



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

17 September 2021

Dear Parents, Carers and Students,

Please find below information and updates from this week.

English, Maths and Science support

We have invested in a GCSE core subjects' support programme called Tassomai and would like to signpost parents to a [GCSE survival guide](#) (for parents), which has been produced by Tassomai. The guide is a free pdf handbook for parents, full of practical advice from core-subject specialists and mental health experts.

The topics covered in the guide are being expanded on the [Tassomai blog](#). This month the focus is on mental health; next month the core-subjects and what GCSE parents need to know about them will be covered.

All students in Year 11 should now be familiar with Tassomai and completing a minimum of four daily tasks per week as part of their science homework.

Parents will receive a weekly progress report via email detailing your child's progress in English, Maths and Science on Tassomai. The report can be used to identify areas where extra support may be needed and the areas of strength. Parents can book a free micro-tuition session via a link in the weekly parent report to address specific gaps in knowledge.

I hope you will find the resources from Tassomai useful.

Year 9

Year 9 were informed in assembly this week that Miss Trevena will be Acting Head of Year 9 throughout this year as Mrs Killi has been appointed Associate Assistant Headteacher, working with the Senior Team and Year 7 this year. We have already planned for a smooth transition, very well supported by the Lower School Pastoral Support Officer Team.

Congratulations and good luck to both Miss Trevena and Mrs Killi in these new roles.

In addition, congratulations to Mr Hollick and Mrs Schofield; both are joining the Senior Team as Associate Assistant Headteachers this year and will continue leading their faculties.

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Lunch and break times

Students should note that, now Year 7 are not having early lunch, a new lunch rota has been written. This will last for the year.

Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
12.25	10	9	8	7	11
12.30	11	10	9	8	7
12.35	7	11	10	9	8
12.40	8	7	11	10	9
12.45	9	8	7	11	10
Sixth Form – at anytime					

Standards and expectations

At the start of term, we made it very clear about expectations regarding uniform, behaviour, and work. We set the bar high and have non-negotiables about standards of behaviour and attitudes. Students are expected to arrive on time every day in perfect, smart uniform, and to work hard. The feedback from staff has been excellent. Well done!

To keep parents informed, the message to tutor groups this week has been reminders about:

1. Formal starts and endings to lessons and assemblies, standing up and in silence.
2. Jewellery in line with school policy. For example, no facial piercings.
3. Blazers worn around school when inside.
4. Shirts tucked in with ties done up fully. Blouses do not need to be tucked in.
5. Students should not use the bottom part of the field below the running track at lunch and breaks.

It has been a pleasure this week completing lesson visits and walking around the school at break and lunch each day, seeing all the clubs in action, and having my lunch the new Year 7s, talking about their first few weeks. Students' behaviour and attitudes around school are, of course, exemplary.

Home-school agreement

Parents will receive a copy of the home-school agreement next week; please sign this and return to your child's form tutor. The agreement was written in consultation with students and reflects our values and family ethos around: *safe, happy, and successful*.

11+

A reminder that Saturday and Monday are 11+ days. Students will complete remote learning on Monday. All CSSE schools are following this arrangement of two sittings over two days to reduce the number of visitors on site at one time, and to have socially distanced exam seating. Thank you in advance to all the staff and students involved.

Parents' Association

The Parents' Association had their first meeting of the year during the week. It is a well-attended group that plays a significant part in school life. Please find below a message from the PA Chair, Alison Kerren.

'On behalf of the SHSG Parents' Association, I would like to welcome all new and existing parents to the new school year. If you would like to be involved in the PA, we meet monthly via Zoom.

We're also looking for a small team of people to help co-ordinate Raffles and source prizes. This role only requires 2/3hours per month commitment.

Please email me if you'd like more information at shsqpasecretary@gmail.com We'd love you to be involved and your children will benefit directly from it.'

I wish you an enjoyable and relaxing weekend.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jason Carey". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jason Carey
Headteacher

