching our Mental Health First Aid training course for Year 12 students. The scheme raises awareness, teaches young people to spot the symptoms of mental health issues, and guides them towards the right support.

Year 8 Parents' Evening

Thank you for engaging in the online portal for Year 8 Parents' Evening. As with the other year groups' experiences, we had very positive feedback.

I wish you an enjoyable and relaxing weekend in what is becoming increasingly sunnier weather.

Yours faithfully,

Jason Carey
Headteacher

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