



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

Friday 30th September 2022

Dear Parents, Carers and Students,

Please find below information and updates from this week.

Anti-Extremism Workshops

On Wednesday and Thursday pupils and students in years 7 to 13 took part in a series of interactive anti-racism and anti-extremism workshops led by Muslim Scholar and educator Irfan Chishti MBE.

“Me & You Education’ specialises in providing thought provoking and challenging presentations that focus on cohesion, tackling extremism and providing effective counter narratives. We returned to SHSG with our workshops/assemblies and saw the entire school over a day and half. The Identity and Belonging workshops are always a great hit with students and the girls throughout the school responded very enthusiastically.’ Irfan Chishti MBE

The difficult conversations around race, skin colour and even extremism and terrorism didn’t seem to faze the students at all. SHSG students today showed an immense amount of courage and maturity in dealing with these very difficult topics around “British identity”, race and extremism. The students challenged each other as well as themselves. It was great to see that our core object of “Creating the Conversation” was being played out in each assembly very evidently.

Associate Trainer and ex member of the English Defence League Ivan Humble said, “I was once again, blown away by the students of SHSG, who made some very valid points during their interactions with us and each other.” *Me and You Education’s* mission is to change lives through meaningful conversations; SHSG students over the past two days have shown that they fully understand the core mission of the school, which is to ensure students are safe, happy, and successful.”



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



Yr12 & 13

Early Entry Information Evening

Yesterday, Year 12 and 13 students and parents had the opportunity to attend an online event hosted by Dr Kathryn Boast, STEM outreach officer for Hertford College at Oxford University. Kathryn gave a comprehensive overview of the application and admissions process for the University of Oxford and the University of Cambridge. This included information about the types of super curricular activities that Year 12 students should be doing now to prepare for their early entry applications.

As a reminder, Year 13 early entry students should let Miss Riebold and Ms Boyson know when they are offered an interview so we can look to organise a mock interview. The Sixth Form Team will be gathering information about Year 12s post 18 pathway visions next half term. Following this, we will start our in-school preparations for those students hoping to submit an early entry application.

PE News – a message from the PE Team

The under 15 football team played against Grays Convent in the first round of the English Schools National Cup. With the match ending 3-3 after normal time (Izzy R x2 and Josie L), extra time was needed which again saw both teams score to end 4-4 (Izzy R), so the game had to be decided on penalties. SHSG managed to take the win in the end after it ended in sudden death with Isabelle F scoring the winning spot kick! It was a very tough physical game which really highlighted the team's fitness; every player put in some great performances and a real show of resilience.

On Tuesday, Year 7 had their first fixture experience when we took 4 netball teams to FitzWimarc School. There were some very promising individual and team performances, and we won 3 of the matches. The students all seemed to enjoy themselves! Thank you to FitzWimarc for hosting us and thanks to our year 10 and 11 student umpires and coaches.



Yesterday, SHSG under 13s played their first match against Shoeburyness under 14s. Playing in a match against students mostly a year older, the game finished in a 1-1 draw. A good performance, which will support our preparations for our cup match at home on Monday. Good luck SHSG!

Ice CityZen – Civil Engineering competition

The Physics department are taking part in a national Civil Engineering competition called *CityZen* on Wednesday afternoons 3.30pm - 4.30pm during October and November. Any Year 12 or 13 student may register to take part. Activities take place on a digital platform: problem solving in a virtual world, including bridge building and similar Civil Engineering projects. Students also produce a short video about their experiences of the project. Students should speak to Mrs Brown by Wednesday 5th October to register to take part in *CityZen*.

Key Dates

The calendar on our website is regularly updated and contains key dates of activities and events that are taking place in school. A full list can be found [here](#).

Have a lovely weekend.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jason Carey". The signature is written in a cursive style with a period at the end.

Jason Carey
Headteacher