



# 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

5<sup>th</sup> November 2021

Dear Parents, Carers and Students,

I hope you had an enjoyable half term, including the extra Monday off school. Please find below information and updates from this week.

### **Sixth Form Open Evening**

On Wednesday, 3<sup>rd</sup> November we were delighted to welcome approximately seven hundred and fifty visitors to SHSG's Sixth Form Open Evening. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the staff and the students involved. It was a long evening but was extremely rewarding being able to share our enthusiasm, passion and ambition for SHSG to so many visitors.

The feedback we received was excellent and, as always, visitors were full of praise for our students, who are the school's greatest ambassadors.

### **Year 11 Exam Preparation**

Year 11 took part in three interactive workshops delivered by coaches from *InnerDrive* on performance under pressure, mastery mindset, and habits of success today. *InnerDrive* is a mindset coaching company working in education, business and sport. They specialise in realising the potential behind Growth Mindset, Metacognition and stress management strategies.

Today, Year 11 learnt techniques on how to deal with negative thoughts and the importance of taking responsibility to improve their motivation, learning, confidence and performance.

"I thought the sessions we had today were very informative and helpful as it taught us how to manage our time, revise and to get rid of stress, which is especially helpful for us in Year 11 as we have our mocks coming up soon." Michelle, year 11 student.

"I thought that the InnerDrive workshop was very helpful as I have learned new things and guides that will definitely help me in the future and upcoming important events. This workshop also helped me to plan my revision effectively for my mocks and to reduce stress so I can comfortably approach my mocks successfully!" Joyce, year 11 student.

Further details and resources from InnerDrive can be found on their website [here](#).

The Inner Drive event is the first stage in a larger programme of activities focussed on year 11. The year will be a combination of care and challenge. The first challenge will come in the form of the PPEs. What follows will be a programme of support for students to both take the initiative and work independently to address the learnings from the PPEs and work with staff to address targeted areas of need. These opportunities will be launched with

Telephone: 01702 588852

Email: [office@shsg.org](mailto:office@shsg.org) | Web: [www.shsg.org](http://www.shsg.org)

Registered in England Company No: 07487455

Southend High School for Girls is the trading name of Southend High School for Girls Academy Trust



students after the PPEs. Also, with the Year 11 parents' evening in January you will be able to meet with teachers to discuss these post PPE plans.

From what I hear so far year 11 are rising admirably to the forthcoming challenges and I look forward to sharing their successes and their learnings in the coming weeks.

### ***Partners in Excellence***

We thought that parents and students would be interested to know that SHSG is now a member of PiXL. PiXL (Partners in Excellence) is a network of thousands of schools across primary, secondary, and sixth forms in England, Northern Ireland and Wales who work with schools to help give students of all ages a better future and brighter hope. Being a member of PiXL helps us to work together with other high-performing schools, to share best practice, raise educational standards and develop character in young people.

Attached to this letter is a PiXL Secondary newsletter which includes a selection of books for KS3/4 covering a wide range of interests. It includes several QR codes which can be scanned to watch videos of reading extracts from authors and offers a parent 20% off promotional code for orders. We hope you find this useful.

### ***UN Climate conference at SHSG***

As part of the relaunch of the Planet Action group, all students have been preparing in form time to attend a lunch time mini-conference based on the UN conference currently happening in Glasgow. Each form has been given a country to represent at the conference and been told to structure a three minute speech around key themes of coal, cars, cash and trees. The conferences will be on:

- 10<sup>th</sup> November – Year 7 and 8
- 11<sup>th</sup> November – Year 9 and 10
- 12<sup>th</sup> November – Year 12 and 13.

*Year 11 are not involved in this project as their PPE examinations begin on 15/11.*

### ***Afghanistan Refugee Southend Community Project - Bag Collection***

The Head Student Team are organising a collection of school items for all ages, down to 3 year olds, on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> November. Items required could be PE bags, lunchboxes or school bags and may include school stationery (rulers, biros, colour pencils, pencil cases, books, mini dictionaries etc.). Please ensure that there are no food or toiletry items. Thank you.

### ***Year 7 Virtual Parents' Consultation Evening***

The Year 7 Parents' Consultation Evening will be held virtually on **Tuesday 16th November, 4.30pm – 7.00pm**. We will be using an online platform called School Cloud, which will enable you to book one-to-one video appointments with your child's teachers to discuss their progress in their subjects.

The booking system will open on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> November at 6:30am. A letter with full Instructions on how to book was sent to Year 7 parents on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> October; a copy of the letter can be found on our website [here](#)

### ***Uniform - 15th to 26th November 2021***

To help facilitate the Year 11 Examinations, we would like students to wear their full PE Uniform to school on the days they have a PE lesson. This will be in place of their routine school uniform.

### ***School Birthday Cards***

Each year every form group sends the school a Birthday card. There were some extremely innovative designs; thank you to all students and form tutors for all their efforts. I am pleased to announce the final winners for each year group. The forms will receive five points for their house:

- 7C – Athene
- 8B/8D joint winners – Artemis/Aurora
- 9B – Artemis
- 10B – Artemis
- 11B – Artemis

For the winning designs please visit our Instagram page [here](#) and our Facebook page [here](#).

### **Message from Director of Public Health – COVID-19 FAQs**

*If my child has missed getting their vaccination in school, where can they get it done?*

From Friday 5<sup>th</sup> November, the online booking system will open for 12-15 year olds to have their Covid-19 vaccination at the Southend Civic Centre vaccination site. Please check [the NHS website](#) nearer the time to book an appointment.

*Who can I call if I have questions or concerns about my child's vaccination?*

You can call EPUT (Essex Partnership University NHS Foundation Trust) who are delivering the school vaccination programme: 0300 790 0597

*Why should I regularly test my child?*

Covid-19 remains with us and 1 in 3 people do not show the usual symptoms of: temperature, cough and loss of taste or smell. We want children to be able to continue attending school safely and the best way for them to do that is regular, twice weekly testing with lateral flow device tests (LFDs).

*How do I get test kits for my children?*

If your school, workplace or local pharmacy cannot give you home LFD kits, you can order them from the [gov.uk website](#) to be delivered directly to your home. Other advice and support services are in place, and you can find out more by visiting the [Council's website](#).

*What other measures can I take to keep my children safe?*

- if your child is a close contact, make sure they take a PCR test
- wash your hands regularly
- ventilate indoor areas
- and wear a face covering in crowded places

### **Young Artists**

Essex Police are looking for a creative young artist to help design the Chief Constable's Christmas card. The winning design will feature on the Christmas card with another 11 designs featured on their social media channels in the run up to Christmas Day.

The competition is open to children aged up to 16 inclusive. All entries must be received by 5pm on Monday 22 November. Further information is available on the [Essex Police website](#).

### **Diwali assembly**

Throughout this week we have been celebrating Diwali with students, including an excellent programme of assemblies led by Riya, Tushita, Raagavi and Jessica. Well done to those students and 'happy Diwali'. The assemblies were very informative and engaging – as well as being presented with clarity and confidence.

### **SHSG Christmas Card Competition**

Every year we hold a Christmas card competition and the winner has their card printed and sent out to all schools in the area and specific members of the community.

Students should submit their entries to Miss Trevena and the design should be A5. The competition deadline this year is **Friday 19<sup>th</sup> November**.

I wish you an enjoyable and relaxing weekend.

Yours faithfully,



Jason Carey  
Headteacher